

## Ward Four FPD Minutes, May 30, 2017

A regular meeting of the Ward Four Fire Protection District of Jackson Parish was called to order at 7:00 p.m., on May 30, 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 Richard Barlow. Others in attendance included Curtis Roller, Scotty Nunn, Marc Thomas, and Heather Holland.

Richard Barlow presented the opening prayer.

There were no public comments.

After reviewing the minutes of the April 24, 2017 fire district board meeting, Richard Barlow offered a motion to accept them as presented. Cliff Rogers seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

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

The board was then presented with a list of all past due parcel fees to review.

The fire district chief reported on the 2017 annual parcel fee assessment. As of May 20, 2017, 1169 parcel had been deposited of the 1423 that were mailed. Approximately 254 parcel fees were left to be collected for 2017.

The board was then given an update on the memorial project. The district chief had still not received any drawings for the project. However, he had begun drawing the design for the memorial.

The following item discussed was Truck 1. The truck was set to be delivered in Alexandria on May 29<sup>th</sup> or May 30<sup>th</sup>, and it would be picked up within the week. The radio and lights discussed during the last meeting were ready to install as soon as it was available to do so.

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 on to new business. The first item of business was new member applications. The district had received three applications since the last board meeting. The applications belonged to Dustan Tippen, Gregory Smith, and Patricia Smith. Richard Barlow made a motion to accept the three applicants as a probationary volunteers. Doyce McGuffie seconded this action, and the motion carried.

The next item of business was the need to purchase two more pagers and two more 700 radios. The fire district was continuing to take on new volunteers, and these volunteers needed to be able to stay in communication with the district. Cliff Rogers made a motion to purchase the radios and pagers. Doyce McGuffie seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The board then discussed an issue brought to the attention of the fire chief by the assistant chief concerning volunteer responders and their minor children. The responders were taking their children in fire district apparatus to calls, which caused concern over liability should something happen to the minor while going on call with a responder. The board saw the reason for concern over this situation and stated that there was also cause for concern over those responders going on call with their children even in their personal vehicles. It was concluded that even should the responders be in their personal vehicles something unfortunate might still occur to a minor left unattended while on scene. The board agreed that a motion should be formulated to cover the necessity to not allow minor children in apparatus or on scene at call-outs. However, the board tabled the discussion until the next board meeting so that a well formed motion could be put forth.

The next item on the agenda concerned the 2017 VFA Grant. The forestry grant application was available. The board agreed to apply for the grant and was notified it would be available for review at the next meeting.

The board then discussed that the Lieutenant Governor would be coming to Jackson Parish on Friday, June 9, 2017. The state park had requested if possible that the fire chief take the Lieutenant Governor on a tour of Caney Lake in the Ward 4 Rescue Boat. The board agreed that the opportunity should be taken to show him the area.

The 2017 pump service and hose service testing were then discussed. The testing would be done by Scotty Nunn and Thomas Holland. Pumps on the apparatus were to be tested at a rate of \$200 per pump, and the hose would be tested at a rate of \$0.275 per foot of hose. Richard Barlow put forth a motion to authorize the funding for the testing to be completed before the end of the year. Cliff Rogers seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The next item of business concerned the future of Ward 4. The district fire chief was set to report on June 27, 2017 for his incarceration. If the board decided to place Scott Savage, the assistant chief, in the roll of fire chief, it was felt that he should receive more compensation than what he was currently making. A figure of \$200 was considered to be added to his current payment per week. The board decided to table the discussion until the need arose to consider finding a replacement for the current fire chief.

No closing comments were made by either the board or the fire chief.

Cliff Rogers then made a motion to adjourn. The action was seconded by Doyce McGuffie, and the action passed.