



BAYOU CANE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

6166 W. Main Street Houma, LA 70360 | P: 985.580.7230 | F: 985.580.7238

Administration Division MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 18, 2024

The Board of Commissioners of Bayou Cane Fire Protection District of the Parish of Terrebonne, State of Louisiana, met on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 11:30 a.m.

The Chairman, Robert Page, called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Upon roll call by Sonja Labat, the following Commissioners were present: Robert Page, Ed Lawson, Travis Gravois, Jacob Rhodes, Hayward Sims and Steve Fulmer. The following Commissioners were absent: Suzanne Carlos. Others in attendance were Sonja Labat, Danna Schwab, Chief Himel, Chief Hill, Mike Palmer, Chief Henry, Kay Hebert, Greg Boudreaux, Louis Eschete, Tim Guidry, Daniel Blanchard, Layne Becnel, Devin Atkins, Cameron Lacoste, Brandon Pitre, Brandon Adams and Blake Rodriguez.

It was motioned by Ed Lawson, seconded by Travis Gravois to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 19, 2024. Motion passed.

No one from the Public addressed the Board.

There was no old business.

The Chairman advised that the staff is working on the general ledger coding of the EMS salaries and benefits.

Chief Himel advised that the staff did a fantastic job during the storm. The department did not stop running calls during the storm. Acadian stopped running calls when the winds reached 35 mph. Chief discussed incidents and calls during the storm. There were 317 calls for the month of August, compared to 207 calls for August 2023 and 2,458 year to date calls for the year 2024. Chief also discussed incident breakdowns. VFIS has notified that department that changes are coming. The hurricane period is September 11th through September 16th. A FEMA claim will be filed.

Fire Prevention Chief, Mike Palmer, discussed hurricane damage as most of the damage was to buildings already damaged from Hurricane Ida. Outback restaurant has hurricane damage and is closed until further notice. Trahan's Heating and AC is moving to a new building. Loft Apartments is building a new apartment complex behind South Louisiana Bank. The Learning Center of Houma and Aspen Weight Loss Clinic is doing some commercial renovations. 16 smoke alarms and 30 carbon monoxide alarms were distributed. 3 public education events were held and the inspections are at 82% complete. The Fire Marshall gave the district cases of both smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.



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EMS Chief, Toby Henry, advised that he and Chief Boudreaux were at EOC for the hurricane. He briefly discussed the call volume. The district received 150 tarps from the state for distribution. The third ambulance was utilized during the storm. Of the 278 patients in the month of August, 168 were transported and 6 were no transports. Toby briefly discussed billing as it looks like the billing is about a month behind.

Chief of Administration, Kenny Hill, advised that the district expended 70.1% of the total budget but is still on track. Group Insurance and Workers Compensation expenses are elevated because it includes both fire and EMS but these numbers will be adjusted and recoded. The physicals are elevated due to the department wide drug screening policy. This will be budgeted for next year. Overtime is elevated due to department vacancies. EMS travel and training is elevated but the AFG Grant reimbursement has been received. He is working with accounting to re-class the Fire and EMS expenses. Station 1 is complete. The burn building is 3 weeks to a month from being complete, After complete, the concrete will be added. The flashover training prop is in the construction phase. Station 2 had a large fan installed and he would like to do the same for Station 3. The restroom repair is nearly complete at Station 4. The Chairman asked if the stations had damage due to the hurricane, but there were no damages.

The Chairman advised that he questioned the Accounts Receivable difference on the balance sheet. The accountant advised that she will reach out to Tyler Thronton with Martin and Pellegrin as it appears to be a coding issue on the AJE's. He is also pleased with the EMS financial position. It was motioned by Travis Gravois, seconded by Ed Lawson to approve the August financials. Motion passed.

Hayward Sims thanked the staff for a job well done. Ed Lawson thanked the staff for their dedication to the district. Jacob Rhodes thanked the staff for representing the district so well and taking care of the community. Robert Page advised that he heard nothing but great feedback from the community.

A motion was offered by Ed Lawson, seconded by Jacob Rhodes to adjourn the meeting at 11:59 a.m. Motion passed. The next regular scheduled meeting is October 21, 2024 at 11:30 am.

Travis Gravois, Secretary

Sonja Labat, Accountant