



FIRE CHIEF J.T. WALLACE, JR.

PUBLIC HEARING/MEETING

BENTON FIRE DISTRICT 4

PUBLIC HEARING/MEETING

DECEMBER 10, 2019 BOC MINUTES

TIME OF HEARING 3:00 PM

Board Chairman, Johnny Barnette, called a **PUBLIC HEARING** of the BFD4 Board of the Commissioners to order to discuss the proposed 2020 Budget. Tim Turner called roll as follows:

Board members **PRESENT** – Johnny Barnette, Jay Valentine, Stephanie Collier, Jason McGinty, and John Whittington

Board members **ABSENT** – NONE

Others present for the PUBLIC HEARING were Fire Chief JT Wallace, Tim Turner, Jacob Maddox, Hurmon Gibson, and Mark Waniewski. The PUBLIC HEARING was held in the Board Room of the Bossier Parish EMS and Fire Complex, 5275 Swan Lake Road, Bossier City, Louisiana.

- *Chairman Johnny Barnette asked the board members/public for any questions/comments in regards to the 2020 proposed budget. No members of the public were present and there being no questions or comments from the board, Chairman Barnette called for a motion to adjourn.*

MOTION was made by STEPHANIE COLLIER and seconded by JAY VALENTINE to adjourn from the PUBLIC HEARING. The Chairman called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC MEETING

Immediately following the public hearing, Board Chairman Johnny Barnette, called the regular scheduled **PUBLIC MEETING** of the Board of Commissioners to order. Tim Turner called roll as follows:

Board members **PRESENT** – Johnny Barnette, Jay Valentine, Stephanie Collier, Jason McGinty, John Whittington

Board members **ABSENT** – NONE



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Others present for the public meeting were Fire Chief JT Wallace, Tim Turner, Jacob Maddox, Hurmon Gibson, and Mark Waniewski. The PUBLIC HEARING 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 FOR THE NOVEMBER 19, 2019 BOARD MEETING

- *November 19, 2019 BOC Minutes questions/discussion: -----NONE*

MOTION was made by STEPHANIE COLLIER and seconded by JAY VALENTINE to accept the written minutes for the board meeting held on November 19, 2019. The Chairman called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS AS OF DECEMBER 6, 2019

- *Questions/Discussion about Financials through December 6, 2019: ----- NONE*

MOTION was made by STEPHANIE COLLIER and seconded by JOHN WHITTINGTON to approve the written Financial Reports as of December 6, 2019. The Chairman called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

- *Chief Turner informed the board that the reappointment of John Whittington and Jay Valentine would be discussed in the December 18th police jury meeting. After the police jury affirms the reappointment(s), the board members will be reappointed as the first order of business in January 21, 2020 regular scheduled board meeting.*

NEW BUSINESS

AMEND AGENDA

- *Chief Turner informed the board of the need to amend the agenda to include a resolution relating to the 2019 audit engagement for the District.*



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MOTION was made by JOHN WHITTINGTON and seconded by STEPHANIE COLLIER to amend the agenda to include a resolution relating to the approval of the 2019 audit engagement for Benton Fire District 4. The Chairman called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

MOTION was made by STEPHANIE COLLIER and seconded by JOHN WHITTINGTON to approve Resolution No. 2019-010 relating to the approval of the 2019 audit engagement for Benton Fire District 4. The Chairman called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

AMEND THE 2019 OPERATING BUDGET

- *Questions/Comments in regards to amending the 2019 operating budget. ----- NONE*

MOTION was made by JOHN WHITTINGTON and seconded by STEPHANIE COLLIER to approve Resolution No. 2019-009 relating to the approval to amend the 2019 budget to comply with LLA regulatory statutes for Benton Fire District 4. The Chairman called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM RRB CD INTO RRB OPERATING ACCOUNT

- *Chief Turner informed the board that transferring funds is no longer necessary. The end of year expenses should be equal to the budgeted amount(s)*

ADOPT RESOLUTION APPROVING 2020 BUDGET

- *Questions/Comments regarding the 2020 proposed budget ----- NONE*

MOTION was made by JAY VALENTINE and seconded by JOHN WHITTINGTON to approve Resolution No. 2019-008 relating to the adoption of the 2020 budget for the district. The Chairman called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Benton Fire District # 4 budget for the year 2020 is declared adopted on December 10, 2019, by the Benton Fire District # 4 Board of Commissioners. A copy of the 2020 Budget is posted on the District website for viewing by the general public.



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APPROVE CIVIL SERVICE/INTERNAL PERSONNEL ACTION FORMS

- *Copies of all of the PA forms were provided for board members to review. Chief Turner informed the board that the majority of the PA forms were annual 2% raises for all employees with the exception of a few civil service PA forms to add/terminate extended sick leave and a substitute captain appointment.*

MOTION was made by STEPHANIE COLLIER and seconded by JOHN WHITTINGTON to approve all Civil Service/Internal Personnel Action Forms. The Chairman called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

- *Chairman Johnny Barnette asked the board if any other business or topics needed to be discussed.*
- *Chief Turner informed the board that the District has received notification of a potential rate increase in July 2020 from the Firefighter Retirement System.*
- *Mark Waniewski stated that he attended a meeting with many Fire Chiefs from across the state on the rate increase. He stated that at this time they are trying to determine ways to get the rate down and more than likely the increase will occur next year.*
- *Chairman Barnette called for a motion to adjourn.*

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.