

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
May 28, 2020

A Regular Session of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held a video conference due to COVID-19 social distancing practices, on Thursday, May 28, 2020, via Zoom. 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 and video conference log-in information in the case on the outside wall of the Administrative Offices. The following Directors were present: Director Bill Laughlin, Director Matt Gober, and Director Matt Simmons. The following staff members were present: Chief Tom Vineyard, Assistant Chief Ken Vomund, Assistant Chief Brian Moore, Fire Marshal Mark Morrison, Battalion Chief Andy Parrish, Assistant Shop Steward Captain Darren Daly, Firefighters Jeff Woodson, Brett Tichenor, and Board Admin. Assistant Karen Lucido.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by reading of the firefighter prayer.

Per Chief Vineyard's request, a motion was made by Director Laughlin to add to Old Business item *c. Battalion Chief Promotional Process*, and add to New Business item *b. Permit Fees for School District*, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve minutes of the prior Regular Pension Board Meeting of November 19, 2019, Regular Board Meeting of April 23, 2020, and Regular Board Work Session of May 14, 2020, as presented, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Director Gober stated a current checking account balance of \$758,695.27. Chief Vineyard stated \$900,000 was transferred into the General Fund. There being no further comments or questions, a motion was made by Director Laughlin to pay bills as presented, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

Director Simmons thanked all who supports him in his bid for re-election to the O'Fallon Fire Protection District Board of Directors. He stated his appreciation of the District's current Board, Administrative staff, Fire Suppression, and its Attorney for keeping the District running in an efficient and effective manner operationally, and operating in a conservative financial capacity.

Director Laughlin gave his continued prayers and appreciation to all first responders and those working on the front lines of COVID-19; and their families.

Admin. Assistant Lucido read the following correspondence:

1. A card to Assistant Chief Moore and firefighters from the St. Vincent DePaul Society at Assumption Parrish, for their continued donations of food and supplies for O'Fallon's needy families.
2. A card from Steve and Kathy Wilson thanking the Board and District members for the flowers and expressions of sympathy in the passing of Engineer Wilson's mother.
3. A card from Hubert and Susan Aslinger, thanking District firefighters for their dedicated service to our community.
4. A card from the Bank of Franklin County thanking District firefighters for all they do, and sending their wishes for all to remain healthy and safe.
5. A letter from Monarch Fire & EMS Battalion Chief Schmitt, thanking Chief Vineyard and the department for helping them honor the life and career of their brother, Engineer Craig Shormas.

OLD BUSINESS

There was further discussion regarding the new Ladder Truck. Assistant Chief Vomund stated all equipment is on the truck; everything looks good; training is scheduled; and the truck should be placed into service in several weeks.

There was further discussion regarding COVID-19 Demobilization Plan. Chief Vineyard stated the Governor extended Phase I to June 15, and he reviewed the District's Demobilization Plan, which will be reviewed and revised as needed.

There was further discussion regarding the Battalion Chief Promotional Process. Chief Vineyard stated testing for the open position has been rescheduled to June 30; eight members turned in resumes for this position.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Vineyard stated he received letters of recommendation from the Captains of all 6 probationary firefighters, and he is recommending they are released from probation status. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to remove Firefighters Kyle Chadwell, Kenny Gales, Blake Koppel, Paul McReynolds, Brett Tichenor, and Alex Wetteroth from probationary status effective immediately, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes:	(3)	Directors Laughlin, Gober, and Simmons
Nays:	(0)	None
Absent:	(0)	None

Motion declared and carried.

Chief Vineyard stated he and Fire Marshal Morrison discussed no longer waiving permit fees for school districts since there is no opportunity for reciprocity. The District's current Ordinance allows for charging a school district permit fees. Fire Marshal Morrison received a request for permit from the Ft. Zumwalt School District, and according to our Ordinance the permit fees would calculate at approximately \$17,000-\$18,000. Discussion held. Board consensus to charge school district permit fees as allowed in the District's current Ordinance.

Director Laughlin announced the next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 11, 2020 via Zoom, at 7:00 p.m.

Approved at 6-25-2020 Board Mtg

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, Gober, and Simmons
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (0) None
Motion declared and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.


William Laughlin, Chairman

ATTEST:


Karen Lucido, Recording Secretary
Board Administrative Assistant

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