



FIRE CHIEF J.T. WALLACE, JR.

**BENTON FIRE DISTRICT 4**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONARS HEARING**

**DECEMBER 15, 2020 BOC MINUTES**

**TIME OF PUBLIC HEARING 3:00 PM**

Board Chairman, Johnny Barnette, called the public **HEARING** of the Board of Commissioners to order. Tim Turner called roll as follows:

Board members **PRESENT** – Johnny Barnette, Stephanie Collier, Jason McGinty, Jay Valentine, and Sammy Halphen. Board member(s) **ABSENT** – Jason McGinty

- There were no members of the public present.

Others present for the public hearing were Tim Turner, Jacob Maddox, Hurmon Gibson and Chief Wallace. 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.

**DISCUSS THE 2021 BUDGET**

*Questions/discussion about 2021 Budget: ----- There were no members of the public present for the public hearing to ask question/discuss the proposed 2021 Budget. Board chairman Johnny Barnette asked for a motion to adjourn from the hearing in order to open the public meeting.*

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

**BENTON FIRE DISTRICT 4**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONARS MEETING**

**DECEMBER 15, 2020 BOC MINUTES**

**TIME OF PUBLIC MEETING 3:07 PM**  
(Meeting occurred after adjournment of public hearing)

Board Chairman, Johnny Barnette, called the public **MEETING** of the Board of Commissioners to order. Tim Turner called roll as follows:

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

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



FIRE CHIEF J.T. WALLACE, JR.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2020 BOC MEETING MINUTES

*Questions/Discussion about November 17, 2020 BOC meeting minutes: ----- NONE*

MOTION was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by STEPHANIE COLLIER to approve the written minutes of the November 17, 2020 board meeting. The Chairman called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

COVID 19 UPDATE

*Questions/Discussion about COVID 19 ---- Chief Wallace informed the board that the district would be receiving the COVID 19 vaccine and it would be administered to those who wanted to receive the vaccination by the end of the month. Chief also informed the board that at the time of this meeting the district has 4 firefighters who are COVID positive, bringing the total number of positives to 7 since the start of the pandemic. Chief also informed the board that we are expecting a large increase in the total amount of daily cases in January. Some estimates are as high as 5 times the current amount of cases per day. Chief stated that he would update the board as more information becomes available.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

ADOPT RESOLUTION # 2020-003 TO AMEND THE 2020 BFD4 OPERATING BUDGET

Resolution No.: 2020-003

**Resolution of Board of Commissioners of Benton Fire District No. 4 Relating to the Approval to Amend the 2020 Budget to Comply with LLA Regulatory Statutes for District No. 4**

WHEREAS, a quorum of the Board of Commissioners ("BOC") of Benton Fire District No. 4 ("District") was present on this date for a properly advertised, special meeting;

WHEREAS, the Board finds that it is in the best interest of the District, its employees, citizens and taxpayers, to implement a policy and procedure, whereby the District has determined that it is in the best interest of the District to amend the 2020 budget to comply with Louisiana Legislative Auditor ("LLA") Regulatory Statutes for District No. 4;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:



FIRE CHIEF J.T. WALLACE, JR.

1. The BOC wishes to approve the amendment of the 2020 budget to comply with LLA Regulatory Statutes for District No. 4.
2. To the extent that prior resolutions or acts of this Board conflict with this Resolution those prior resolutions and actions are superseded by this Resolution.

*Questions/Discussion about Resolution 2020-003 --- The board was provided a copy of the proposed amendments to the 2020 operating budget. There were no questions about the amendments as they were explained on the copy of the 2020 operating budget.*

**MOTION** was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by JAY VALENTINE to adopt Resolution # 2020-003. The Chairman called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

**ADOPT RESOLUTION # 2020-004 TO ADOPT THE 2021 BFD4 OPERATING BUDGET**

**Resolution No.: 2020-004**

**Resolution of Board of Commissioners of Benton Fire District  
No. 4 Relating to the Adoption of the 2021 Budget for District  
No. 4**

**WHEREAS**, a quorum of the Board of Commissioners (“BOC”) of Benton Fire District No. 4 ("District") was present on this date for a properly advertised, special meeting;

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that it is in the best interest of the District, its employees, citizens and taxpayers, to implement a policy and procedure, whereby the District has determined that it is in the best interest of the District, after the conclusion of a public hearing, to adopt the 2021 budget for the benefit of all citizens and personnel for District No. 4;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that:

1. The BOC wishes to adopt the 2021 budget for District No. 4.
2. The attached detailed estimate of Revenues for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021, be and the same is hereby adopted to service as an Operational Budget of Revenues for the District, during the same period.
3. The attached estimated of Expenditures for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021, be and the same is hereby adopted to serve as a budget of Expenditures for the District during the said period.
4. The adoption of the Budget of Expenditures be and the same is hereby declared to operate as an appropriation of the amount therein set forth within the terms of the budget classifications.
5. Amounts are available for expenditures only to the extent included within the 2021 budget.



FIRE CHIEF J.T. WALLACE, JR.

6. To the extent that prior resolutions or acts of this Board conflict with this Resolution those prior resolutions and actions are superseded by this Resolution.

*Questions/Discussion about Resolution 2020-004 ---- The board was provided a copy of the proposed 2021 Budget in the November BOC meeting and again in this meeting for review. There were no questions about the 2021 proposed budget.*

**MOTION** was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by STEPHANIE COLLIER to adopt Resolution # 2020-004. 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 2021 is declared adopted on December 15, 2020, by the Benton Fire District # 4 Board of Commissioners. A copy of the 2021 Budget is posted on the District website (bentonfire.org) for viewing by the general public.**

#### APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTION FORMS

*Questions/Discussion about Personnel Action Forms ---- The PA Forms were presented to the board for review during the meeting. Chief Turner informed the board that the PA forms were for the annual raises for all district employees. Also included were civil service PA forms regarding terminating sick leave, retirement, and promotions.*

**MOTION** was made by JAY VALENTINE and seconded by SAMMY HALPHEN to approve and for the chairman to sign the Internal/Civil Service PA 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. ----- NONE*

**MOTION** was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by SEPHANIE COLLIER to adjourn. The Chairman called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.