

THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE OKOLONA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The regular monthly meeting, of the Okolona Fire Protection District, came to order at 7:00 PM, on Thursday, February 5, 2009, at 8501 Preston Highway, Louisville, Kentucky with the following people present:

Mr. Dorsey Powell, Chairman
Mr. Cary Luker, Secretary
Mr. Mike Portman
Mr. Ed Hogan
Mr. Troy Kerr
Mr. Lonnie Thurman
Col. Richard Carlson, Chief of the District
Mr. Jason McGregor, Attorney for the District
Mrs. Judy Johnson, Fire Department Secretary

Visitors: Deputy Chief Chris Gosnell
Captain Bill Schmidt
Captain Dale Stearman

I. ADMINISTRATION

Chairman Powell appointed Ed Hogan as acting treasurer.

The minutes of the January 8, 2009 meeting were presented for approval. Troy Kerr made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mike Portman seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that after proper motions the minutes of the January 8, 2009 meeting were duly approved and made a part of the permanent records of the Okolona Fire Protection District.

Recording secretary Rochelle Evans requested the board to make a change in the previously approved minutes for the December 2008 meeting. The resolution to accept the bid for the compressors from Mike Mudd was omitted from the minutes. Troy Kerr made the motion to accept the correction. Mike Portman seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that after proper motions the correction to the December 2008 minutes was duly approved and made a part of the permanent records of the Okolona Fire Protection District.

II. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

The treasurer submitted his report for the month of January, 2009 which is summarized as follows:

Beginning Balance as of January 1, 2009.....	\$1,046,730.50
Deposits as of January 31, 2009.....	\$ 53,000.50
Withdrawals as of January 31, 2009.....	\$ 350,633.52
Ending Balance as of January 31, 2009.....	\$ 749,097.48

Mike Portman made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Troy Kerr seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that after proper motions the treasurer's report for the month of January, 2009 was duly approved and made a part of the permanent records of the Okolona Fire Protection District.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Banking

CPA William Hollister has informed the fire district that National City may soon begin to impose fees for what they do to collateralize the fire district's deposits and suggests this be discussed by the board. Memos and fee schedules are attached to these minutes. We could go back to letting the bank collateralize with Freddie Mac & Fanny Mae and not have to pay the \$150 or leave as it is and pay the \$150. Attorney McGregor said that we can change it anytime we want to. Ed Hogan made the motion to leave it as is. Mike Portman seconded. Board approved with no opposition. Chief Carlson to send Mr. Hollister a memo regarding this.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that after proper motions the collateralization of the district bank accounts will remain in the Treasury Money Market Fund.

B. Sign for Station One

Trustee Thurman asked if there was anything more on the sign for out in the front of station 1. Chief advised that Madonna Flood is still interested in our getting the sign. Billy Mattingly is gathering information for it.

C. Hiring from the Outside

Trustee Hogan asked if anything was in process about hiring from the outside. Chief Carlson advised that it is being worked on.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Education and Training Opportunities

Jody Craig has requested \$585 for a class – “Terrorism Around Us”. Bill Schmidt has requested \$800 for a Columbia Southern class – “Legal Aspects of Fire Prevention. There is \$10,191 in the outside schools account. Ed Hogan made the motion to approve the expenditure for the classes. Lonnie Thurman seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that after proper motions it was approved to spend \$1,385 or two education classes.

B. Fitness Equipment

Captain Jody Craig and Firefighter James Campisano have requested the board consider purchase of a piece of fitness equipment. They were to make a presentation to the board tonight but neither is in attendance. The matter will be tabled.

C. Volunteer Firefighter Applications

We have received applications from the following persons to become probationary volunteer firefighters. The applicants have been reviewed and are recommended for trustee approval.

Carl Bennett – Station 2
Molly Teague – Station 3
Bryan Ferguson – Station 2
Ciera Metcalf – Station 3
Mauricio Navarro – Station 3

Chief Carlson advised that Mr. Navarro is not a US citizen, however he does have a permit to work in the US that is valid until 12/10/2011. He was a paramedic and a mountain rescue instructor in his homeland. The board requested that the officers be sure that he speaks English and understands English enough that he can understand orders, etc.

Attorney McGregor advised that all volunteer firefighters should fill out a I-9 and a copy of their identification, be kept in their files.

Cary Luker made the motion to approve the applicants starting their probationary training. Ed Hogan seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

D. Ice Storm

Okolona responded to more than 350 calls during last weeks ice storm including at least 4 working structure fires. A tremendous effort was put forth by many members of the fire department in this unprecedented incident. This event was much more challenging than the 1994 blizzard. The fire district purchased "1994 Winter Storm Team" sweatshirts for those who responded. The chief requested board consideration to purchasing them for this storm as well. Cost would be in the area of \$10 per shirt. Cary Luker made the motion to purchase the sweatshirts. Mike Portman seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that after proper motions approval was given to purchase sweatshirts for the members for their storm response.

E. Employee Health Insurance

Trustee Luker reported to the board on the health insurance for the career personnel. He attended the meetings that the county fire service has been holding and has done a great deal of research on the proposed insurance vendor. Each organization that he spoke with highly recommended MedBen. It is his recommendation that the board approve the new insurance. Ed Hogan made the motion to accept the new insurance, Cary Luker seconded. Board approved with no opposition. Mike Portman made the motion to have Trustee Powell sign the interlocal agreement for the department. Ed Hogan seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

F. Ice Storm Reimbursement

Trustee Luker advised the board that the volunteers are given reimbursement on mileage to and from station per fire run. On long term events, such as the storm of last week, they spend many, many hours here and only get credit for one run according to the current policy. He would like to have a policy regarding long term runs to compensate volunteers. He suggested \$50 for each 8 hour block. Attorney McGregor advised that it would have to be taxed by 1099 or W-2. Trustee Luker stated that if it had to be taxed then it should be changed to \$100. Chairman Powell suggested that perhaps it could be \$100 for the first 8 hours and then \$50 for each 4 hour block after that. Chief Carlson stated that this might put them into a part time status which would take them out of CERS and cause problems with that. Trustee Luker abstained from making any decisions on this matter due to his being a volunteer firefighter. Chief Carlson felt that a limit should be set. Attorney McGregor will talk with CERS about this. Matter tabled to the March meeting.

Cary Luker made the motion to go into executive session to discuss matters of personnel. Ed Hogan seconded. Board went into executive session at 8:14 PM.

The meeting returned to open session at 8:25 by motion of Cary Luker and second by Ed Hogan.

Cary Luker made the motion to reinstate Dale Stearman's vacation time that had been used for sick leave. Dale had shown the board just cause for his extended sick leave. Ed Hogan seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

Ed Hogan made the motion to adjourn at 8:27 PM. Motion seconded by Mike Portman. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cary Luker, Secretary

Attested to:

Dorsey Powell, Chairman