

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WORK SESSION**  
**OF THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**February 14, 2019**

A Work Session of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held on Thursday, February 14, 2019, at the Administration Building Board Room, 111 Laura K Drive, O'Fallon, MO. Director Laughlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Notice of said meeting had been provided at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by posting the meeting time in the case on the outside wall of the Administrative Offices. The following Directors were present: Director Bill Laughlin, Director Matt Simmons, and Director Matt Gober. The following staff members were present: Chief Vineyard, Assistant Chief Ken Vomund, Assistant Chief Brian Moore, Fire Marshal Mark Morrison, Battalion Chief Mel Emge, Battalion Chief Andy Parrish, Captain Darren Daly, Shop Steward Captain Eric Johnston, Captain Mary Emge, Engineers Darwin Shepherd, Jon Blevins, and Adam Stenger, Firefighter EMT/P Jeff Woodson, and Board Administrative Assistant Karen Lucido.

The following guests were present: Attorney Neil Bruntrager, and Attorney Jonathan Bruntrager

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Vineyard followed by the reading of the Firefighter Prayer.

**FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

Chief Vineyard presented the January Financial Report for Mr. Rognan who was unable to attend. He reviewed the budget stating several large bills were paid at the beginning of the year that included worker comp and funding HSA accounts. The District remains in good financial shape.

Station #3 Renovation update: Chief Vineyard stated the renovation is coming along well and could be completed in 30 days.

Station #4 Renovation update: Chief Vineyard stated this renovation is moving along quickly and could be completed by the end of March.

Per Chief Vineyard: Station #4 is in need of a gear wash machine. He reviewed a quote from Loomis Brothers, stating this machine is the same gear wash machine in the other stations and explained the need to keep all machines the same

for supply ordering and maintenance, and as firefighters rotate to other stations to be able to wash their gear in the same manner. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to accept the Loomis Brothers quote without going out to bid based on the like-kind discussion above, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober  
Nays: (0) None  
Absent: (0) Gober  
Motion declared and carried.

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve the purchase of a Milnor Gear Guardian Washer/Extractor for Station #4 at a total cost of \$12,407.00 per Loomis Brothers Equipment Company quote dated October 12, 2018; Director Laughlin authorized to sign proposal, seconded by Director Simmons. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober  
Nays: (0) None  
Absent: (0) Gober  
Motion declared and carried.

Assistant Chief Vomund reviewed the quote from Don Brown Chevrolet for the purchase of a new Battalion Chief Vehicle, which is an approved 2019 Budget item. Graphics are not included in this quote and will be an additional expense. Don Brown Chevrolet is under State Bid so the District is not required to go out to bid. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve the purchase of a Battalion Chief Vehicle at a total cost of \$53,362.00, per the terms of Don Brown Chevrolet's State Bid dated February 8, 2019; Chief Vineyard authorized to sign agreement, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober  
Nays: (0) None  
Absent: (0) Gober  
Motion declared and carried.

Assistant Chief Vomund stated that previously the Board approved the District contract with Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus to sell the District's 2007 Ladder Truck. He reviewed the Brindlee Mountain brokerage offer. Discussion held. Consensus to list the Ladder Truck initially at \$300,000.00. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus Brokerage Offer Agreement for the sale of the District's 2007 Pierce Ladder Truck at an initial listing

price of \$300,000.00, per the terms of the agreement; Director Laughlin authorized to sign the agreement, seconded by Director Simmons. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober  
Nays: (0) None  
Absent: (0) Gober  
Motion declared and carried.

LABOR MANAGEMENT

Chief Vineyard showed the two sample patch variations of the District's logo for re-branding. Discussion held. Chief Vineyard will send out an email to all employees for a final vote.

OPERATIONS

Chief Vineyard stated accepting applications for the Firefighter EMT/P hiring list was closed February 8, 2019. 78 application packets were received with 12 eliminated due to not turning in all the required information. Written testing of the remaining 66 applicants is set for February 25, 2019 at the O'Fallon Justice Center; testing will be through Ergometrics.

OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Chief Vineyard stated Labor Management met last Wednesday and discussed goals for 2019. Captains Daly and Vesely attended a conference that discussed PTSD and cancer issues with firefighters. Chief Vineyard stated the District is reviewing its programs relating to cancer awareness and PTSD, stating that IAFF Local 2665 has the highest suicide rate in the nation, and further safeguards are needed. Discussion held regarding pending legislation in Jefferson City that will address 9 different cancers that are presumptive to firefighters due to their exposure to toxins. Attorney Bruntrager said final legislation is not yet clear. Chief Vineyard said 28 states have presumptive laws in place, and they are all slightly different.

A motion was made by Director Laughlin at 7:17 p.m. to go into Closed Session, under Section 610.021 (1) Legal Actions involving a public governmental body and confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys; and (13) Individually identifiable personnel records, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober  
Nays: (0) None  
Absent: (0) Gober  
Motion declared and carried.

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to adjourn the Closed Session and reconvene in Open Session at 7:46 p.m., seconded by Director Simmons. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober  
Nays: (0) None  
Absent: (0) Gober  
Motion declared and carried.

During the Closed Session the following actions were taken:

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to remove Firefighter EMT/Ps Levi Ammons, Heather Gump, Trey Thomure, Justin Tichy, Scott Wichern, Cody Willis, and Jeff Woodson from probationary status, effective immediately, seconded by Director Simmons. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Gober and Simmons  
Nays: (0) None  
Absent: (0) None  
Motion declared and carried.


Director Laughlin stated that the District resolved the age discrimination lawsuit and is paying \$28,000 and \$26,000 as wages; the District is being reimbursed so there is zero cost to the District.

Director Laughlin announced the next regular Board Meeting will be held Thursday, February 28, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Simmons. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober  
Nays: (0) None  
Absent: (0) Gober  
Motion declared and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

  
William Laughlin, Chairman

ATTEST:   
Karen Lucido, Recording Secretary  
Board Administrative Assistant