



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioner's
Minutes of the Meeting on June 8, 2021
Fire Chief Jack Dockery

ROLL CALL

Russell Lindsey – Present
Floyd Trascher – Present
Eugene Swann - Present
Michele Blackwell – Present

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

FINANCIALS

MINUTES

Mrs. Blackwell asked, has everybody read and approved the May 11th, meeting minutes?

Mr. Lindsey said, I browsed over them and everything seems to be in order.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I reviewed them and I don't see any out of order and if Mr. Lindsey would make a motion, I will make a second to approve them with the video governing.

Mr. Lindsey said, I make a motion that we approve them with the video governing.

Mr. Trascher said, second.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Lindsey, how do you vote?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Swann, how do you vote?

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Trascher, how do you vote?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries. We will move on to the Financial Report, Chief.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Blackwell said, we will move to the Chief's Report, Chief Dockery.

Chief Dockery said, for the month of May, we are looking at a target rate of 41.70%. The only things that really stood out were Training Services, they were over \$2,028.10, but, the plan is to move their money that they produced from the class of \$10,900, into that account to bring it up to par. The only other one that we had was LWCC, as Line Item 12, we had a check from them for \$26,857.51. Other than that, everything is running along.

Mr. Lindsey said, our Legal Fees are up a little bit, Line 93?

Chief Dockery said, let's see, 93.

Mr. Lindsey said, we are actually over budget on that.

Chief Dockery said, yes, that one is over a little bit. That is due to the election, the cost of the election. That will be addressed.

Mr. Trascher said, when you say addressed, is that something that, because we are fronting the expenses now, that, as we progress throughout the year, we will catch back up within the budget or will we have to change money for that.

Chief Dockery said, we will change money from other Line Items to cover that Line Item when we do the amendment.

Mr. Trascher said, well, I guess what I am asking is, for the rest of the year, will our Legal Expenses decrease because of that?

Chief Dockery said, we shouldn't have any more.

Mr. Trascher said, that's what I am saying, so, as we go over the budget, the percent over budget will come down in the next couple of months, also.

Chief Dockery said, yes, that should be the only expense that we have for the Legal, so throughout the year, when we get to amendment time...

Mr. Trascher said, we will address that when we need to.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, thank you, Chief.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, is that all on the Financial Report?

Mr. Lindsey said, I don't have anything further.

Chief Dockery said, on to the Medical side of it, it looks like last month we brought in a total of \$14,258.95. So, about \$4,200, over our usual \$10,000, that we try to maintain for the service.

Mr. Swann asked, who do you have collecting that?

Chief Dockery said, we use ESO and then they are our electronic ECR and then they send the information to a company in Shreveport called Insight Billing and they send out the bills to the patients and the insurance companies. So, that is the two companies that we do use.

Mr. Swann asked, have they had pretty good service?

Chief Dockery said, yes sir, it's been phenomenal. With a lot of departments around here are starting to actually transfer over to ESO, using their software. I want to say, Fire District 3 is using them and in talking with Chief Parish today, I believe District 4, Mandeville, is going to start using them. It's a real good service and I don't have any complaints and I don't think any of my paramedics have any complaints on it.

Mr. Swann said, good.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, anything else on the EMS side?

Mr. Lindsey said, no.

Mrs. Blackwell said, if there is nothing else, we will move on to the Chief's Report.

CHIEF'S REPORT - Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, for the month of may, we responded to:

EMS	45
MVA	4
GRASS FIRE	2
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	14
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	6
FALSE ALARM	1
GAS LEAKS/INVEST	4
TOTAL	76

Chief Dockery continued, now, you don't have it on your because I really forgot that Mr. Atchison is here today. Russell, would you stand up and introduce yourself.

Mr. Atchison said, hello, I am Russell, I started just here on April 3rd, but I've been around here

since I was a little kid. I've been an Firefighter 1, 2, Operator, also Investigator 1. I've been in the fire services since 2006. I worked at District 3, I work part time in District 6. I worked for a little while as a paramedic and then came back to the fire service and I just got the job here so, I am here full time now.

