

***ST. TAMMANY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #8***  
***Minutes of Board of Commissioners Meeting***  
***January 19, 2022***

**Call to Order:** 5:40pm

**Roll Call:**

Michael Anderson, Chairman  
Sandra Slifer, Vice-Chairwoman  
Brandon Brener  
Stephen Saussy

**Also, Present:**

Susan Ohlenforst, Board Secretary  
Chief Brandon Stein

**Absent:**

Jeff King

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited

**Modification of Agenda:** NONE

**Hearing of Public Concerns:**

**Secretary's Report:**

Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Saussy, the meeting minutes for December 15, 2021, were unanimously approved.

Financial Report including a P&L Budget Performance for the month of December 2021 and a Check Register Report for the General Fund Account up to December 31, 2021, was presented. Balance of General Fund as of December 31, 2021, was \$375,358.35 with \$181,702.04 being current year funds and \$193,656.31 being Capital Funds from previous years money. The balance in the Emergency Fund was \$263,772.16. Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Brener, the financial statements for December 2021 were unanimously approved.

Communications: Discussion of transfer previous years funds to Emergency Fund Account at Home Bank, Chairman Anderson requested to move these funds. Upon motion by Saussy, seconded by Brener, it was unanimously approved to move the funds in the amount of 36,228.00. Chief Stein annual salary raise 1/8 - 18 years, December annual pay raises: M. Krey 12/4 – 5 years, D. Fortun 12/5 – 10 years, and M. Taylor 12/23 – 3 years . January annual pay raises: E. Givens 1/13 – 19 years and B. Smith 1/21 – 4 years . Also, the following new vendors: Sharp Inc, Reolink, United rental, Skinner electronics, Edarly, Killona Fire Dept, Robotronics and Lumastrobe.

***ST. TAMMANY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #8***  
***Minutes of Board of Commissioners Meeting***  
***January 19, 2022***

**Chief's Report:**

Vehicles and equipment

Normal general repairs and upkeep on units.

All new equipment has been ordered and most has been received.

The Sparky Costume was ordered and should arrive any day. As discussed, in reference to re-imbusement, The re-imbusement has been secured for the entire cost of the suit. I have also received a commitment from that organization to also re-imburse the cost of additional items for Fire Prevention

In the past few months, we have encountered situations where we could have utilized a Wildland Firefighting unit/Brush truck. A few years ago, at the request of a former Chief, we disassembled the Unit we had and disposed of the skid unit. I was informed that Fire District 3 had a skid unit that they had removed from service. I had a conversation with Chief Sicard about getting the skid unit from Fire District 3. Chief Sicard presented it to his Board last week and they surplused the unit and voted to donate it to Fire District 8. We will install it in Unit-83, which is our former Brush truck. This unit will support us in the areas of grass fires/brush fires that are inaccessible by Engines, as well as have the capability of providing water supply functions at structure fires in the event we draft from a pond or other water source that is not accessible by normal engines. This Unit will also be valuable in town during events as it is easier to maneuver in small spaces and in large crowds.

Facilities

Cameras were installed at all Stations and are online

Personnel

Two quarantine due to Covid exposure and/or contraction

Current personnel numbers are as follows:

Paid- 12

Part-time- 12

Volunteer-10

***ST. TAMMANY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #8***  
***Minutes of Board of Commissioners Meeting***  
***January 19, 2022***

Annual testing and inspections

Working with the Town of Abita to develop a program that includes a flush plan and hydrant testing. Fire District 8 is required to test all fire hydrants annually and the Town of Abita is required to flush water systems at certain intervals.

Training

Daily training schedule for 2022 was enacted on 1/1/2022 and is in accordance with P.I.A.L. requirements.

Tower drill schedule was enacted on 1/1/2022 and is in accordance with P.I.A.L. requirements.

We continue to have Certifications achieved on a regular basis

Multiple personnel have enrolled for classes already this year.

Communications

I authorized Secretary Ohlenforst to make an “annual” payment for the year 2022 to Fire District 1 for dispatch services. We are in our second year of the 3-year contract with Fire District 1, which guaranteed our cost would remain the same for those three years. Yearend status I am pleased with the closeout of 2021 and want to take a moment to recognize the personnel for their cooperation and efforts in the operation of a more financially efficient department. As we progress, there is still much work to be done and many more tasks to complete. Each member has played a role in our accomplishments in some way or another. I cannot say it has been easy, and I cannot say that everyone has been pleased with decisions made. What I can say is in the times of calls for service, our personnel have performed excellent. I often hear praise from other Fire Chiefs as well as the public, of the level of service provided by this organization with the limited resources we have. I have received a copy of the F.S.R.S (Fire Service Rating Schedule) from P.I.A.L. and I.S.O., as well as the current Louisiana addendums. We will use these items to ensure we are achieving compliance on all levels and maintain and attempt to improve our rating. Operator Waguespack is leading the grant application process for Firehouse Subs. If granted, we will be purchasing a LUCAS device.

**Old Business:**

NONE

***ST. TAMMANY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #8***  
***Minutes of Board of Commissioners Meeting***  
***January 19, 2022***

**New Business:**

Yearly Capital Outlay Discussion: Chief Stein had reviewed the current capital outlay schedule for 2022 and discussed. Chief Stein stated he will order five sets of turn out gear for our regular part time employees.

Property Insurance Renewal Discussion: Ohlenforst read out the cost of the renewal. The board discussed the increases were due to 4% inflation, adding the new engine and its portable equipment. In addition, there was an increase to general liability due to an increase in runs. After discussion, Chairman Anderson moved it to the floor for a motion. Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Saussy, the insurance renewal in the amount of \$43,772 was unanimously approved.

**Adjournment:**

Upon motion by Slifer to adjourn, seconded by Brener, the motion was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.