

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, September 3, 2009, at 8501 Preston Hwy., Louisville, Ky. 40219 with the following people present:

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

Visitors: Capt. Bill Schmidt
Firefighter Jeffrey Carlson

I. Administration

The minutes of the August 6, 2009 meeting were presented for approval. Cary Luker made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Jack Ragan seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that after proper motions the minutes of the August 6, 2009 meeting were 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 August, 2009 which is summarized as follows:

Beginning Balance as of August 1, 2009.....	\$1,574,427.99
Deposits as of August 31, 2009.....	\$ 73,118.51
Withdrawals as of August 31, 2009.....	\$ 276,978.15
Ending Balance as of August 31, 2009.....	\$1,370,568.35

Cary Luker made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Lonnie Thurman seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

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

III. Old Business

A. Tax Rate Setting

The fire district needs to establish the fire tax rate on real property at this meeting. Cary Luker made the motion to keep the tax rate on real property at 10.0 (Ten) cents per \$100 of assessed value for the tax year 2009/10. Lonnie Thurman seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that after proper motions the board set the tax rate for the 2009/10 tax year on real property at 10.0 (Ten) cents per \$100 of assess value.

Cary Luker made the motion to set the tax rate at 10.0 (Ten) cents per \$100 of assessed value on all documented motor vehicles, watercraft, aircraft, inventory-in-transit and all tangible and intangible property tax for the 2009/10 tax year. Mike Portman seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that after proper motions the board set the tax rate for the 2009/10 tax year on all documented motor vehicle, watercraft, aircraft, inventory-in-transit and all tangible and intangible property at 10.0 (Ten) cents per \$100 of assessed value.

B. Updates on Fitness Standard and Supervisor Training

Chief Carlson advised the board that we are making progress on the fitness standard and the supervisor trainings. We hope to have final proposal at the October meeting.

We are also setting up a training on the Family Medical Leave act.

C. Budget

We have received information on tangibles and personal property valuation. It appears we will be getting more than was originally anticipated and a budget revision is in order. The appropriate documents are attached.

Chief Carlson suggested that since we are receiving more than anticipated, perhaps we could go ahead and give the firefighters a pay increase. Ed Hogan advised that we said last month that we would leave the 2 percent increase in the budget. After discussion, Chairman Powell asked for a motion to give the firefighters the 2 percent increase. There was no motion made.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Retirement of Career Firefighter

Captain Dale Stearman has submitted his letter of retirement effective October 31, 2009. He has requested to use all of the vacation and holiday leave he has accrued beginning September 5, 2009. This would result in the need to hire overtime to cover some of the days he has requested. We normally have declined to approve vacation/holiday requests that involve hiring firefighter on overtime to cover the shift. However, with the board's concurrence, the chief requests approval to amend that practice. The amendment would mean that any career employee having sufficient service credit, or who has reached normal retirement age (as established by the Kentucky Retirement Systems) and who has submitted a letter of retirement be allowed to use accrued vacation and holiday time. We have sufficient controls in place to avoid employees from accruing a great magnitude of vacation and holiday leave. Kyle Brown made the motion to let Capt. Stearman use his vacation time and holiday time since he has turned in his retirement letter as long as the budget allows. Cary Luker seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED after proper motions to allow Capt. Dale Stearman to use his vacation time and holiday time before his effective retirement date.

With regard to Captain Stearman's position, the current thought is to move Battalion Chief Mattingly to station two. On this platoon we have two chief officers – Assistant Chief Brown and Battalion Chief Billy Mattingly, where on the others we have only one. This would address the Captain's position.

We will, until such time as a new employee candidate can be presented to the board for approval, use overtime to fill the void. The current thought is to begin the process of seeking external candidates. This may be a length process with the various steps we have in mind. It probably may be some three months before it is completed.

B. Firehouse Software

We are using a version of Firehouse Software to manage a lot of our data information. It is a basic version. There is available an "Enterprise" version that is more robust and has features not included in our basic version. Given our size and activity the Enterprise version is appropriate, despite its \$11,000 price. Chief Carlson advised he has included the software in the budget revision. Ed Hogan made the motion to purchase the new software. Mike Portman seconded. Board approved with no opposition.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED after proper motions to purchase the Enterprize version of Firehouse software at a cost of \$11,000.

Chief Carlson advised that it his long time goal to have all the Chief officers using blackberry devices so that we can communication information to them quickly.

Ed Hogan made the motion to go into executive session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss matters of possible litigation and a personnel issue. Kyle Brown seconded. Board approved with no opposition. Meeting went into executive session.

With a motion to returned to open session by Ed Hogan at 8:15 p.m., and seconded by Lonnie Thurman, and approval, the meeting returned to open session.

There being no further matters to come before the board of trustees of the Okolona Fire Protection District, Mike Portman made the motion to adjourn. Lonnie Thurman seconded. Board approved with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cary Luker, Secretary

Attested to:

Dorsey Powell, Chairman