



FIRE CHIEF J.T. WALLACE, JR.

BENTON FIRE DISTRICT 4

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

FEBRUARY 23, 2021 BOC MINUTES

TIME OF MEETING 3:00 PM

Board Chairman, Johnny Barnette, called the regular scheduled public meeting (RESCHEDULED FROM FEBRUARY 16, 2021 DUE TO WINTER WEATHER) of the Board of Commissioners to order. Tim Turner called roll as follows:

Board members **PRESENT** – Johnny Barnette, Jason McGinty, Stephanie Collier, Jay Valentine, Sammy Halphen

Board members **ABSENT** – None

Others present for the board meeting were Tim Turner, and Jacob Maddox. The meeting was held in the Board Room of the Bossier Parish EMS and Fire Complex, 5275 Swan Lake Road, Bossier City, Louisiana. The invocation was given by Jay Valentine.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 19, 2021 PUBLIC MEETING

January 19, 2021 BOC Meeting Minutes questions/discussion: -----NONE

MOTION was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by STEPHANIE COLLIER to accept the written minutes for the meeting held on January 19, 2021. The Chairman called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS AS OF FEBRUARY 19, 2021

Questions/Discussion about Financials through February 19, 2021: ----- NONE

MOTION was made by JAY VALENTINE and seconded by SAMMY HALPHEN to approve the written Financial Reports as of February 19, 2021. The Chairman called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW HIRE

Questions/Discussion about new hire: ----- Chief Turner informed the board that Austin Smiley started on February 11, 2021.



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FINACIALS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021

Questions/Discussion about Financials for year ending December 31, 2020: ---- Chief Turner informed the board that all accounts have been reconciled and presented the board with a copy of the financials for the year 2020. Chief Turner informed the board that after the accounts were reconciled some of the amounts changed slightly. The total change in the amounts for the year were less than two hundred dollars and all changes were marked on the copy of the financials presented to the board.

NEW BUSINESS

WINTER WEATHER

Questions/Discussion about winter weather ---- Chief Turner informed the board that the previous week of winter weather negatively impacted response times due to the road conditions from excessive snow/ice. Chief Turner informed the board that during the five days of severe weather the district responded to over 80 calls for service. The calls were mostly for assistance or medical in nature. During the hazardous road conditions, there was only one occurrence of apparatus getting stuck in the ice that required assistance. The board was also informed of damage sustained to the parking cover at station 2. The weight of accumulated snow/ice caused the cover to collapse. Chief Turner informed the board that an insurance claim was filed to repair the damage.

Jason McGinty asked if the prolonged response times would negatively affect the rating. Chief Turner stated that during times like these PIAL would take the weather conditions into consideration and it probably would not count against us, much like the exceptions made by PIAL during the pandemic.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

Questions/Discussion about medical insurance: ----- Chief Turner informed the board that the district has received the quotes for medical insurance and the district will remain with Blue Cross Blue Shield. The cost of BCBS insurance will increase 3% to 4% in 2021 when compared to 2020. The cost of changing to Humana would be a 27% increase and the cost of changing to United Healthcare would be a 23% increase. BCBS is the best option for the district.

PERSONNEL ACTION FORMS

Questions/Discussion about PA forms: -----

Personnel action form is for the new hire, Austin Smiley.

BENTON FIRE



DISTRICT #4

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ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Johnny Barnette asked the board if any other business or topics needed to be discussed. ----- NONE

MOTION was made by JASON MCGINTY and seconded by STEPHANIE COLLIER to adjourn. The Chairman called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.