



FIRE CHIEF J.T. WALLACE, JR.

BENTON FIRE DISTRICT 4**PUBLIC HEARING****DECEMBER 13, 2022 MINUTES****TIME OF HEARING – 3:00 PM****AGENDA**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Barnette called the advertised public hearing of the BFD4 Board of Commissioners to order. Chief Turner called roll as follows:

ROLL CALL: Board members **PRESENT** – Johnny Barnette, Sammy Halphen, Jason McGinty, Jay Valentine

Board members **ABSENT** – Stephanie Collier,

Others **PRESENT** – Jacob Maddox, Chief Wallace, Chris Faulk, Jonathan Davis, Tim Turner, and Hurmon Gibson

The public hearing was held in the Board Room of the Bossier Parish EMS and Fire Complex, located at 5275 Swan Lake Road, Bossier City, Louisiana 71111.

INVOCATION: The invocation was given by Hurmon Gibson

NEW BUSINESS**2023 PROPOSED BUDGET – DISCUSSION**

Chairman Barnette called for questions regarding the proposed 2023 budget. There were no members of the public present. There were no questions from the board regarding the 2023 proposed budget.

2022 BUDGET AMENDMENT(S) – DISCUSSION

Chairman Barnette called for questions regarding the proposed amendments to the 2022 budget. There were no members of the public present. There were no questions from the board regarding the proposed amendments to the 2022 budget.

ADJOURNMENT (FROM PUBLIC HEARING)

MOTION was made by JAY VALENTINE and seconded by JASON MCGINTY to adjourn from the public hearing. Chairman Barnette called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.



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BENTON FIRE DISTRICT 4

PUBLIC MEETING

DECEMBER 13, 2022 MINUTES

**TIME OF MEETING – Immediately
after adjournment of public hearing**

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Barnette called the regularly scheduled public meeting of the BFD4 Board of Commissioners to order. Chief Turner called roll as follows:

ROLL CALL: Board members **PRESENT** – Johnny Barnette, Sammy Halphen, Jason McGinty, Jay Valentine

Board members **ABSENT** – Stephanie Collier,

Others **PRESENT** – Jacob Maddox, Chief Wallace, Chris Faulk, Jonathan Davis, Tim Turner, and Hurmon Gibson

The public meeting was held in the Board Room of the Bossier Parish EMS and Fire Complex, located at 5275 Swan Lake Road, Bossier City, Louisiana 71111.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 15, 2022 BOC MEETING

Questions/Discussion about BOC minutes from November 15, 2022 --- NONE

MOTION was made by JAY VALENTINE and seconded by SAMMY HALPHEN to accept and approve the written minutes for the meeting held on November 15, 2022. Chairman Barnette called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIALS THROUGH DECEMBER 9, 2022

Questions/Discussion about Financials through November 11, 2022: ---- NONE

MOTION was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by JAY VALENTINE to approve of the financials through December 9, 2022. Chairman Barnette called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously



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OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE: STATION 3 CONSTRUCTION

Chief Wallace reported that the necessary permits to begin construction have been granted and concrete is expected to be poured next week.

UPDATE: SCBA PURCHASE

Chief Turner reported that the SCBA order is complete, the district has received all SCBA and accessories. The new SCBA are in service at this time.

UPDATE: PIAL RATING

Chief Wallace reported that the district is waiting for the PIAL representative to complete the rating process. The district will get the results when the packet has been reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2022 BUDGET

The board was presented with a list of proposed amendments to the 2022 along with the reasoning for the proposed amendments for each budget category that was above or below the budgeted amount for 2022.

Resolution No. 2022-015 relating to the approval to amend the 2022 operating budget for BFD4 was presented to the board members for review.

MOTION was made by JASON MCGINTY and seconded by SAMMY HALPHEN to adopt resolution 2022-015 relating to the approval to amend the 2022 operating budget as listed. Chairman Barnette called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED 2023 BUDGET

The board was presented with the proposed 2023 budget listing out the increase/decrease compared to the 2022 budget. The reasoning for the increase/decrease in each budget category in the 2023 budget was also listed.

Resolution No. 2022-01 relating to the adoption of the 2023 operating budget for BFD4 was presented to the board members for review.



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MOTION was made by JAY VALENTINE and seconded by JASON MCGINTY to adopt resolution 2022-016 relating to the adoption of the 2023 budget as listed. Chairman Barnette called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously

HANCOCK WHITNEY BANK SERVICES

Chief Turner informed the board that there is a possibility that the district may be able to move funds to another bank (Hancock Whitney Bank Services) and receive over two percent interest on the funds that are deposited. The funds would not be required to remain in the account or tied up for a certain amount of time. If funds are withdrawn the interest would be prorated for the amount of time the funds were in the bank. Chief Turner informed the board that Terry Tally of Red River Bank is reviewing the options the district has through them. She believes we could receive a better interest rate through their services. She said possibly three to four percent. The district will meet with her after the first of the year to determine what, if any, options we have. The board will be consulted before any action is taken.

ANNUAL WAGE INCREASE

Chief Turner informed the board that it is time to approve the annual 2 percent wage increase required by law for all employees. The PA forms reflect the wage increases of each employee.

CIVIL SERVICE/INTERNAL PERSONNEL ACTION FORMS

The board was presented with two Internal PA forms for each employee. The first PA form is in regards to the pay scale adjustment that was approved in the November BOC meeting. The second PA form is in regards to the annual two percent wage increase.

MOTION was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by JASON MCGINTY to approve and for the Chairman to sign the PA forms regarding the pay scale adjustment and the annual wage increase. Chairman Barnette called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.



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NEW HIRES (2023)

Chief Wallace informed the board that the district will need to hire two firefighters in January to assure minimum staffing levels are maintained. Both positions are replacing vacancies. One firefighter will be added to replace the vacancy caused by moving Chris Faulk into fire prevention and the other firefighter hired will be to fill a vacancy resulting from a firefighter who resigned.

AGENDA AMENDMENT

Chief Wallace informed the board that the agenda needs to be amended to declare the inflatable boat at station 2 salvage. The boat is damaged and cannot be repaired.

MOTION was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by JAY VALENTINE to amend the agenda and declare the inflatable boat at station 2 salvage. Chairman Barnette called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by JAY VALENTINE to adjourn. Chairman Barnette called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.