Chief Dockery said, we took Mr. Atchison on. He is our newest member here but, I also brought him here just because, he just took his paramedic and passed his paramedics so, he is a Nationally Registered Paramedic for the State of Louisiana.

Mr. Trascher said, congratulations and welcome aboard.

Mrs. Blackwell said, awesome.

Chief Dockery said, okay, you can go eat your Taco Bell now.

Mrs. Blackwell said, that's it.

Mr. Atchison said, thank you.

Chief Dockery said, that's all I have for the Chief's Report.

Mr. Lindsey said, well, that's exciting.

Mr. Trascher said, I know this may be a little unorthodoxed but Chief, you have been looking into this program we talked about recognition for some of the firefighters?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, thank you, Madam Chair, for that.

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay, we will move to Old Business, Update on Brick Work, Chief Dockery.

OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE ON BRICK WORK – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, well I did talk with him and told him we were very interested in his company and I asked him to bring some samples and he brought some. I actually went back the other day and picked out some that he didn't have so, the two in front of you that are just pictures, they didn't have any sample boards but, I figured the pictures will have to for this time. I will pass them around. I will tell you right now, I do not like this one.

Mr. Swann said, it looks like mildew on it.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I don't like it either.

Chief Dockery said, I will put it up there for you all to look at.

Mr. Trascher said, that looks good enough to eat.

Chief Dockery said, it looks like cheese.

Mr. Trascher said, yes. It looks more like a pastry.

Chief Dockery said, I will be forthcoming, when I went in there, when I went over there the other day, I told the lady I would really would like red.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, this one?

Chief Dockery said, actually, my favorite was this one, the picture does not do it justice. It's basically red like how I would perceive a fire station to be.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I like the one you have in your hand, Mr. Russel.

Chief Dockery said, the Bayou Blend is, and there was another one that was decent .

Mr. Trascher said, this one, it looks like it's been in a fire.

Mrs. Blackwell said, it has been in a fire.

Mr. Trascher said, my taste is in my mouth. I'm sorry.

Chief Dockery said, I think my favorites were the Bayou Blend...

Mrs. Blackwell asked, which one is that, the top one?

Chief Dockery said, this one.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I like that one.

Chief Dockery said, I wasn't this one, and the Cedar Creek was not too distasteful to me. This one, is kind of rough to me. I am concerned about the texture of the outside. Will that come off over time and what would it look like underneath?

Mrs. Blackwell asked, would you hold that second one up that you liked? Yeah, we don't want that one. I don't think.

Chief Dockery said, this is the second one I liked. This was the first one. It was just brick, it wasn't fancy with the white coating on it. This is why I brought samples for you to go through. Like I said, I really wish they would have turned out better. The pictures really don't do it justice on the other two. That's the red one and this is the Old Virginia.

Mrs. Blackwell said, oh it looks better on your phone. I like that one too.

Chief Dockery said, this is the red one and this is this one. The picture turn out well.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, let me see the red one again, and the Almonaster. I do like the Almonaster one. The red one is not bad, not in the picture, it's not on here. I like this. I like this one, too. So, that would be those two and that one over there. The Chief's first pick out of those.

Mr. Swann said, I like that one. Let me see again.

Mrs. Blackwell said, look at them on the phone.

Mr. Swann said, I like the red one. I don't have to live with it.

Chief Dockery said, I like the simplicity of it. It's a fire house, it's red brick.

Mr. Trascher said, right, that's what I am thinking. I don't think it would show the dirt as bad.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I like the others because it a little color to them and it gives them, the first one you picked out, I like.

Chief Dockery said, if you want to take them home and let your wife look at them, I know she is the...

Mr. Lindsey said, I definitely took some pictures and I want to run it by her because she has the more of a scale of putting stuff together.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do you want to show her the red one?

