



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11  
Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes  
37546 Pine Street Extension, Pearl River, Louisiana  
Fire Chief Jack Dockery  
August 13, 2024  
7:01pm – 7:48pm

### **ROLL CALL**

Russell Lindsey – Present  
Ryan Dreux - Present  
Eugene Swann – Present  
Floyd Trascher – Present  
Michele Blackwell – Present

### **INVOCATION**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **MINUTES**

The regularly scheduled meeting is called to order by Mrs. Blackwell at 7:01p.m. Roll is called, full Board is present.

Mr. Trascher reviewed the minutes and makes a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 11, 2024, with the video governing. Mr. Dreux seconds, the minutes are approved with 4 yeas, no nays, motion carries.

### **FINANICAL REPORT**

Chief Dockery presents the Financial Report and states we are looking for a 58% range. EMS Services is at 105% as of July, we have met what we budgeted for and will discuss more during the EMS Report.

Expenditures, the monthly bills are in line. The only ones that are high are one time bills or repairs that are not a monthly recurring bill. Everything looks to be in line except Medical Billing, which is at 89.33%. That is because the more bills we send through them, the more we get charged.

## EMS REPORT

Chief Dockery moves to the EMS Report and said, last board meeting I spoke to you all before about the retro UPL and I spoke to the billing company. It is Medicare and Medicaid, they increased the rates. The money that was in there was deposited directly to our bank account. In July we posted \$38,556.83, and the retro UPL posted \$26,787.41, for a total of \$65,344.24. The billing company informed me that Medicare and Medicaid increased their rates so, this was retro payments to us from any prior bills.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT/ EMS - Chief Jack Dockery**

Chief Dockery said, alright, for the month of July, we responded to:

EMS	61
VEHICLE FIRES	2
GRASS/TRASH FIRE	1
MVA	6
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	7
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED	1
FALSE ALARMS	8
 TOTAL	 86

## MEDIC 112 IN THE SHOP FOR DPF ISSUES

The repair shop said Medic 112 needs a new ECM and a new filter for it. This repair is roughly \$8,000, or we could delete the system for \$2,300. The DPS system is the canister that burns off the emissions. The Supreme Court just sanctioned that it is illegal to put on vehicles so, it's legal for us to take it off, we can remove it. It's not under warranty any more. If they put it back to basic stock tuned, it should not blow black smoke.. The Board agrees it's a good decision to remove it and to do the modifications needed to remove it. Chief Dockery agrees it's a good decision to get rid of that system. They could not get it to do a re-gen at the shop, so I drove it to Hattiesburg and back. When I left the canister was 80% full, when I got to the Hattiesburg exit it was 70% full and when I made the loop and came back to Pearl River it was 95% full so, it never cleaned anything, it just got full.

Chief Dockery said he received an email from the bank, Mrs. Wynn said our contract ends in October and will be meeting with 4 or 5 Chief's that have a contract with them to discuss a new contract for our interest rates. As soon as Chief has more information on that he will email the Board. He will also check with other banks for the rates.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

## STATION REMODELING, FLASHING AND NAME PLAQUE – Floyd Trascher

Mr. Trascher thanks Chief Dockery for putting the plaque back on the front of the building. It put a lot of peoples minds at ease. It may change in the future with the remodeling, depending on the extent of the remodel. I understand you are working on plans for the remodel and we need to look into temporary living quarters while the remodel is being done.

Chief Dockery said, we have different options. One option is possibly using the classroom as temporary living quarters and setting up some type of bathroom. We also discussed storage and have discussed building a shed for a couple years. We would like to clear out by the pump shed. Roughly a 20 X 20 section and framing a shed on concrete and we could store anything we need to store during the remodel and after the remodel is done, it will be used for the Kubota, mower, lawn equipment, training props and anything else we need to have in there. While the architect is working on the plans for the remodel, this is the direction I would like to do.

Mr. Trascher asked for a cost estimate for the for the 20x20 building for the next meeting so we can get started on this. They discuss different options for living quarters including the classroom. One possibility would be to add a bathroom to the classroom. Chief mentioned that there is sewage lines that run close to that area that they may be able to access. Mr. Dreux asked about how many men are on a shift on any give day and Chief stated that mostly 3 are hear on duty. Another option is a bathroom camper to rent. It could also become a command center after.

