

**O’FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**CITIZEN PLANNING COMMITTEE (CPC) via Zoom due to COVID-19**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Monday, October 25, 2021 – via Zoom

1. Dr. Ottomeyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **Roll Call:** (Acting Recording Secretary noted attendees)

Dave Buck	<b>Present</b>	Asst Chief Parrish	<b>Present</b>
John Cook	<b>Excused</b>	Pres Dr. Ottomeyer	<b>Present</b>
Jamie Cronk	<b>Present</b>	Kelly Rector	<b>Present</b>
Joe Donahue	<b>Excused</b>	Teri Reiter	<b>Excused</b>
Jim Frain	<b>Excused</b>	Dir. Matt Simmons	<b>Present</b>
Dir Matt Gober	<b>Excused</b>	Chief Tom Vineyard	<b>Excused</b>
Tony Graceffa	<b>Excused</b>	Assistant Chief Vomund	<b>Present</b>
Dir Bill Laughlin	<b>Present</b>	Sr. Michaleen Vomund	<b>Present</b>
Mark Morrison	<b>Present</b>	Vice Pres. Jim Worman	<b>Present</b>

**Guests:** None.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Ottomeyer asked for any questions or comments regarding the April 26, 2021 minutes of the Citizen Planning Committee Meeting. Mr. Worman asked about October’s Fire Safety Day and Santa Pictures in December; Mark Morrison stated that Fire Safety Day was held because it was an outside event, however, Santa Pictures would not be held due to COVID as it is an inside event. There being no further questions, Director Laughlin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Jim Worman. All members present were in favor of approving the April 26, 2021 minutes as presented; none opposed; Absent: Cook, Donahue, Frain, Gober, Graceffa, Reiter, Vineyard. **MOTION PASSES.**

4. **Reports:**

A) Assistant Chief Ken Vomund

- Equipment - Replaced 12-year old 5-gas monitors. AC Vomund explained how these monitors are used at fire calls. Dave Buck asked if we were able to donate the old monitors; they need repair and parts difficult to obtain, so unable to donate.

- Training: County-wide training was held outside and was well attended. Had a outside trainer come in for county-wide training, and trained on what can go wrong at a fire; citing the Charlottesville Fire where there were firefighter fatalities. Will hold county-wide burn training in November.

B) Assistant Chief Andy Parrish – He introduced himself.

- COVID-19: Jim Worman asked if most members received COVID shots. Approximately 94% of employees are vaccinated, and all new hires must be COVID vaccinated.

- Assistant Chief Vomund is retiring with 48+ years experience in the fire service. One of the District’s Battalion Chiefs will be promoted to fill his position.

- Working on expanding the District's Facebook page and revamping the District's website.

- Working on continuing OFPD's community involvement, by having trucks/crews drive through neighborhoods Halloween, and Santa Runs in December.

C) Fire Marshal Mark Morrison:

Stated that the District's Facebook page was put into place due to CPC expressing a desire on behalf of the public to have it.

- Fire Prevention Bureau: - October's Fire Safety Day was held entirely outside and was very successful. Currently no children on trucks or station tours yet due to COVID.

- Construction: Reviewed construction projects currently underway in the District. Dr. Ottomeyer reviewed several subdivisions that are being constructed. O'Fallon's large addition to its waste water treatment plant was reviewed.

D) Chief Vineyard (*Assistant Chief Parrish for Chief Vineyard*):

- COVID-19 Demobilization - Most District members have received the COVID vaccination.

- Financial Overview:

- District is in solid financial shape and continues to build its Reserves. The 2022 Preliminary Operating Budget is almost complete; waiting on health insurance premium numbers.

- The District is looking at having a defined benefit retirement plan implemented January 2022. Director Laughlin stated due to anticipated retirements in 2022, many new hires and promotions are keeping the District busy. Currently there are 72 employees plus 3 Board members. Discussion of how this plan will enable firefighters who are aging out of firefighting to be able to retire before they become injured on the job, or their health irretrievably suffers.

Dave Buck questioned if appropriate studies were done before implementing this plan. Discussion held, including that the District had several Actuary Studies completed, looking at defined contribution and defined benefit plans. There will be no COLA increases in this plan, and the actuary projects the District's current tax rates are sufficient to sustain this plan, and will remain within the District's budget.

- Operations:

- COVID-19 protocols remain in place.

5. **Unfinished Business:** None.

6. **New Business**

- Dr. Ottomeyer stated the 2-year President and Vice President positions are up the end of this year and requested nominations.

Director Laughlin nominated Dr. Ottomeyer to continue serve as President for the 2022 thru 2023 term; Dr. Ottomeyer stated he is willing to serve. Kelly Rector motioned for Dr. Ottomeyer to serve a 2-year term as President of the CPC, January 2022 thru December 2023, seconded by Dave Buck. All members present were in favor; none opposed; Absent: Cook, Donahue, Frain, Gober, Graceffa, Reiter, Vineyard. **MOTION PASSES.**

Director Laughlin nominated Jim Worman to serve a 2-year term as Vice President of the CPC, January 2022 thru December 2023, seconded by Sr. Michaleen. Jim Worman accepted the nomination. All members present were in favor; none opposed; Absent: Cook, Donahue, Frain, Gober, Graceffa, Reiter, Vineyard. **MOTION PASSES.**

7. **Good of the Order**

- Director Laughlin thanked CPC members for taking time out of their busy schedules to participate in the CPC, and he and District members appreciate hearing what they have to say.

- Mark Morrison stated there are 10,024 likes on OFPD's Facebook page.


- Administrative Assistant Lucido stated she is also retiring in January 2022, stating her appreciation of working with the CPC members. Dr. Ottomeyer and members said, you will be missed.

8. **Next CPC Meeting**

The next CPC meeting is set for Monday, January 24, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Ottomeyer called for meeting adjournment. A motion was made by Dr. Michaleen, seconded by Director Laughlin to adjourn; All members present were in favor of adjourning; none opposed; Absent: Cook, Donahue, Frain, Gober, Graceffa, Reiter, Vineyard. **MOTION PASSES.**

There being no further business, Dr. Ottomeyer adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

  
Julie A. Gaylord, Executive Administrative Assistant  
Recording Secretary