

## Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors Of the Wentzville Fire Protection District of January 21, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Wentzville Fire Protection District was held on January 21, 2025, at Wentzville Fire District Headquarters, 502 Luetkenhaus Blvd, Wentzville, MO 63385.

Chief Mosher called the meeting to order at 9:29 a.m.

Open Forum: No one from the public was present.

Chief Mosher called Roll. Three Board Members were present: Chairwoman Jennifer Houston, Director Frank Grassmuck, and Director Chad Wilson.

Other attendees included Assistant Chief Mike Scott, Captain Fred Hohenshell, Finance & HR Manager Lisa Potts, and Administrative Assistant Shannon Beckemeyer.

Director Grassmuck motioned to approve the agenda. Director Wilson seconded it. Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye, Director Wilson-aye.

On a motion from Director Grassmuck and a second from Director Wilson, the January 16, 2025, regular meeting minutes were approved. Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye, and Director Wilson-aye.

On a motion from Director Grassmuck and a second from Director Wilson, the bills were approved. Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye, and Director Wilson-aye.

## **Old Business:**

No old business

## **New Business:**

Chief Mosher reported that the turnout gear purchase is ready to go. They are trying to order by February 1 to take advantage of a 5% savings. Captain Fred Hohenshell reported this was put out through the pre-bid process and that they have been testing gear for over a year now. The planning committee decided on Lion brand, black gear and need to purchase 36 sets of turnout gear for new hires and those at their 10-year expiration per NFPA standards. The cost is \$5,700 per set for a total of around \$210,000 bond money. The new sets are PFAS free to reduce the

risk of cancer or other health-related issues. The 1044 helmets will be replaced by a composite 1836 helmet. Captain Fred Hohenshell noted they will be working toward staggering future purchasing of gear to spread out the financial burden. Chief Mosher mentioned that this purchase is just part of the \$600,000 line item so there will be additional purchases coming. Captain Hohenshell stated they are looking at a 2<sup>nd</sup> set of lighter gear for car extrications and summertime that will be cooler and more breathable and are basically the gear without the lining. Also mentioned were the bulletproof vests on trucks being one size fits all, so they are starting to look into purchasing custom/different sizes for better protection. On a motion from Director Grassmuck and a second from Director Wilson, the purchase of turnout gear, as discussed, was approved. Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye, and Director Wilson-aye.

## **Officers Report:**

Chief Mosher reported that 4 new kitchen table chairs were ordered for each station and that the old chairs would be moved out to the bays or discarded if no longer usable. Chief Mosher noted that January is Firefighter Cancer Awareness month. As such, gear extraction machines have been put on a 6-month maintenance schedule to ensure an adequate level of detergent since the level is not visible with the auto-feed. With Station 3 staying around a bit longer now, some repair and maintenance work needs to be done (electrical, plumbing, alarms). Also in discussion for Station 3 is new workout equipment to replace old equipment and align with the other stations. There are other miscellaneous building repairs at various other stations due to the cold weather and other truck repairs in the works. There was a brief discussion on training and succession planning for Captain Mark Dwyer, who oversees vehicle maintenance.

Assistant Chief Mike Scott reported working on several training requests: fire school at the beginning of February, FDIC training in April and another large Train the Trainer class with thermal imaging in March using the training tower. The training tower is up for 10-year inspections and needs several repairs and upgrades. Also in discussion and awaiting a bid is an addition to the training tower to provide additional training space that could cost upwards of \$200,000.

Chief Mosher provided a brief update on Captain Shine's situation relating to press contact and a couple of the recent fundraising events.

Fire Marshal Cuddihee was absent

Battalion Chief Joe Hutson was absent.

Legal Counsel McLaughlin was absent.

Shop Steward Max Mueller was absent.

Board Report: The next board meeting is January 27 at 9:30 a.m.

Director Grassmuck made a motion to adjourn at 9:57 a.m., seconded by Director Wilson, and the meeting was adjourned. Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye, and Director Wilson-aye.

Frank Grassmuck, Secretary

Lisa Potts, Recording Secretary