



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  
December 10, 2024  
7:00 pm – 7:33 pm

## **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 7:00p.m. Roll is called, all Board members are present. Mr. Floyd Trascher leads the Invocation and Mr. Russell Lindsey leads the Pledge. (Off record due to weather).

Mrs. Blackwell asked if everyone reviewed the minutes of the November 12<sup>th</sup>, meeting. Mr. Lindsey read through them and everything seems in order and made a motion to accept the minutes with the video governing. Mr. Dreux seconds, a roll call vote was called with 4 yeas, no nays, motion carries.

## **FINACIAL REPORT**

Chief Dockery presents the Financial Report to the Board and states that, for the month of November, we are looking for 92%. Looking over the report, Chief states the monthly expenses are in line. The few that are standing out are ones we talked about before. These are Medic 112, Medical Billing, and Training. Otherwise, the general total budget is at 81.94%, or under where we need to be with a little bit of room.

## **EMS REPORT**

Chief states, on the medical side, we brought in \$18,765.25, for the month of November.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, any questions? With no questions or discussions, we move to the Chief's Report.

Mr. Trascher asked if we need to amend anything for the year end as long as the total budget is within the 5%? Chief Dockery explains as long as the total budget, as expenses, do not exceed 5%, over the budgeted amount of 100%. We can be at the 80% up to the 100%. I spoke to the CPA and he said those more of a reference for us. It's just the total amount. I did have a amended one that I went through the line items to bring them closer together.

Mrs. Blackwell asked if there are any questions on EMS or the Financial Report? If not, we move to the Chief's Report.

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

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

EMS	35
MVA	6
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	9
FIRE ALARM	4
POLICE MATTERS	4
DISPATCHED/CANCELED IN ROUTE	6
TOTAL	64

Chief Dockery said, I would like to take a moment to thank Walmart on Robert Boulevard and the one on Pontchartrain. We receive a grant from both of those for a total amount of \$2,000. Also, the Walmart Neighborhood Market on Robert Boulevard donated some of the fruit that we handed out for the Christmas Town Event along with AWG. We are thankful for the help that we received from the local area.

Town Hall Christmas Event was last Friday. It seemed to have a really good turnout. We were busy handing out fruit the whole time, until Santa got there. It was a really good event with good weather.

December 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will have our Santa Parade in the different neighborhoods. We did it last Saturday and it seemed to be a good time. This is the last two days we will have it this year. It is posted on Facebook.

Mr. Trascher said, and Channel 8 News did some coverage on it. Chief asked, did they? Mr. Trascher said, yes they did.

Also, I will be in and out of the office for the remainder of the year. I will be in and out of the office but it is a technicality for me to use up my days. I will be in town during this time if I am needed.

With no questions, we move to Old Business

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### 2024 AMENDED BUDGET DISCUSSION – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief said, you have two budgets in front of you. One is 2025 and one is 2024. 2024 I went through and put in the figures in from November trying to figure out what we are going to spend in December to get us there. Some areas we went over, I adjusted. Some I know we were not going to use any more of, I adjusted. Others were just left the same. It seemed like they will run out true for the rest of the year.

Mr. Trascher asked, so the amended budget, this is where we will bring some of the line items that we discussed, back in service. Chief Dockery said, yes, this is just housekeeping for us.

Mr. Trascher asked, so the totals are the same? Chief Explained that the expenditures were a little less than what we budgeted. We were running at 89%, but the total income is at the first page, first area will have the total income for the year which is, \$3,037,399.90. I will give you a chance to look through it but, I do want to bring something to the Board. The very last page, the last entry is our revenue over expense. We budgeted to have \$108,149. What we are looking around is \$557,950.22. That being EMS Service, Checkbook interest and areas that we do not account for. We never account for LWCC, Training brought in some money, and Ad valorem was higher than what we expected. What I am asking the Board is, I would like to allocate some of those fund and put into a restricted account for a new ambulance.