Chief Dockery said, yes, I will send you the red one and that way it's a good photo. Believe me, I have no taste and my wife tells me that every day when I dress my daughter.

Mr. Lindsey said, well, we want to make sure this thing comes together and looks good when we put the shutters on there and paint the doors, get the gutters and everything comes together and it will look sharp.

Chief Dockery said, I will send it to you right now, sir.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, does your wife have a program that she puts all of this into?

Mr. Lindsey said, no, she's good at...

Mrs. Blackwell said, coordinating.

Mr. Trascher said, she is program.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, she is the program. She has people all the time come to her and get her to decorate the colors. She loves doing all that stuff so, I will run it by her and get her opinion and see what she thinks and of course, the whole Board has to all come together on what we all think would look good.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I did speak with the lady at St. Joe and this is the company that the

subcontractor picked and I asked her about the St. Joe Bricks and she said they are, of course, they a lot more than these are. There were some other colors that I really liked but they have a stipulation to where you have to have buy 100,000 bricks and we only need about 9,000. Well, that's a shame but...

Mr. Swann said, these are not real porous.

Chief Dockery asked, what's that?

Mr. Swann said, these are not real porous?

Chief Dockery said, what's on there is...

Mr. Lindsey said, the rougher ones, with that grit on it, I don't think that would work too well. I don't think, like the Bayou Blend, I mean it's just brick so, brick is going to be, we don't have to worry about water penetration because we have metal behind it. It's for looks. This one actually looks like it's sealed more, it's slick, whereas, these are more porous like you said.

Chief Dockery asked, which one is that?

Mr. Lindsey said, this is that Cedar Creek.

Chief Dockery said, that was one of my other choices that I liked.

Mr. Lindsey said, it kind of breaks it up some rather than it just being all one.

Chief Dockery said, yes, take it to the boss and let her look. The Cedar, the Bayou Blend and the Red was my, basically, my three choices that I liked, in my ballpark of taste.

Mr. Lindsey asked, did they say anything about lead time on the brick or one is more, this one here may be 6 weeks to get, this one you can get right away..

Chief Dockery said, I will get with them tomorrow and see what the times are on all of them. Like you said, if they have any lead time on them and we can go from there.

Mr. Lindsey said, bricks may not be like everything else, wind is like 8 weeks. It's crazy. If one is a whole lot longer than the others, it may sway us a little bit on which one.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, but, it has to look good because I have to pass this thing every day for the rest of my life.

Mr. Trascher said, and if you don't pick the right color that won't be for very long.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, and I have to live here until I am like 96 so...

Mrs. Blackwell said, I can see his wife (inaudible) every time he goes past it.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, I have to ride past it every day.

Mr. Trascher said, well, I think we are making a major investment and it's something that is going to be there for a while. I don't think we will be changing it for 20 or 25 years unless a tornado or something happens.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I don't plan on changing it for my stint here so, hopefully...

Mr. Trascher said, it's going to outlast us.

Chief Dockery said, yes, hopefully.

Mr. Lindsey said, okay, based on that, we need to get making plans on what his schedule is. We don't want to tear it down too far in advance of when he can get to it. I would like to get to making plans on doing the demo. Did you tell him we are doing the demo?

Chief Dockery said, I did tell him we are doing the demo.

Mr. Lindsey said, because I want to get making plans on it. I mean I got a couple of trips planned like, around the 25th we are going to be gone for a few days and then, July 4th, we will be gone...

Chief Dockery said, yes, I will be gone July `17th, that's a Saturday anyway, but I will be on the following week for vacation. I will get with him and see what his times are that we are looking at and we can schedule something for us to get this torn down.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, and get a couple of guys to come help and drive a truck and trailer.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, alright, that's all I got.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, anybody else? When your wife gets, whatever she plans up, will that be for the next meeting or whatever she puts together.

