



FIRE CHIEF J.T. WALLACE, JR.

BENTON FIRE DISTRICT 4

PUBLIC MEETING

JANUARY 17, 2023 MINUTES

TIME OF MEETING – 3:00 PM

AGENDA

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

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

Board members **ABSENT** – Jay Valentine, Stephanie Collier

Others **PRESENT** – Chief Wallace, Tim Turner, Chris Faulk, Jacob Maddox, Monica Laffite, 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.

INVOCATION: The invocation was given by Hurmon Gibson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 13, 2022 BOC PUBLIC HEARING / MEETING

Questions/Discussion about BOC public hearing / meeting minutes from December 13 --- NONE

MOTION was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by JASON MCGINTY to accept and approve the written minutes for the public hearing / meeting held on December 13, 2022. Chairman Barnette called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS – YEAR END FINANCIALS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022

Questions/Discussion about Financials for year ending December 31, 2022 ---- Chief Turner informed the board that the year end financials have not been reconciled. The 2022 Financials will be presented in the February meeting to close out the year.



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APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIALS THROUGH JANUARY 13, 2023

Questions/Discussion about Financials through January 13, 2023: ---- NONE

MOTION was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by JASON MCGINTY to approve of the financials through January 13, 2023. Chairman Barnette called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously

OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE: STATION 3 CONSTRUCTION

Chief Wallace reported that since the last meeting there is not much to report. The contractors have poured additional concrete and are working on the catch basin and storm shelter at this time.

UPDATE: PIAL RATING

Chief Turner reported that the results of the rating will not be known until the first week of March.

INVESTMENTS (RED RIVER BANK / HANCOCK WHITNEY BANK)

Chief Turner reported that the district will meet with Terry Talley from Red River Bank this week to discuss the investment options and compare those options with Hancock Whitney Bank before deciding where to place funds for short term interest gains.

NEW HIRE(S)

Chief Wallace reported that the district has hired 2 new firefighters. One firefighter started on January 9th. The other firefighter has passed all EMT requirements and completed the hiring process. He will begin work shortly and obtain his firefighter certifications before being placed on a shift.



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NEW BUSINESS

AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER

The board was presented with the audit engagement letter from Cook & Morehart CPA. Chief Turner informed the board that it is the same type of letter as presented in previous years with the audit procedures and estimate of time to conduct the audit listed.

MOTION was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by JASON MCGINTY to approve and for Chief Wallace to sign the engagement letter from Cook & Morehart CPA. Chairman Barnette called for public comment. There being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

CIVIL SERVICE / INTERNAL PERSONNEL ACTION FORMS

The board was presented with civil service/internal PA forms regarding the termination of extended sick leave, new hire(s), and promotions.

MOTION was made by SAMMY HALPHEN and seconded by JASON MCGINTY to approve the Civil Service/Internal PA forms. Chairman Barnette called for public comment; there being none, vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjournment Chief Wallace informed the board that the district will be placing storm shelters at station 1 and 2. The shelters will be large enough for six people and cost approximately \$4,000.00 each. Sammy Halphen asked where the shelters would be installed inside the stations. Chief Wallace informed the board that the shelters would be installed inside the bay at each station and anchored to the slab.

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