Mr. Trascher said, I think we discussed that earlier in the year and we were looking and get some figures. What do you think we need? Chief said, the \$350,000 range. Mr. Trascher asked if that was going to be for the Cab and the Box like we have? Chief Docker said, it would probably buy that and I would say \$350,000, just to be safe. A couple months back I look and it was in the range of \$317,000 to \$320,000. Chief said he thinks we can use the restricted account that we already have and earmark it for that purpose. The resolution number will be with it to mark it.

Mr. Trascher said, we can earmark \$350,000, for the ambulance and what do we have in the account for the repairs for this station? Chief said, that account has \$1,182,651.30, as of November 30<sup>th</sup>, for repairs to the station and payments on trucks. Mr. Trascher suggest to take another \$100,000, and earmark that for the station because we are still looking at the well also. Chief Dockery said, we can go back and look at the resolution for the repairs and amend that to add another \$100,000, on it.

Mr. Trascher moves that we earmark \$350,000, for the purchase of an ambulance and

\$100,000, for the station repairs from the 2024 Budget. Mr. Swann seconds. Mrs. Blackwell asked for any questions or comments. With none, a roll call vote was called. Mr. Lindsey votes yea, Mr. Dreux votes yea, Mr. Swann votes yea, Mr. Trascher votes yea. 4 YEAS, No Nays, motion carries for earmarking \$450,000. We are encumbering \$350,000 for the ambulance and \$100,000 for the Station Upgrades. Mr. Lindsey asked what was in the account right now, around \$300,000? Chief said, I think you are right, around \$300,000. Mr. Trascher also mentioned the repairs for the well and that Chief said something about a shed for the equipment and the well pump that has to be done. We can use those funds that are earmarked for the station upgrades to do those repairs.

Mr. Trascher said, I so move that we adopt the 2024 Amended Budget as presented. Mr. Lindsey seconded. A roll call vote was call with 4 yeas, no nays, motion carried.

#### 2025 BUDGET ADOPTION – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief presented the Budget in was presented in October and has been publish for over a month and available for review at Station 112. Chief asked that the Budget be adopted. Mr. Trascher ask for any public comment and with no comments, moves to adopt the 2025 Budget as presented. Mr. Lindsey seconds. With no further discussion, Mrs. Blackwell calls a roll call vote with 4 yeas, no nays, motion carried.

#### STATION 111 UPDATE – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said he spoke with the architect and he will not be getting to us until after the first of the first of the year. He will be working on the blueprints after the jobs that he has right now. We will be getting the blue prints after the first of the year.

Mrs. Blackwell asked for any other comments or questions. With none, we will move to New Business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 2024 FIRE FIGTHER OF THE YEAR – Chief Jack Dockery.

Chief Dockery said for the last 2 years we have done a Fire Fighter of the year. We put the vote to the employees to do an anonymous poll. We ask for a reason why and who they vote for and this year they have chosen Captain Sidney Anderson.

Chief Dockery presented Captain Sidney Anderson with the Fire Fighter of the Year Award for 2024 for recognition of your dedication and service to St Tammany Fire Protection District No. 11. Mrs. Blackwell and the Board said thank you and Mr. Trascher said thank you for his service.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Michele Blackwell

Mrs. Blackwell asked for any Public Comment. With no Public Comment and thank you for coming.

Mr. Trascher asked Chief Dockery about he well. Do we have any new news on it. Chief Dockery said we are having trouble getting anyone to come out and give us a quote. Mr. Swann asked about the 3 phase electric. Chief Dockery said it wouldn't hurt to have 3 phase at the Station. In the future, if anything went down like our Cascade System or just air compressors, it would be nice to have a 3 phase motor on it. Mr. Swann was asking about the 3 phase electric and if it would get us where we want to be with the pump. Mr. Dreux asked if that is why they are not giving us quotes.