Mr. Lindsey said, I can probably send some emails out letting you all know and then you can, oh this is the one she likes, if you want to take pictures or I can send a picture of the one she thinks may look good and then what the other thoughts are like, a certain color shutters or certain color door. That way you can think it all together as a packet to what it's going to look like across the front.

Mrs. Blackwell said, okay.

Mr. Lindsey said, I will get her working on that.

Mrs. Blackwell said, alright, that sounds good.

Chief Dockery said, on the gutters, I put 7, I think, companies I have replied to and I only had one, so far. He actually came out and the issue I am running into right now is, those are 7

inch gutters and a lot of people only go up to 6 inch. So, I am going to try tomorrow and contact the old metal company in LaCombe. I think it's ADCO or something and see if they know anybody that actually deals with those 7 inch gutters to fix them.

Mr. Trascher asked, would we have a problem going to a 6 inch gutter?

Chief Dockery said, the one guy I talked to he said, probably not because it's not that much of a building that it is flowing down to so, but, I would like to kind of, there are some other aspects to it. Those gutters actually have a bracket that they connects to the roof material itself. The metal coming off of the roof, there's actually a bracket that hooks to that so, in order to get the gutter on the actual outside of the brick, it's going to take some ingenuity of sorts and I am dealing with that right now. It is in the works right now. I am doing that right now, while this is going on, that way we can get the brick up and the gutters going too. So that iron is in the fire.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, because my thinking, I don't think 6" would really, the cost to do a custom 7" is going to be a lot more than if we went with the 6" gutters. Even if you have the rain guard over the top, if it's involving anything on the gutter, it can just run over that anyway.

Mr. Lindsey said, I think the only thing that may be the issue is, it may have to have some type of flashing made but, with the 6", I don't think it will stick out far enough to come past the brick. It may be, by the time you get the brick ties on it and you have the space there and then you have the brick, it might sit on top of the brick and then the water would run in the brick rather than stick past the brick.

Chief Dockery said, yes, regardless, we are going to have to come up with something.

Mr. Lindsey said, I am not opposed to the 6" and I think the 6" would probably work with the right amount of down spouts. It don't have that much pitch on the roof.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I think our biggest issue is the roof itself, where it's coming off where the gutters are, it's basically sitting on top of the brick and we are wanting to move them out in front of the brick, we will have to figure out some type of flashing there or something.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I see what you are saying. The gutters are 7" now...

Mr. Lindsey said, and sitting on top of the brick. If we put the other one, the 6" like that, and set it on top of the brick, obviously it would have to have a flashing made because the water can't go behind it. But still, I don't know. I guess see what you can work out with it.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I am hitting the companies hard. Like I said, some of them haven't replied back but I was going to pester them some more and see if I can get some more information. But, that is on going while we deal with the brick.

Mr. Lindsey said, I will get looking around to see who makes that type of gutter. That is more like a sheet metal gutter rather than the other type that they feed it into the machine and it comes out the other side.

Mr. Trascher said, it spits out a roll.

Chief Dockery said, yes, because I did speak with a gentleman, he was very nice and at least he showed up on time like he said he was and I find that to be a good thing.

Mr. Lindsey asked, what is the name of the company that showed up?

Chief Dockery said, "Mind in the Gutter".

Mr. Lindsey said, "Mind in the Gutter", yes I saw that.

Chief Dockery said, but I am having them go over to the other station and the same thing, same style of gutter. But, over there I asked him if we could get a leaf guard put in. Over there, that is the biggest thing over there because we have the trees and they get filled up. Within a month they are filled back up and that does have areas where it's a lot of grass and I don't want the foundation getting messed up from it, water just pouring down.

Mr. Lindsey said, if it comes down to it, if it comes to it where we need to, we can have those gutters made a Corrugated Industries, in Chalmette.

Chief Dockery said, okay.

Mr. Lindsey said, and we can just draw them out and they will make it to whatever you want because I did that on the back of my shop.

