

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 28, 2021

Approved at 5-27-2021 Board Mtg

A Regular Session of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held on Thursday, January 28, 2021, 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, Fire Marshal Mark Morrison, Battalion Chiefs Andy Parrish and Matt Braile, Shop Steward Captain Eric Johnston, Captains Darren Daly and Kevin Davis, Firefighter Brett Tichenor, numerous District employees, and Board Administrative Assistant Karen Lucido.

Assistant Chief Brian Moore was excused.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Vineyard.

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to add *SCBA Lease/Purchase as Item b. under New Business*, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve minutes of the prior Regular Board Meeting of December 30, 2020, the Regular Board Work Session of January 14, 2021, and Special Session (7:15pm) of January 21, 2021, as presented, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Director Gober stated a current checking account balance of \$11,847,881.06. There being no 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, Simmons, and Gober
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (0) None
Motion declared and carried.

Chief Vineyard stated the District received a refund of \$21,000.00 from the St. Charles County Election Authority from the November 2020 election.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

OLD BUSINESS

There was further discussion regarding the District's COVID-19 Demobilization Plan. Chief Vineyard stated District members began receiving the first round of vaccines last week, with the second round scheduled the week of February 10.

NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Chief Vomund stated that Station #3's ice machine stopped working and needs to be replaced; and reviewed two quotes from EMCO Refrigeration for Manitowoc model machines, that are made in Wisconsin. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve the purchase of one, Manitowoc UDE0140A Ice Machine including installation at a total cost of \$2,550.00; Chief Vineyard authorized to sign EMCO Refrigeration's 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.

Chief Vineyard stated he received formal proposals for the Lease/Purchase of new SCBAs for either 7 year or 10 year terms from St. Louis Bank; purchase is in the 2021 Budget. Attorney Neil Bruntrager stated that usually the Board is held to 3-year

borrowing agreements, however, Lease/Purchase allows the District to go with a 7 or 10 year lease/purchase for SCBAs. Chief Vineyard stated that while the SCBA purchase is in the 2021 Budget, Senator Eigel has placed Senate Bill 24 for review that eliminates personal property tax in Missouri within 5 years of its passage. SB24 would be extremely detrimental to schools, police, libraries, and fire departments as there is no plan in place for public entities to recoup those funds. Out of an abundance of caution he would like to place approximately \$400,000.00 earmarked for SCBAs into District Reserves, and recommended a 7 year Lease/Purchase Agreement for the SCBA purchase. Chief Vineyard stated that Senator Eigel has been an advocate for first responders and he unsure what is driving this. Meetings are being set with Senator Eigel and other senators to discuss the unintended consequences Senate Bill 24 could bring to all the public entities affected. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve St. Louis Bank's Formal Proposal dated January 28, 2021, for a 7-Year Lease/Purchase Agreement for the purchase of SCBA Equipment at an Acquisition Cost of \$370,000.00 per the terms presented; Chief Vineyard authorized to sign agreement, 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 made a motion to go into closed session at 7:49 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; and (3) Hiring or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body, and (13) Individually identifiable Personnel Records; 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 at 7:55 p.m. by Director Laughlin to adjourn the Closed Session and reconvene in Open Session, 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.

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Director Laughlin announced the following motions were made in Closed Session:

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to promote Firefighters Levi Ammons, Heather Gump, Trey Thomure, Justin Tichy, Scott Wichern, Cody Willis, and Jeff Woodson to the rank of Engineer 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.

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to remove Firefighter Allison Adams 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.

Director Laughlin announced the next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom due to COVID-19.

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 7:55 p.m.



William Laughlin, Chairman

ATTEST:


Karen Lucido, Recording Secretary
Board Administrative Assistant