

***ST. TAMMANY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #8  
Minutes of Board of Commissioners Meeting  
August 15, 2018***

**Call to Order:** 5:30pm

**Roll Call:**

Jay Hawkins  
Ryan Murphy  
Sandra Slifer  
Ellis Simpson  
Michael Anderson

**Also Present:**

Janet Dufrene, Board Secretary  
Steven Glynn; Fire Chief

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Hearing of Public Concerns:** None

**Secretary's Report:**

Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Simpson, the meeting minutes for July were unanimously approved.

Financial Reports, including a P&L Budget Performance for the month of July 2018 and a Check Register Report for the General Fund Account up to July 31, 2018 were presented. Discussion occurred about the current variances in budget versus actuals. Balance of General Fund as of July 31, 2018 was \$56,629.99. Balance of LAMP General Savings was \$609,521.99 with \$416,325.99 being current year funds, \$70,000 being held back ad val from December and \$123,196.00 being Capital Funds from previous years money. The balance in the LAMP Emergency Fund was \$253,704.42.

Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Murphy, the financial statements for July 2018 were unanimously approved.

**Chief Report:**

**PIAL:** Field visit by PIAL representative Ken Weber scheduled for September 25 and 26, 2018.

**Vehicles and Equipment:** Mr. Wayne Dykes of Bill Hood Ford was handling our order of the 2018 Police Interceptor SUV (Captain's Vehicle) but is currently recovering from Emergency Bypass Surgery. The representative from Bill Hood did not have the information on our vehicle but said that he would attempt to contact Mr. Dykes or track down the information (he did not have the order number or VIN) and call us back.

Our Thermal Imaging Camera needs to be replaced, the battery pack will no longer hold a charge. We were able to use regular batteries instead of rechargeable battery pack, but it is

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now consuming those batteries very quickly. The good news is that there are now relatively low-cost Thermal Imagers that will meet our needs. FLIR makes a small handheld model available for \$1200.

Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Simpson, it was unanimously approved to allow Chief Glynn to purchase a new thermal imaging camera for no more than \$1400 from the Capital Outlay Equipment budget.

**Annual Testing and Inspection:** Hose tests will resume in the fall; pump tests will resume this month. Pump tests are not yet due, but we want to have a current test available for E-85 when PIAL does inspection; hydrant tests are complete for 2018.

**Fire Prevention:** Inspector Burns will be resuming inspections in August.

**Training:** The Fire/Rescue 1 Academy course "Size Up" was assigned for all personnel and "Fire Officer Communication" was assigned for all officers.

**Firehouse/Emergency Reporting:** The iPads we had purchased from RepairEm were not set up to accept the FirstNet (or any other provider) SIM cards. After a brief misunderstanding, RepairEm acknowledged we had not received what we ordered and agreed to a refund. We then obtained new iPads through FirstNet for \$309.99 each. While this is an additional expense, it represents a substantial discount from the regular price of these units and will be more than made up by the reduction in service rates.

**Station Improvements:** The Station 81 stair project is delayed due to a mistake by Mr. Adams' supplier, who sent 36" treads, rather than 45" treads requested. Mr. Adams is instead fabricating the treads in house and will have them here for installation on Thursday. From there they will be sent to the powder coater before final installation.

The slab at Station 82 has been poured and the parking lot graded, the limestone is scheduled to be delivered and spread on Thursday 8/16. Once the apron and driveway work has been completed, we will move to the generator pad and relocation of the water tank.

**Grants:** District 8 is a partner in a grant submitted by District 5 through the STFCA and received through AFG for Firefighter Accountability. The LGAP has been resumed, our submission will be for Amkus ION Extrication Cutter. We will also be submitting a grant to Firehouse Subs for an ACC Arm Lifeline (mechanical compression machine).

**Firefighter Illness and Injury:** No injuries or extended sick leave to report.

**Personnel:** The new part-timers are working out well, their full-time schedules differ from the part-timers who have been with us for a while and this is helping to fill the gaps in the schedule which will help us avoid hiring unscheduled overtime. We have one full-time position available and a few very good candidates currently under assessment.

**Chief's Association:** Minutes for the July Meeting and August agenda are available.

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**Old Business:**

Health Insurance Plan Details: After going through the whole process of presenting and doing enrollment for the new plans the insurance agent with Regions/McGriffin called to inform us that there had been a mistake on their end and we would be unable to offer the cafeteria plan without losing our grandfathered medical plan we already had. The only employee who chose a plan different from our old plan was informed and the issues explained to him and he switched back over to the old plan. There have been serious after enrollment issues with this agent and so Janet has requested that we seek another agent for renewal next year and begin the process of seeking and interviewing them now.

**AT&T new Plan Update:**

All lines have been run and changes made to service. The phones at 81 are working now and the internet at 83 has been set up and is working. The new iPads have been connected to FirstNet wireless and can be used.

**Station 82 Outdoor Remodel Update:**

See Chief's Report

**Station 81 Stairs Update:**

See Chief's Report

**Fire Hazard Rating Sign Discussion:**

Mayor Lemons has made a second request to have the fire district purchase a Smokey the Bear Fire Hazard Rating Sign. Janet spoke to the mayor about where he would like to have this sign placed and he would like it to be on property that is owned by the St Tammany Trace Commission. Janet has reached out to legal counsel to find out what process would be needed in order to gain permission and also what the liability issues may be for placing a district owned sign on public property it doesn't own. The commissioners express concern that it would be a better use of funds and resources to have the fire rating displayed on the new digital sign in the center of town. More information will be sought about the project before any decisions are made.

Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Murphy, it was unanimously approved to table the discussion of the Fire Hazard Rating Sign until further information can be attained.

**New Business:**

**Board Appointment: Michael Anderson**

Notification has been received from Pat Brister's office appointing Michael Anderson to the board seat that was vacated by Dalton Lambert in December. Mr. Anderson begins his official duties as of August 10, 2018.

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**2019 Budget Discussion:**

The 2019 Budget Committee was formed to include Janet Dufrene, Chief Steven Glynn, Sandra Slifer and Michael Anderson. Jay Hawkins will advise. A proposed budget will be presented at the September meeting.

Upon motion by Murphy, seconded by Slifer, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.