Mr. Trascher said, they may be able to make a flashing that would go under the tin and come out over the top of the bricks and the gutters to mount to the brick, to the outside of the brick, maybe.

Chief Dockery said, yes, maybe something like that. We are really going to have to put our thinker caps on and see what's going on with it.

Mr. Trascher said, because that would be only be almost, one bend. It would go under the tin and bend down over to here and the gutter would go behind that band.

Mr. Lindsey said, it definitely can be done, without a doubt. I was just saying, Corrugated Industries, they can make you whatever you can draw, they can make it.

Mrs. Blackwell said, so they can make one flashed, bent just like that.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, I have my dad all the time draw a flashing that we need and then he will draw it out how it needs to be with the sizes and everything and then send it to them and their computer, they put it on the computer and they go their shop just bends it and makes it just like it's drawn.

Mrs. Blackwell said, so we can get something like that done and have just one piece instead of two pieces, like you were saying.

Mr. Lindsey said, if need be, that was just an option. If we can get a gutter cutter to handle it

where we can say, here it is, get it behind it, I would rather that but, if it comes down to it we have other options. We can get it done.

Chief Dockery said, okay. Yes, I wrote this down just for the sake that I have it. But, we will pursue that further.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, okay, is that it on the Updated Brick Work?

Chief Dockery said, that's it.

Mrs. Blackwell said, we will move to New Business, Millage Discussion, Chief.

NEW BUSINESS

MILLAGE RATE DISCUSSION – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, before y'all or before Mr. Floyd, is the millage rates and basically, this is just to make sure we are checking all the boxes and giving the public a chance to, the opportunity...

Mr. Trascher said, an opportunity to set the millage rates for this District, the ensuing year.

Chief Dockery said, that's correct. I would like us to just to read out what the millage rates are and we can take a moment and then we can proceed on adopting.

Mr. Trascher said, alright (Mr. Trascher reads)

BE IT RESOLVED that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2021 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by St. Tammany Fire Protection District 11:

MILLAGE RENEWAL

<u>Acquisition & Maintenance 1069065</u>	-	<u>9.430</u> mills
<u>Acquisition & Maintenance 1069104</u>	-	<u>14.150</u> mills
<u>Acquisition & Maintenance 1069137</u>	-	<u>7.550</u> mills
<u>Acquisition & Maintenance 106034</u>	-	<u>9.170</u> mills

Mr. Trascher continued, those are the four mills that we are authorized to collect and the rates that we were adopting for 2021.

Mr. Lindsey asked, and does it say the total there?

Mr. Trascher said, no. I think it's something like 40...

Chief Dockery said, I think it's 40.30, somewhere around there I think it was.

Mr. Trascher said, we don't have a total on here but we would have to add up those four millage rates to get the total.

Mr. Lindsey said, I was just curious because before, it was a little under 43.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, it's 40 or 41 mills, or something like that.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I think our max is 42 and some change but, this is set at like 40.30.

Mr. Lindsey said, okay. I thought everything was working out like we talked before. I was just making sure.

Mr. Trascher said, I got 40.3.

Mr. Swann said, 40.3.

Mr. Lindsey said, okay.

Mr. Trascher said, the total of all three.

Mr. Lindsey said, okay. So, is there a motion?

PUBLIC COMMENT – Chief Jack Dockery

ADOPT MILLAGE RATES – Chief Jack Dockery

Mr. Trascher said, total for the District. If there is no further comment or no further discussion on it, I would move that we adopt the resolution setting these rates.

Mr. Lindsey said, I will second.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Russell Lindsey, how do you vote?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Eugene Swann, how do you vote?

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Floyd Trascher, how do you vote?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries. Does that cover the Public Comment (on the agenda for millage's)?

Chief Dockery said, that covers the Public Comment.

RFP FOR CPA – Chief, Jack Dockery.