We will need something to store all the equipment. Chief also states that we have sewerage already ran fairly close that we could tie into that to add a bathroom for the classroom/living quarters during the renovations. Mr. Swann said it's not a bad idea to put a bathroom in the classroom and it would be here after the remodel. Mr. Lindsey states concern for the septic and if it would have enough elevation for it. Mr. Trascher said it may need a grinder pump that would force it to the septic tank. Chief will look into the cost of renting a trailer as another option for living quarters, a worksite living quarters. Operator Mike Taylor suggested Sunbelt Rentals. Mr. Lindsey states concern for using the classroom because of the Board meeting and the Firefighter 1 classes. It would be over the course of months that this renovation will take. Mr. Lindsey said a Toy Hauler would be a good option for storage and hauling equipment but, a camper trailer may be too small for 3 people to stay in. Mr. Trascher asked if it would be an asset to have after as a command center or used for functions if Chief sees that it would be useful. Mr. Lindsey said if we purchased one we could recoup some of the money after by selling it. We need some options and the Board ask for some type of proposal for the living quarters and the shed or storage facility. Mr. Swann mentioned that we don't have any plans yet. The plans are waiting on the architect to finalize.

Chief stated the architect has the plans. He is working on the plans to be up to the code but he will be out of town for a couple weeks. 90% of what we sent to him was okay but, a couple

of areas he asked questions of why is this here or your going to need a few more feet here. Chief gives out copies of what he sent to the architect. Drawing is attached. The Board reviews the drawing while the Chief explains the drawing. The Board request a cost estimates for the shed/building, concrete, electrical for the storage shed and the options of living quarters that was discussed. Also, information on electric for the shed and adding the classroom to the generator while we have this done. We will need the cost estimates to add it to the budget and approve the cost.

#### WATER FLOW TO FRONT OF STATION

Mr. Lindsey asked about the tank outside for the water flow to the front of the station. Chief said, he found a company in Denham Springs that deals with the manufacturer of what we were looking for. I spoke to him Friday and I gave him our information. He is suppose to be sending me an invoice for it to get it ordered, hopefully tomorrow. Mr. Swann said, we want a contract in case it does not function. Mr. Dreux commented isn't it being done by someone that Sidney knows? We should have a contract with him. Mr. Trascher stated that he thought when we discussed this earlier that it was up for bidding and the contract had to have specifications of what we want. The Chief said the pump will put out 530 gallons a minute. Mr. Dreux said he asked him last time about the 90's that are on there right now and I think he said they were going to take care of it. Mr. Swann asked who was going to install it. Chief said we are installing it. Mr. Swann said that's a bad deal, you should put it out for bid so we are not doing the same thing all over again. Mrs. Blackwell said that Sidney's son in law is the one that will install it. Mr. Trascher said we have a lot of money invested already and if we put more and it still doesn't work, we have a problem. Mr. Dreux asked, is he in this field of work? Mrs. Blackwell said, it doesn't say in the minutes, just that his son in law will donate his time to do it.

Mr. Lindsey suggest talking to Water Works for what we need to install to get the water pressure we want in the front. Chief said he can call as ask them what they suggest but when he spoke last time to them they only had smaller pumps 5hp, something like you would have in your well shed. This is why we had to look outside the box and find another pump. Mr. Lindsey suggest getting with Water Works to see if they can figure out what we need and possibly being the contractor to install it.

#### NEW GUTTERS

Chief said, we have been looking for gutters and I think we found some. I called a few companies and no one shows up. I checked with Adco and last time we checked they didn't do commercial gutters. Now, they say they do commercial gutters. I got a quote for a single 10 ft. stick which is \$40. It is basically square styled like what we took off. We have roughly 100ft 3in. At least 11 sticks for the gutter and however many downspouts that we need. Originally we had 4, if we do 4 again it's two sections per downspout. We are working on finding someone to install them. We haven't had much luck with contractors. Adco said they have the material there, we just need someone to install.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

NONE

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Michele Blackwell

No public comment.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Trascher, Mr. Lindsey seconds, 4 yeas, no nays. Motion carries.