

Ward Four FPD Minutes, July 31, 2017

A regular meeting of the Ward Four Fire Protection District of Jackson Parish was called to order at 7:00 p.m., on July 31, 2017, at the fire district's Central Station, located at 261 Hwy 505, Jonesboro, LA . This meeting was called to order by Kent Hightower, fire district board president.

Fire district board members in attendance included Doyce McGuffie, Cliff Rogers, Kent Hightower, and Arthur Harper. Others in attendance included Curtis Roller, Scott Savage, Marc Thomas, Heather Holland, Rel Mathews, Doug Stokes, Skeeter McBride, Chucky Robertson, Scotty Nunn, Jay Mallard, and Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey.

Skeeter McBride presented the opening prayer.

There were no public comments.

After reviewing the minutes of the June 2017 fire district board meeting, Arthur Harper offered a motion to accept them as presented. Cliff Rogers seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The fire board next reviewed the June 2017 financials for payment. Cliff Rogers made a motion to accept the report as provided. Doyce McGuffie provided the second, and the motion carried.

The first item of business tended to was the opening of bids on the salvage trucks and the salvage bumpers. There were no bids sent in for the salvage bumpers. There were eight bids for the salvage truck. The bids sent in for the 2000 Ford F250 truck were as follows:

1. Jimmy Tolar in the amount of \$2676.75.
2. John E. Price in the amount of \$2001.99
3. Raymond Malone in the amount of \$2121.21
4. Jay Mallard in the amount of \$2238.00
5. John Kelly in the amount of \$2005.00
6. Henry Ramsey in the amount of \$2503.00

7. Glen McBride in the amount of \$1650.00

8. James Roberts in the amount of \$2600.00

Cliff Rogers made the motion to award Jimmy Tolar the truck as he was the highest bidder. Arthur Harper seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

As there were no bids placed on the bumpers, the board discussed what move to make next. Mr. Stokes advised the board to again declare them surplus and receive bids for the next ten days. If no bids were put forth, the fire district could then dispose of them. Arthur Harper made the motion to do as instructed by Mr. Stokes. Cliff Rogers seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

The board was then presented with a list of all past due parcel fees to review. They were advised that certified letters had been sent. New owner letters would follow.

The board was then given an update on the memorial project. Kent Hightower was working in connection with an individual to get a drawing to the board for review.

The next item of business discussed was the Gen Set Trailer that was to be purchased using GOSEP money given to the fire district. The trailer had been ordered and should be in within two weeks.

The board then moved to the next item on the agenda, which was the form that was to be presented to the board concerning volunteer and their children being on scene at incidents. However, the form had yet to be typed. It would be moved to the next month's agenda.

The board then moved on to new business. The board opened the floor to the public for any comments concerning the 2017 tax millage. No comments were made.

Next the board made the move to adopt the 2017 tax millage. Arthur Harper made the motion to adopt the 2017 tax millage. The motion passed with four yeas from Arthur Harper, Cliff Rogers, Doyce McGuffie, and Kent Hightower. There were no neas and one absence, Mr. Richard Barlow.

The next item of business was the need for communication upgrades. Issues occurred when the radios were narrow-banded. Radio transmissions at this point in time were not very clear.

In order to help this, Monroe Communications advised the district chief that another repeater was needed to kick back signal to help with radio transmission through eDispatch and the 700 radios. This would cost the district \$3938.00. Cliff Rogers made a motion to accept the quote from Monroe Communications. Arthur Harper seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The board then considered the purchase of two (2) LED push pole lights for Brush 1. The district chief and assistant chief wanted to purchase these to provide better lighting at incidents that occurred during the night. The cost would be approximately \$2000 per light. Arthur Harper made a motion to purchase the LED pole lights. Doyce McGuffie seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Next the board discussed the hiring of an individual to apply sealer to the wood surrounding the boat house. DeWayne Harold had provided a quote in the amount of \$800.00 for labor to apply the sealer. The district would need to purchase the particular sealer that would be environmentally friendly. Cliff Rogers made a motion to accept the quote. Doyce McGuffie seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

The board then considered the purchase of a laptop computer with accessories for use by Ward 4. The laptop would be used to store things like the parcel fee roll and associated letters as well as records of hose, pump, and hydrant testing. The board wanted to be advised about the cost of a laptop and accessories. Pricing would be presented at the next board meeting.

The next issue on the agenda was the resignation of the current chief. Curtis Roller tendered his resignation as he would be reporting to prison on the following day. Cliff Rogers made a motion to accept his resignation. Doyce McGuffie seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The board then appointed a new chief for the fire district. Scott Savage, the assistant chief, would become the new district chief. Kent Hightower believed Scott Savage would need to receive more compensation as district chief. The board discussed the amount, which they

believed Mr. Savage should receive. A motion was made to increase his compensation by \$200/week. The motion was seconded and the motion passed.

Next comments were heard from the board members. Arthur Harper appreciated the service of Curtis Roller. He welcomed the new fire chief. Mr. Harper also wanted to consider the appointment of a new assistant chief. All the board members said farewell to Mr. Roller and thanked him for his service.

The board was also advised that board member, Mr. Richard Barlow would be resigning at the end of December 2017. A new board member would need to be sought from the community.

Comments from Scott Savage followed. He asked that patience and time be given as he attempted to fulfill his new role in the district.

Curtis Roller thanked the board for their service and regretted he had to tender his resignation.

Arthur Harper made a motion to adjourn. Doyce McGuffie seconded the motion, and the motion carried.