Mrs. Blackwell said, we are going to move to RFP for CPA, Chief Dockery

Chief Dockery said, I spoke with the Board, I want to say, in March of 2020, asking to do a RFP for CPA's before this COVID took precedence over everything. So, I am coming back to the Board asking just to do RFP's to kind of test the water for CPA's. See what rates they have, see if we can save money, maybe get better service. I don't want to talk ill, but, I have run into a lot of complications lately and it seems like, every year around tax time we run into a lot of complications with the company we have right now. That stack of check that you signed today, I just got them yesterday and I gave it to them 2 weeks ago. I asked about them last week, twice, and the first time another lady came on there and emailed me and said they had no record of it. So, I resent it to them and still didn't hear anything back. I talked to them last Friday about it. So, I may be a lot of things but, I don't like to be late on stuff. So, when they do stuff like that, sometimes it runs the risk of, we as the Department, are getting late charges or I don't like to see anything saying it was over due. It really irritates me, it boils my blood. So, I would just like the opportunity to see what else is out there while we have the opportunity.

Mr. Trascher said, I know we have, since I have been on the Board which seems a while, we have dealt with several CPA's and we've had problems with all of them but, I think it's just good business and good government that we do look and at least get out some proposals and see what the rates are. Without jumping in the water we won't know.

Chief Dockery said, yes, because the rates for the server went up this year. We have a new form and there's a list of complaints but, I am not going to go through them all because I don't want to say they are totally bad. They have done a lot of good. We have just run into a lot of issues. I would like the opportunity just to see what else is out there. There could be someone that is a whole lot cheaper. They could be thousands of dollars cheaper and I just think it's just being a good steward of tax payer's money to see what else is out there.

Mr. Trascher said, I think our contract comes up in December so we have time.

Chief Dockery said, yes, September, October, November, sometimes around there.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, sometime around there and we have time. I think it would be prudent business to at least see what it is and what services are available and we can at least say, even if you go with the present company, you can say this is, we got bids.

Chief Dockery said, well, at least tighten it up on their end to where they can be a little bit more competitive. Truth be told, I made a phone call, they called me one day on an account

and we maybe had a 2 minute conversation and I get charged \$8. I'm like, a 2 minute conversation and I mean, I know you got...

Mr. Trascher said, we have had that issue with every one of them.

Chief Dockery said, I mean, literally, if any of the Board members goes and has a meeting with them, they charge you, it's \$100.

Mr. Trascher said, they charge you.

Chief Dockery said, if I go just have a brief conversation because I don't know anything...

Mr. Trascher said, but they all do that. When they want to get their foot in the door, and this has been my experience. When you go out and get a bid on it and they say we will work with you, when they want to get their foot in the door, they will meet with you and talk with you. Once you sign that engagement letter, when you talk, you pay.

Mr. Swann said, why don't you make a note on each time you have a problem with them, that way if we do wind up with the same on.. It's Moyle still?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mr. Swann said, get him down here and tell him this is unacceptable.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I send emails but, I will start keeping a list of, you know times that it has taken place.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, I agree. Start the process to get some quotes and see where we are at. Especially, if we aren't happy with the service. You said I think it's good to price around anyway to make sure we are not wasting money.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, sure, because we've been with this one, it's been a couple of years since we have even did any proposals.

Mr. Lindsey said, I mean, if we were jam up 100% and everything has been smooth as can be, then well, we may not want to rock the boat.

Mr. Trascher said, the thing is, there is not that many companies.

Chief Dockery said, yes, there's about 20 or so in this area.

Mrs. Blackwell said, I can vouch for you about saying he has been late because I've been signing checks.

Chief Dockery said, like I said before, there could be others that you sign it and could still have issues but, like I said, it's been ongoing year, after year, after year. Usually, around tax

time, we are like the little redheaded step child and I'm sorry, if we are paying you, I don't care if we are paying you \$1,000 for the year, we are still a paying customer. I would like to be treated the same way. Unfortunately, it's not \$1,000, it's like \$18,000, a year.

