

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OF THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
April 22, 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, April 22, 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, Assistant Chief Brian Moore, Battalion Chiefs Andy Parrish and Matt Braile, Shop Steward Captain Eric Johnston, Firefighter Jeff Woodson, District employees, and Board Administrative Assistant Karen Lucido.

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

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

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to add "SCBA Donation" as Item c. 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 March 25, 2021 and, the Regular Board Work Session of April 8, 2021, 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.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Director Gober stated a current checking account balance of \$1,081,963.69. 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.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

Assistant Chief Moore stated that the computer upgrades the Board approved earlier this year will begin next week and should be completed within 3 weeks.

Assistant Chief Moore recognized the Firefighter EMT/Ps that have been and continue to assist St. Charles County with COVID-19 Vaccinations; having spent hundreds of hours assisting thousands of citizens.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Chief Vineyard reviewed the District's monthly financial report for month ended March 2021, from Mr. Rick Rognan, CPA. The District remains in good financial shape.

Chief Vineyard is meeting with St. Louis Bank to discuss receiving higher interest rates on our CDARS accounts.

OLD BUSINESS

There was further discussion regarding the District's COVID-19 Demobilization Plan. Chief Vineyard stated precautions remain status quo; St. Charles County COVID numbers go up and down, and are currently back up again. Attorney Bruntrager stated he read the CDC's update today, and it is advisable to continue with Zoom for at least the next month, then revisit CDC guidelines again. The District's surrounding departments are still meeting via Zoom or a hybrid of both. Assistant Chief Moore stated the District is looking into a possible hybrid meeting type. After discussion, consensus to continue Board Meetings via Zoom at least through May, when this will be re-visited.

There was further discussion regarding the Pension Plan. Chief Vineyard has been in contact with Attorney O'Brien, and participated in a conference call with RPA and Empower today; he should receive the Actuarial Report next week. The goal is to schedule meetings with employees and hold a vote in early May.

NEW BUSINESS:

Assistant Chief Vomund stated the District's current 4-gas monitors are old, outdated and need replacing. The new monitors are 5-gas monitors. He reviewed the proposed 5-gas monitors features, and requested replacing the 4 current monitors with 5-gas monitors and their chargers, mounting brackets, and cases. Banner Fire Equipment's quote was reviewed. Discussion held. Consensus that new monitors are needed, and ongoing calibration of monitors are to be done by an outside vendor. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve purchase of four, Draeger 5-gas monitors plus vehicle mounting brackets, 12 VDC vehicle power supply, and rechargeable pump cradle with carrying case for a total cost of \$2,140.00 each, per Banner Fire Equipment's quote dated April 5, 2021; Chief Vineyard authorized to sign proposal; 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.

Assistant Chief Vomund reviewed a quote by Gateway for painting Station #3's basement and Administration Building's public areas and hallways, to include the Boardroom and restrooms. Gateway did the painting for Station #4 and the District was very happy with their work. Discussion held. Assistant Chief Vomund was requested to also upgrade the lighting in Administration Building's 4 restrooms. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve Gateway Centre Services proposal dated March 22, 2021 for painting Administration Building's common areas, and Station #3's basement meeting room for a total cost of \$6,432.00; 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.

Chief Vineyard stated the District received the new SCBAs previously approved, and have found several small fire departments who could use the old units. Attorney Bruntrager will supply a Hold Harmless Agreement for each fire department to sign. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve donating 20 SCBAs and bottles to Old Monroe Volunteer Fire Department, 63369; 4 SCBAs and bottles to Bucklin

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Volunteer Fire Department, 64631; and 4 SCBAs and bottles to Ethel Volunteer Fire Department, 63539; with a hold harmless agreement signed by each department; Chief Vineyard authorized to sign agreements, 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 thanked the Board, stating this donation makes a big difference to volunteer departments who have very limited funds.


Director Laughlin announced the next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 13, 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 7:38 p.m.

  
William Laughlin, Chairman

ATTEST:  
  
Karen Lucido, Recording Secretary  
Board Administrative Assistant

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