Captain Anderson said, they are just not getting back with us. Multiple emails have been sent and no one wants to come back.

Chief Dockery said, with the 3 phase, it is just the motor size of the pump that is effected. Single phase, I have only found a 10hp pump and with 3 phase you can go very big. I won't project any type of flow but, you can get more motor which pumps more water.

Mr. Lindsey asked what the cost be to get 3 phase electric and thought it was around \$30,000. Chief Dockery said it would be around \$20,000. 3 phase is on the pole but want \$20,000 to run a line and put a pole to this classroom. Mr. Lindsey said he will ask his uncle who draws plans for sprinklers, to look and let us know what kind of pump we can get. Mr. Trascher asked if the only other alternative is to elevate the tank.

Captain Anderson said, we found a pump and it's a single phase 10hp pump that would put out plenty enough water. We can't get any plumbers out here to do it because they do not want to guarantee another person's work. We could order the pump and install it ourselves. It's only 2 fittings. Mr. Swann said the only problem is that is where we are now, with no one standing behind it. Captain Anderson said we can't find anyone to stand behind it as it is. Mr. Swann said let's see what Mr. Lindsey can do. Captain Anderson is upset that we are going into 2025 without the pump being done and expresses that they cannot find anyone to stand behind it unless they redo the whole line and pump and they will not guarantee that. We can't get anyone to guarantee it, we can't get anyone to give us a quote anymore. They want to start all over.

Mr. Trascher asked, what you are saying is that they won't warranty it even if they did install all new pipes? Captain Anderson said they won't guarantee it because pumps go bad, bearing wear out. Mr. Trascher said, we want them to guarantee the volume. Captain Anderson said, eventually the volume goes down as the pump wears out. Operator Russell Atchison said the volume will change after time. Mr. Dreux said, I think Mr. Swann is asking for a guarantee of the flow. Captain Anderson said, every time I asked about that, they all said they were not going to do that.

Mr. Trascher said he would be satisfied if, when they finish and they hook it up and turn it on, it produces 500 gallons per minute. Next year it may not do that and Mr. Anderson agrees that next year it won't do that. They cannot guarantee for 10 years that it's going to pump 500

gallons. Mr. Swann said I don't have a problem with that and wants it to pump that when they first turn it on. Mr. Trascher said we can accept that when it is turned on and pumps the volume, then pay them. Do we agree on that? We cannot expect them to guarantee that for 6 months or a year that we are going to get that flow. Things can wear down, the impeller can wear down, then we would have to fix the problem. I think what we are looking at is, when they hook it up, turn it on, that it pumps 500 gallons a minute. Chief Dockery said I think we are all in the same neighborhood on this. Russell, we can show your uncle what we are looking at and see what he thinks we need. The line has a couple of 90's in it and it's got a T in it.

Captain Anderson said, truthfully, we don't need a lot because the truck holds 1,000 gallons and at 250 gallons per minute, it's only 4 minutes to the truck. Mr. Trascher asked what we get out of it now and Captain Anderson said, an hour. It takes a while because it doesn't come out a lot. We don't need a lot to boost it. Mr. Dreux said, you have to get around the friction loss. You have 90's and T's, and you probably are creating a vacuum on it. Operator Atchison explains how the line is ran.

Mr. Lindsey said, that he would get his uncle out to see it and if they can get the specks on the pump he can pass it by him to see what he thinks. We should have an answer for next meeting. Captain Anderson said, he is getting a lot of "we don't do commercial" from local plumbers

Mr. Trascher said by what you are saying, if we can get 400 gallons that would be adequate. I don't think 500 gallons is unreasonable but, we will wait for the experts to tell us. We will get something going on this.

Mr. Trascher said, yes and before we adjourn, I would like to wish everyone a very merry and blessed Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year. With that, I move we adjourn. Mr. Swann seconds.

A roll call vote was called, 4 yeas, no nays. Motion carries.