

## Board Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2025

The Board of Commissioners of Ward Six Fire Protection District No. One held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., at Fire Station No. Two, located 108 Marcantel Road, DeQuincy, Louisiana.

The following members were present: Charley Jones, Vice President, Board Members Scott Kyle and George Mitchell. Robert Cholley was absent.

Fire Chief Todd Parker and Lieutenant Desire'e Amrine were also present at the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Jones, pledge and prayer followed. Roll call was given with the results being as outlined above.

Mr. Jones asked if there was any public input on any of the agenda items. There was none.

A motion was made by Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Mitchell and carried unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on January 8, 2024 be approved.

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Kyle to introduce himself. He is a new Board Member.

Mr. McCollum from Marsh and McLennan Agency presented packets to everyone and explained the changes with our property insurance for 2025. He stated that VFIS no longer covers wind and hail and that if we want that coverage, we need to get stand-alone insurance to cover it. He went over what our policy does cover and discussed options available to the department. Our insurance is due to renew on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made by Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Mitchell and carried unanimously to accept the report by Mr. McCollum.

A discussion was held on the current insurance coverages and the terms of the renewal due to the significant increase. Chief Parker recommended to the Board of Commissioners that additional proposals for insurance coverage should be explored. He also asked Mr. McCollum if it was possible to secure a binder on the business auto, general liability, management liability, and excess liability without the property, wind, and hail coverage to avoid a lapse in insurance coverage. Mr. McCollum advised the Board that they were waiting on an additional proposal from a separate insurance provider and should receive it by the end of the week. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Mitchell and carried unanimously to call a special meeting on February 24, 2025 at 5 pm to discuss additional quotes and come to a decision on a policy.

A motion was made by Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Mitchell and carried unanimously to approve travel, per diem, and conference fees for Chief Parker and Lieutenant Amrine to attend FDIC.

We currently have 2 full-time firefighters, 21 active volunteer firefighters, 10 part-time firefighters, 6 non-suppression support members and 7 fire explorers. The department responded to 42 calls during the month of January. Hurricane Laura & Wildfire Reimbursement Updates: We are still waiting on all projects to be closed out for Hurricane Laura and our remaining reimbursement to be sent to us by the state. We are also still waiting on reimbursement for our wildfire response during 2023. We have no update. The travel trailer sold for \$14,400.00 at auction. Buyer defaulted on bid. Trailer has been re-listed on GovDeals auction site. Auction ends Feb 18, 2025 1:30pm. Current bid is \$10,200.00. We began annual service on Fire Apparatus on Tuesday. Engine 5 has been completed. Additional apparatus will be scheduled in the near future. Tablets and Cell Phone on First Net are in service. Monthly note will be approx. \$250.00. Three (3) Firefighters and Chief Parker will be attending a training class sponsored by ExxonMobil Pipelines at TEEX in College Station, Texas on Feb. 21 & 22. The class is free and hotels are sponsored by Exxon Mobil. Will use department vehicles to travel there. I have approved the civil service job class changes from the Office of State Examiner, the position of firefighter/operator has minor changes, The new classification plans for Lieutenant and Fire chief will be sent to Ward 6 Civil Service Board for review. If they agree the job classifications accurately reflect each job position, they will post a public hearing date to approve each job class. I will provide the Board of Commissioners a copy of each job class when I receive the finalized plans for each classification. I am conducting a review of our internet, phone service from Brightspeed. Current monthly bill is 331.33 per month. I am looking at alternative phone and internet options that will lower the monthly cost. Our members have logged a total of 329 training hours during 2025. The volunteers of Ward 6 Fire continue to serve the community with pride, teamwork, and excellence. I am proud to work for each one of them.

There being no other matters, a motion was made by Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Mitchell and carried unanimously that the meeting be adjourned.



ROBERT CHOLLEY, PRESIDENT



DESIRE'E AMRINE, SECRETARY TO THE BOARD