

**Fenton Fire Protection District**

***Meeting of the Board of Directors***

**August 12, 2020**

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A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fenton Fire Protection District (hereinafter called the "District") held on Wednesday, August 12, 2020, via video conferencing originating at the Fenton Fire Protection District, 845 Gregory Lane, Fenton, Missouri 63026.

Chairwoman Beth L. Viviano called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

The following Directors answered Roll Call:

Beth L. Viviano  
Jennifer Grimes  
Tom Ascheman

Also present was:

Tom Steitz	District Chief
Romona Kaminski	District Assistant Chief
Chris McCarthy	Deputy Chief of EMS
Chris Thiemann	District Fire Marshal
Joe Boushard	Shop Steward
Steve McKinney	Shop Steward
Daniel McLaughlin	District Legal Counsel

Chairwoman Viviano ruled that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes from the regular meeting held July 29, 2020 were presented and it was

***Moved by Director Grimes, and seconded by Director Ascheman*** to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held July 29, 2020. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

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**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Chief Steitz presented the Board with the bills for review and payment, which totaled \$630,387.78. The list of bills is attached hereto and made a part hereof the minutes to the meeting. After discussion, it was

*Moved by Director Grimes, and seconded by Director Ascheman, to approve the bills for payment and ratification. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.*

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Chief Steitz presented the Board with the Treasurer's Report on balances of account, deposits, payments and transfers for the General, Ambulance, Dispatch, Pension, Capital Projects 2019, Debt Service, HRA, FSA and COVID-19 Funds. Balances since last meeting are:

Simmons

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Balance as of 7/29/20</u>	<u>Balance as of 8/12/20</u>
General	\$12,750,201.61	\$12,426,278.03
Ambulance	\$4,364,685.33	\$4,159,166.72
Dispatch	\$479,932.97	\$473,062.40
Pension	\$205,740.03	\$205,786.25
Capital Project		
2019	\$16,177,929.26	\$15,203,297.51
Debt Services	\$1,337,822.50	\$1,338,425.14
HRA	\$4,624.62	\$3,896.32
FSA	\$10,874.86	\$9,149.14
Covid-19	\$19,131.14	\$19,112.87

After discussion, it was

*Moved by Director Grimes and seconded by Director Ascheman to receive the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.*

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**OLD BUSINESS**

Chris Thiemann, Fire Marshal, provided a construction update for House 3 and House 2. He began by presenting the Board of Directors a series of photos of House 3 illustrating the construction progress. A majority of the trusses are in place and expecting to have the structure under roof within the next couple of weeks. The project workflow continues to be on or even a bit ahead of schedule.

Chris Thiemann next showed the Board of Directors pictures of the excavating work at the new headquarters building site. He also reviewed design layout options for the Board Room. The design graphics are to be emailed to the Directors for further considerations.

Chris Thiemann and Deputy Chief McCarthy discussed issues at Solstice Senior Living. After working with several administrators at this facility over the years, the situation is declining again. The main problems are residents living there are unable to self-evacuate in the event of a fire and the location is not staffed on a 24-hour basis. Solstice Senior Living is an apartment complex and not considered an assisted living facility. Recently the State was engaged to execute an investigation, which could force the facility to become licensed to provide the proper care or move the residents who require more care to other locations. Further discussion ensued regarding patient safety and means for processing these types of situations.

Chris Thiemann discussed the solar considerations for the engine houses. Chris Thiemann continues to investigate the affordability of solar options. House 1 may be viable pending the state of the roof. Warranty work was completed on the roof at House 1 in 2014. A contractor may need to access the roof to see if it is in good enough condition to install the solar panels. The current rebates on new construction are very low and it would take a considerable amount of time to recoup the cost savings. It may be best for the new engine houses, to wire them for solar panels and see about future rebate programs.

