



FIRE CHIEF J.T. WALLACE, JR.

BENTON FIRE DISTRICT 4**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING****JULY 16, 2019 BOC MINUTES****TIME OF MEETING 3:00 PM**

Board Chairman, Johnny Barnette, called the regular scheduled public meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order. Chief Turner called roll as follows: Board members Johnny Barnette, Stephanie Collier, John Whittington, Jay Valentine, and Jason McGinty – **PRESENT**. Chief Wallace, Assistant Chief Tim Turner, Captain Jacob Maddox, Vickie Case, and Mark Waniewski were also present. 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.

AUDIT RESULTS MOVED TO 1ST ON THE AGENDA

Vickie Case from Cook and Morehart presented the findings of the audit. She presented the audit packet to the board members and stated that there were no findings. She stated that the fire department needed to work on replenishing reserves. Chairman Barnette asked how much reserve she recommended. She stated that there is not a specific requirement for the amount of reserve funds, the range of reserve funds could range from enough funds to cover three months to one year of expenses.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 18, 2019 BOARD MEETING

- *June 18, 2019 BOC Minutes questions/discussion: -----NONE*

MOTION was made by JOHN WHITTINGTON and seconded by STEPHANIE COLLIER to accept the written minutes for the board meeting held on June 18, 2019. The Chairman called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS AS OF JULY 12, 2019

- *Questions/Discussion about Financials through JULY 12, 2019: ----- NONE*

MOTION was made by JAY VALENTINE and seconded by STEPHANIE COLLIER to approve the written Financial Reports as of July 12, 2019. The Chairman called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.



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OLD BUSINESS

INSURANCE BILLING

- *Mark Waniewski discussed how billing insurance companies would help reimburse the cost of services rendered. He stated that approving the resolutions to enter a service agreement with Fire Recovery USA, LLC and approving the mitigation rates for deployment of emergency and non-emergency services would allow the district to recover some of the cost, at this time the district pays for all services. He stated that the cost would not be to the individual but to the insurance company. The insurance policies already have amounts set for reimbursement for services. Billing would require the district to send in a copy of the fire report and police report to Fire Recovery USA, LLC who in turn would bill the insurance.*

NEW BUSINESS

AUDIT RESULTS MOVED TO 1ST ON AGENDA

ADOPT RESOLUTION(S) FOR INSURANCE BILLING

- **Resolution 2019-005**
 - *Resolution of Board of Commissioners of Benton Fire District No. 4 relating to the approval of the Fire Recovery USA Agreement for District N. 4.*

MOTION was made by JOHN WHITTINGTON and seconded by STEPHANIE COLLIER to adopt Resolution 2019-005 and for the chairman to sign the service agreement with Fire Recovery USA, LLC. The Chairman called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- **Resolution 2019-006**
 - *Resolution of Board of Commissioners of Benton Fire District No. 4 relating to the Adoption of the Fire Recovery USA Ordinance and Mitigation Fee Schedule for District No. 4.*

MOTION was made by JAY VALENTINE and seconded by STEPHANIE COLLIER to adopt Resolution 2019-006 and for the chairman to sign the ordinance and mitigation fee schedule. The Chairman called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.



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ADJOURNMENT

- *Chairman Johnny Barnette asked the board if any other business or topics needed to be discussed.*
- *Chief Turner discussed the difference between home owner insurance rates based on the PIAL rating class. For information purposes only, an example was provided discussing the amount a home owner would save if the rating class improved from a class 3 to a class 2 (Approximately \$34.90 less per year) Using the example of a home insured for \$100,000.00, the taxable amount would be \$25,000.00 (\$100,000.00 - \$75,000.00 homestead exemption) the taxes paid to the district would be \$50.00 per year for the current 20 mills. Using this example, if the mills were increased by 6 it would increase the amount paid for millage to \$65.00. If the class 2 rating is obtained the amount paid in for insurance and millage tax would be \$19.90 less per year even though the millage would increase by \$15.00. Current class 3 homeowner insurance premium for \$100,000.00 is \$680.57 / Class 2 homeowner insurance premium would be \$645.67.*
 - *Current class 3 insurance rate \$680.57 + \$50.00 (Millage) = \$730.57*
 - *If class 2 obtained the insurance rate would be \$645.67 + \$65.00 (Millage) = \$710.67*
- *The cost of retirement cost was discussed in length*
- *Chief Wallace informed the board that the district will be exploring options for increasing revenue in the future*

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