

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
July 23, 2020

A Regular Session of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held on Thursday, July 23, 2020, via Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19. 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 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, Battalion Chief Matt Braille, Engineer Tom Vogelgesang, Firefighter Brett Tichenor, and Board Administrative Assistant Karen Lucido.

The following guests were present: Attorneys Neil Bruntrager and Jon Bruntrager via video conference.

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

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve minutes of the prior Regular Board Meeting of June 25, 2020, and Regular Board Work Session of July 9, 2020, as presented, 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.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Director Gober stated a current checking account balance of \$1,352,163.40. Director Laughlin questioned if monies were to be moved out of the general fund. Per Chief Vineyard: CDARS investment came due, however, because interest is so low now he is waiting to reinvest the monies. There being no further comments or questions, a motion was made by Director Laughlin to pay bills as presented, 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.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

Shop Steward Johnston stated he should have negotiation items for the Board sometime in September 2020.

Director Simmons wished all District members and citizens to stay safe and keep well.

Director Gober stated his hopes that all members and citizens stay safe and well so we can all get through this pandemic.

Admin. Assistant Lucido read the following correspondence:

1. A card from Kathleen and Tom Stein, thanking Cpt. Emge and her crew for coming to their home to change smoke detector batteries that were chirping, and for all they do.

OLD BUSINESS

There was further discussion regarding COVID-19 Demobilization Plan. Chief Vineyard stated that during the last several weeks, three employees tested positive for COVID; having 24 to 28 employees exposed that needed to quarantine. Therefore, he reinstated some of the previous Phase restrictions for the health and safety of everyone involved, and our citizens. He is cautiously optimistic the District is on the rebound. Chief Vineyard stated that though the Governor lifted all restrictions, St. Charles County has the fastest growing numbers, and he is working to keep everyone safe. Crews continue to respond to all emergency calls.

There was further discussion regarding bond refinancing. Chief Vineyard stated refinancing requires the District's annual Audit be completed before moving forward. Mr. Kummer, CPA, is working on the Audit and has obtained an extension from the State Auditor's office. The Audit will be favorable to the District's refinancing. Anticipate bond refinancing completed mid to late August.

NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Chief Vomund reviewed 3 written bids he received for Station #5 generator replacement. Assistant Chief Vomund stated that Station #5 suffered a lightning strike several weeks ago severely damaging the generator; it is not repairable. Due to the emergency nature of this needed equipment, three vendors were contacted to provide written bids. Bids received were: Luby Equipment Services, Fenton, Missouri – 15,588.00; Mike's, South Roxana, IL - \$20,300.40; and CK Power, St. Louis, MO - \$15,401.52. Assistant Chief Vomund stated that Luby Equipment currently services the District's generators, and we have a positive working relationship with them. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve Luby Equipment Services' bid for a replacement generator for Station #5, as the best bid though not the lowest due to the District's ongoing professional relationship with them, contingent upon Luby Equipment Services insuring they are meeting the prevailing hourly wage rate as determined by the Missouri Department of Labor; they are bonded, hold liability insurance, and workman's compensation insurance to protect their employees, and the use of all subcontractors must be first approved by the District, per their quote dated July 14, 2020 in the amount of \$15,588.00 including lift fees and labor, Chief Vineyard authorized to sign proposal, 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.

Director Laughlin stated that this was an emergency purchase for Station #5, due to the lightning strike at Station #5 that rendered the current generator inoperable. Formal bid advertising was suspended and three written quotes were solicited and reviewed prior to this selection of a vendor to ensure this vital piece of equipment was replaced as soon as possible.

Chief Vineyard stated that the District's annual Awards Banquet usually held in November will be postponed due to COVID-19, particularly due to Delmar Garden's hosting it at their complex; it is in the best interests of Delmar Garden's Nursing home residents and District members.

Director Laughlin made a motion to go into Closed Session at 7:23 p.m. under RSMo 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; 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.

A motion was made at 7:30 p.m. by Director Laughlin to adjourn the Closed Session and reconvene in Open Session, 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 announced the next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 13, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.


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 7:32 p.m.


William Laughlin, Chairman

ATTEST:


Karen Lucido, Recording Secretary
Board Administrative Assistant