**MINUTES**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**March 11, 2024**

The Board of Commissioners of Bayou Cane Fire Protection District of the Parish of Terrebonne, State of Louisiana, met on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 11:30 a.m.

Travis Gravois called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Upon roll call by Sonja Labat, the following Commissioners were present: Travis Gravois, Jacob Rhodes, Ed Lawson, Suzanne Carlos and Steve Folmar. The following Commissioners were absent: Robert Page and Hayward Sims. Others in attendance were Sonja Labat, Danna Schwab, Chief Himel, Chief Hill, Mike Palmer, Chief Henry, Chief Boudreaux, Kay Hebert, Greg Boudreaux, Lou Eschete, Ricky Valenti, Brent Tinkes, Adam Schmitt, Cameron Lacoste, Tim Guidry, Jabrill Quinn, Brandon Adams, Kurt Dichiara, Cameron Guillot, Weston Sevin, Duncan Bland, Caleb Seitz and Isaac Harbour.

It was motioned by Ed Lawson, seconded by Jacob Rhodes to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 5, 2024. Motion passed.

No one from the Public addressed the Board.

There was no old business.

New board member, Steve Folmar was introduced. Steve Folmar, Pastor of the Covenant Christian Church introduced himself and is honored to serve on the board.

Chief Himel advised that it is time to renew Richard Bourg’s appointment on the Civil Service Board. A letter to renew his position was included in the agenda packets for review. It was motioned by Ed Lawson, seconded by Suzanne Carlos to renew Richard Bourg’s appointment on the Civil Service Board. Motion passed.

Chief Himel discussed the need for a reserve ambulance, as this was discussed during the budget preparation. Chief Henry advised that he prefers to have another unit in case one of the current units are in the shop, etc. St. Charles has a unit for sale and the fair market value cost is $10,000. The district has equipment to stock the unit, but it would need to be painted and need minor supplies. Chief Henry estimates that it would cost less than $40,000 to have the unit ready for service. It was motioned by Jacob Rhodes, seconded by Ed Lawson to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with St. Charles to purchase the reserve unit at $10,000. Motion passed.

Chief Himel discussed the Fire Chief’s report. There were 336 calls for the month of February, 165 February 2023 and 657 year to date calls in the year 2024. There were 225 EMS calls. He discussed the new recruiting academy and ten recruits introduced themselves to the board.

Fire Prevention Chief, Mike Palmer, advised that St, Bernadette is expanding. He discussed remodels, renovations and six smoke alarm installations. He also discussed plan reviews, mobile vendors and public education and advised that they are also bringing an ambulance along with the fire truck to school visits.

EMS Chief, Toby Henry, advised that 171 patients were transported in February. He obtained approval for Medicaid claims. There are seven currently enrolled in EMS school. He also congratulated Chief Palmer for completion of his EMT training.

Chief of Operations, Brian Boudreaux, discussed policy overhaul as they are moving the policies to digital. Essential personnel has been great during the process. Mardi Gras has been wrapped up. The two ATV’s purchased has been a great asset to the district, especially during Mardi Gras. The recruit academy kicked off and graduation information will be available in April.

Chief of Administration, Kenny Hill, advised that Lexipol is being used to apply again for the Safer Grant. The new radios that were purchased with grant funding have been programmed and issued. The renovations at the central station are 90% complete. The punch list items were discussed: front awnings, signage, and two offices need to be painted. The burn building was discussed. They are currently working on the permit with the parish and the structure drawings should be here by the end of the week. The metal is estimated to be delivered on April 23rd. The goal is to have the project complete by the end of June.

It was motioned by Ed Lawson, seconded by Travis Gravois to approve the February financials. Motion passed.

Ed Lawson welcomed the new recruits and wished them the very best. Suzanne Carlos also welcomed the recruits and the new board member. Jacob Rhodes welcomed the new recruits and congratulated and wished them best wishes on their career. He also welcomed the new board member. Travis Gravois offered much respect to the new recruits. He also advised that the board takes pride in the district. Chief Himel advised that Nick Hebert is no longer on the board.

A motion was offered by Ed Lawson, seconded by Suzanne Carlos to adjourn the meeting at 12:03 p.m. Motion passed. The next regular scheduled meeting is April 8, 2024, at 11:30 am.

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Travis Gravois, Secretary­ Sonja Labat, Accountant