



**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 13
ST. TAMMANY PARISH
P.O. Box 2109**

George Osbourn
Chairman

Mark Cortez
Commissioner

Tony Devillier
Vice-Chairman

Clint Ory
Secretary

Lonnie Johnson
Fire Chief

COVINGTON, LA 70434

Jorge Fernandez
Commissioner

Norman Voelkel
Treasurer

985-898-4913

Meeting Minutes

The St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 13 Board of Commissioners met in regular session at **7:00 PM** on **March 16, 2022**, at the St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 13 fire station located at 13053 Hwy 190 Covington, LA 70433.

7:00 PM the meeting was called to order by Chairman Osbourn

Roll call: Absent: None, Present: George Osbourn, Jorge Fernandez, Mark Cortez Norman Voelkel and Tony Devillier.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Awards and Recognition: None

Minutes Review: Review and consideration of approval of the February 16th, 2022, board meeting minutes, Mr. Devillier made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Mr. Cortez, no further discussion, all in favor. (See attached).

Financial Report: Board Secretary Clint Ory discussed and reviewed the February Financial report, The budget is on track for revenue and overall expenditures. Mr. Ory advised that Mark Waniewski with PMI advised that bond rates are currently below 2.5% and the Board may want to consider the new station and any other near term Capital projects before rates go up. Mr. Ory stated that the original projected cost of new station 134 was only \$850,000. That was raised to \$1,000,000 and is certainly much higher than that at this time. He proposed the Board put the proposed station out to estimators to get a current projected total cost. A motion was made by Mr. Devillier to authorize funds up to \$5000 for an estimator and to talk with a Bond attorney regarding options. A second was made by Mr. Voelkel. No additional discussion, all were in favor. The February credit card report was also submitted to the board and was found to be in order with no additional discussion. Mr. Voelkel made a motion to adopt the financial reports, and credit card reports, second by Mr. Devillier. No further comments or discussion, all members in favor (see attached).

Old Business

1. Chief Johnson presented his findings concerning a remount Tanker 134 to include an upgraded pump. The estimated cost is \$165,000. The Board ask questions about what was included and turn around time. Chief Johnson said it would be put out for bids if approved by the Board and they could expect the truck in late Summer. A motion was made by Mr. Devillier and a second by Mr. Cortez to declare Tanker 134 chassis as surplus and offer for sale to the highest bidder. All were in favor motion passed. Mr. Devillier made a motion to bid out a remount of Tanker 134 Chassis and proposed upgrades for up to \$165,000, seconded by Mr. Fernandez. No further discussion all in favor motion passed.
2. Chad Danenhowe reported on the latest with the land lease/donation agreement. He stated that the Champagnes agreed to drop the requirement to pay the taxes and to remove the existing building should the district vacate, etc. The final agreement is being drafted by the Champagne's attorney and it will be reviewed and signed if all is in order.

New Business

1. 2022-004 Resolution to adopt the 2022 millage rates was read aloud by Mr. Devillier. A motion by Mr. Devillier and second by Mr. Cortez was made. Mr. Danenhowe advised the rates were unchanged for clarification, no further discussion, a roll call vote was made by the chairman, all in favor, none opposed, none absent.
2. PMI had no additional comments.
3. Civil Service report. – none
4. Maintenance – none
5. Training Report: Chief Hecker provided a written training report, also reported that FEO Charles Grubber completed and passed the CDL course and that the seven EMT students all passed the class and are preparing for certification testing.
6. Fire Prevention: Provided an update on the land clearing west of Ochsner Blvd.
7. Fire Chief's Report: Reported 68 calls in February with one major structure fire. Advised he and two others were



attending the Fire Chiefs Conference in Baton Rouge this week.

8. A motion was made to enter executive session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical, mental health of a member by Mr. Voelkel and second by Mr. Devillier all were in favor.
9. At 8:17 p.m. the Board came out of executive session; a motion was made to reopen the meeting by Mr. Voelkel and second by Mr. Cortez. The Chairman stated no action was taken.
10. **Motion to adjourn** by Mr. Voelkel and seconded by Mr. Cortez, all in favor, Adjourned at 8:21 p.m.