Mr. Trascher said, great idea Chief. I don't have no problem at all. I think you should. I don't think we need a resolution to that effect. I think the Board is pretty much in agreement.

Chief Dockery said, I just wanted to kind of, come to the Board on that and just get permission to make that move.

Mr. Trascher said, okay.

Mrs. Blackwell said, alright, if that is it on that, we will move to Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Michele Blackwell

Mrs. Blackwell continued, does any body have a comment?

Mr. Trascher said, well, we had some public but the Chief ran him out of here.

Mrs. Blackwell said, he told him to go eat dinner.

Chief Dockery said, yes, his wife was bringing him dinner so... I at least wanted to give a little credit where credit was due.

Mr. Lindsey said, I am glad we picked him up.

Mr. Trascher said, I haven't said much at the Board meeting but, I talked with the Chief about it, it's been a couple of months and we haven't heard anything. We really need to start recognizing some of our... we need to come up with something at these meetings, to bring these firefighters in and give them some recognition on their job performance. I mean, we should have something, that we give a firefighter per quarter. You know, something every few months to have somebody to come in.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, and the Chief needs to set up some criteria of something that we can do. It may be something simple, give them a pizza or an award or something. I think it would go a long way for morale.

Mr. Lindsey said, I do think we need to come up with some type of plaque or something or certificates that you can give to them.

Chief Dockery said, we have, well, when we are fully staffed we are still short one person. When we are fully staffed we have 10 and that's including me. So, quarterly may be stretching it a little bit of too soon. I wouldn't mind doing something like semi-annually but, I

know Slidell does a monthly thing but they also have...

Mr. Trascher said, 150 people.]

Chief Dockery said, 160 something people in suppression. I am looking at their program to see what their criteria are and try to kind of...

Mr. Trascher said, yes, we really need to do like, maybe a press release, we can put it on Facebook, we can send it to the newspaper. Just positive press and we can have something maybe, when there is an outstanding event.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, definitely if we get some special, you know, something really special that happens that really makes a difference or whatever. Instead of waiting for some semi-annually, or what ever. We can just do it at the following meeting or something.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, and we need our Public Information Officer to take pictures and send it to the press. You know, we need some good, positive...

Mr. Lindsey said, and they can be recognized but, also gives the public to see what their money is going towards that is making a difference and has positive outcome for people.

Chief Dockery said, we have had one in the past, it was yearly. I mean, we can do yearly, we could do semi-annually. I just think, in a year you get half the department if you did quarterly.

Mr. Lindsey said, well, if you did yearly or semi-annually, for firefighter of the year, or whatever. Also, during the year, you have people that have been here for 5 years. So, you are going to have some stuff come up during the year and then, all of a sudden you are going to have somebody a good extraction to save somebody or something happen that you can also...

Mr. Trascher said, we had a new firefighter tonight which is a great time to put on Board, you know, welcome to EMS.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I can get Mitchell to get something set up for them or put out...

Mr. Swann asked, do you all have service pins?

Chief Dockery said, we do not but I have been actually, looking into service pins for like 5 year, 10 year.

Mr. Swann said, good.

Mr. Lindsey said, that would be be something but, I am excited about the new fireman. Not only is he a certified firefighter but also a paramedic, also, so it crosses over.

Mr. Trascher said, which is a big positive for this department.

Chief Dockery said, yes, we had one of our other Captains, Captain Anderson, he is actually

in paramedic class right now. He is going through it and hopefully, he can pass that and I would like to be overburdened with paramedics.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that is a positive. One other question.

Mrs. Blackwell said, another question, investigator and what else?

Chief Dockery said, aerial.

Mrs. Blackwell said, aerial.

Mr. Trascher said, one other question, Chief. On Deferred Comp, where do we stand with that?

Chief Dockery said, I did actually, stand by...

Mr. Trascher said, in other words shut up?