Chris Thiemann presented a list of businesses that are potentially building facilities at Fenton Logistic Park: Wally's Travel Center, Grey Eagle Distributing with a 238,640square foot building and 180,000 square foot Amazon Distribution Center.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The first item of new business is the recommendation for the purchase of the Class A/B Live Fire 3 Story 4 Level Training Tower. Deputy Chief Mueller and the Training Committee reviewed

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the proposal and it meets the parameters of the specifications. The cost of the Live Fire Training Tower is \$627,125.00.

***Moved by Director Grimes and seconded by Director Ascherman*** to approve the purchase of the Class A/B Live Fire 3 Story 4 Level Training Tower as recommended for the cost of \$627,125.00. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

Battalion Chief Watkins presented his quarterly update for C Shift. He reviewed the number of calls and training hours completed over the course of 2020. Jim Watkins talked about the status of several crewmembers and mid-year crew changes. Jim Watkins leads the Apparatus Committee. He showed the Board of Directors a photo of the new Quick Attack apparatus put in service recently and personnel are training to become familiar with the unit. The old 1329 unit is listed for sale on GovDeals with eight days left on the auction. He talked about the specifications the Apparatus Committee is finalizing in preparation for approval of bidding a new aerial device. Jim Watkins is evaluating turn out gear vendors and the different styles of gear available. The last item reported was the filing of a grant application with Missouri Employer's Mutual for the purchase of patient lift assist systems in the amount of \$7,600. The grant is a 50/50 match program.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Steitz reported significant calls over the last two weeks. These included a vehicle rescue with a person trapped, an assist to Kirkwood Fire Department on a house fire and the two storm days kept the crews busy with an increase in storm related incidents including a couple of lightning strike calls.

Chief Steitz reported the property the District looked into buying in Sunset Hills was not likely to work out. A conversation ensued regarding other possible sites in Sunset Hills to build a new engine house to replace House 4.

Chief Steitz reported about the Labor Management Meeting held earlier in the day via Zoom. A closed session will be held during the August 26<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting for CBA Negotiations.

Deputy Chief McCarthy conveyed the good news about this year's ambulance purchase. He received a surprise phone call that the ambulance is in production and in late August to early September will be ready for inspection. The apparatus is now scheduled to arrive in September.

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With the addition of the new ambulance and trade in of an older unit, all the ambulances in the District will look the same.

Assistant Chief Romona Kaminski reported about the compassion of a couple of the District's personnel. Stephanie Stegman (Spaniol) and Brad Jokerest went above and beyond to support the Kinloch Fire Department community. Arlydia Bufford is a volunteer firefighter with the Kinloch Fire Department who was injured during a shooting at Applebees earlier this year. Stephanie reached out to the Kinloch Fire Department to help organize a parade for Arlydia the day she went home from the hospital. Stephanie, with the assistance of Brad Jokerest, had t-shirts made with the proceeds donated to Arlydia Bufford. The Kinloch Fire Department and the injured volunteer firefighter were all very touched by the outpouring of support from the fire community.

Chairwoman, Beth Viviano, inquired about the plan to spend the COVID-19 funding. Deputy Chief McCarthy explained about his hesitation in expensing the funding at this time due to a change in auditing requirements. The Federal audit reporting initially was required for organizations receiving over \$100,000 in funding was reduced this week to \$10,000. Possible uses could be replacement for lost ambulance fee revenues for the decrease in call volume, PPE initiatives or emergency management supplies.

**SHOP STEWARD'S REPORT**

Joe Boushard, Shop Steward, discussed the progress made in the CBA negotiations meeting earlier in the day. The group will begin with Article 30 at the next meeting. Joe Boushard expressed his appreciation to Chris Thiemann and Chris McCarthy for their efforts in correcting the issues with Solstice Senior Living.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

Wednesday, August 26, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

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**ADJOURNMENT**


There being no further business before the Board of Directors, at 4:58 p.m., it was

***Moved by Director Ascheman, and seconded by Director Viviano*** to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted and attested to by,

  
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Beth L. Viviano, Chairwoman

  
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Jennifer Grimes, Treasurer

  
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Tom Ascheman, Secretary