Chief Dockery said, no, no I would never, never...alright, the old gentleman we had, I tried and tried and couldn't get anything. So, last week or week before last, I got in touch with one of the other Chief's when we were walking into the Chief's meeting. He was talking about it so, I asked him who he was using. So, he sent me a gentleman's name, Wes Rome, he's from AXA, the company that we did have come in last year and speak with us. I sent him a message 2 days ago and I am waiting to hear from him. If I don't hear anything back by tomorrow, I will give him a call again to see if we can set something up with him. But, this is a new contact, this isn't the Mathew Ponder, I think was his name that we had before so, it is progressing now to something solidifying now. Like I said, the other guy, we tried numerous times to contact him and we couldn't get anything from him. But, being that this gentleman from District 8, is actively talking with this other, Mr. Rowen, I am kind of piggybacking off of him to see what we can get done with it.

Mr. Trascher said, because, this would help with the...on the full timer firefighters, we contribute, it's is my understanding at this point, we contribute to their deferred comp. Now, with the part time firefighters, we could do the deferred comp and they wouldn't have to pay into Social Security.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Lindsey said, I think we agreed, I think it was 10%, we were going to do on the full timers.

Chief Dockery said, yes, but I think on the part timers, it was in lieu of Social Security, they can put it in the Deferred Comp Plan because, unfortunately, their Social Security here, they would never meet the amount of quarters they would need to take out from here. When I spoke with Chief Parish on it, the company that we have now, they have a program kind of like that but, it would actually cost us money to go into it. That's why I wanted to see what...

Mr. Trascher asked, how do you mean cost us money?

Chief Dockery said, the way he put it, it would actually cost us a little bit more than actual

Social Security. It was something about the plan itself to where it would not, I don't want to put words in his mouth...

Mr. Trascher said, yes, because that doesn't, Social Security, you pay 15%.

Mr. Swann asked, what about Louisiana Deferred Comp?

Chief Dockery said, that is who we have right now, Louisiana Deferred Comp. This is just another, AXA is just another Deferred Comp company. So, like I said, I am in the process of talking to him to get it set up or get some information to see why the two plans are different because, we are not opposed to moving out of what we have now over to AXA if it's the same, you know, the same thing for us. As the full timers, one company is the other company, per say. As long as it's apples to apples. So, our biggest concern is that it was apples and oranges supposedly, between AXA and Louisiana Deferred Comp.

Mr. Trascher said, you see, check with Chief Parish on that again because Social Security, between the employees contribution and the District, we are paying 15%. So, if we could put 5 or 10%, we put 7%, of their salary right now in Deferred Comp and it wouldn't be any different cost to the Department. If the employee could put 5%, that would be money that they are getting that they are not going to get with Social Security.

Mr. Lindsey said, yes, I think we kicked that around a little bit before about doing that. Now, I guess nothing ever played out with Primerica?

Chief Dockery said, I think that is AXA, I want to say AXA is part of Primerica. It's just the contact that we had wasn't either he is not there any more or he is in a different area. So, I did get an actual person that he is using and I am piggy backing off of him to kind of, get in contact and get this ball rolling for us.

Mr. Trascher said, somebody is managing the full time firefighters accounts in the Deferred Comp and they should be able to talk to us about it. Anyway, I think that is going to be a real incentive to keep some of the part time people around. That's it, I will shut up.

Mrs. Blackwell said, no, that's alright. I will check again tomorrow and see what I can find and get back in touch with them. Other than that, that's all I got.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, anything else, Mr. Lindsey?

Mr. Lindsey said, no, I don't have anything.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Swann?

Mr. Swann said, no, thanks.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Trascher?

Mr. Trascher said, no.

Mrs. Blackwell said, one short shot.

Mr. Trascher said, this is it, huh.

Mrs. Blackwell said, yep, do we have a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Lindsey said, I will make a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Swann said, second.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Lindsey, how do you vote?

Mr. Lindsey said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Swann, how do you vote?

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Trascher, how do you vote?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries.