

BLACKMAN FIRE DISTRICT MEETING

DATE: 2 May 2024

(X) REGULARLY SCHEDULED

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

( ) EMERGENCY

( ) WORKSHOP

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Chairperson Larry Cunningham	( X ) Yes	( ) No
Commissioner Wade Merritt	( X ) Yes	( ) No
Commissioner Sec/Tres Jim Lawson	( X ) Yes	( ) No
Commissioner Steve Lawson	( X ) Yes	( ) No
Vacant	( ) Yes	( ) No

Welcome/Call Meeting to Order at 7:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion and Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes from 4 April 2024.

Motion: Jim Lawson 2<sup>nd</sup>: Wade Merritt Motion Passed

Discussion and Approval of the Financial Report from April 30, 2024.

Cash

- Unrestricted Cash
  - Petty Cash \$ 263.19
  - General Checking \$ 50,479.39
  - General Savings \$ 42,003.37
  - Total Unrestricted Cash \$ 97,265.79
- Restricted Cash
  - Impact Fees \$ 10,102.56
  - Total Restricted Cash \$ 10,102.56
- Total Cash \$102,848.93

Motion: Steve Lawson 2<sup>nd</sup>: Wade Merritt Motion Passed

OLD BUSINESS

Grant Report

- The Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Grant (50/50 Grant) #2 has been awarded. We were denied the Combi tool due to it being more than \$5,000, but the stabilization jack kit was approved along with 3 Life Vests and 10 Lights.
- The Decon Grant reimbursement for hoods and gloves was received in the amount of \$698.20.
- HMGP Hurricane Idalia Grant is being developed for a new generator. According to Mr. Paradise with Forestry, the current generator was loaned. Therefore, it will need to be returned if a new one is funded. We have currently reached out to three different vendors with one coming by to actually look at our setup. We are awaiting quotes from all vendors.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Chiefs Report (see attached)**

- Total Calls for Service = 12
  - 3 - Motor Vehicle Accidents (with Injuries)
  - 7 - Medical Emergencies
    - 4 - Medical Calls
    - 3 - Medical Helicopter Transports
  - 1 - Hazardous Condition (Trees Down)
  - 1 - Rescue EMS Standby (Racing Event)

**A quote from Stanton Automotive was presented to the board for COM70 on repairs that will need to be addressed soon. This item was tabled until the next meeting.**

**A quote from Ten-8 was presented to the board for E70 repairs that are needed. It was decided by the board to accept the quote to try to fix the turbo for the lesser quote amount before attempting the more costly repair.**

Motion: Jim Lawson                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Wade Merritt                      **Motion Passed**

**The board discussed the membership of EMR Cody Reid and a motion was made to terminate his current membership at this time.**

Motion: Steve Lawson                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Wade Merritt                      **Motion Passed**

Discussion on changing the business meeting to mid-month.

**The board discussed changing the meeting date to accommodate monthly financials. It was decided by the board to hold meetings on the second Thursday of each month starting June 13th.**

Motion: Jim Lawson                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Wade Merritt                      **Motion Passed**

Discussion and approval on raising the fire assessments the minimum allowed without going to a vote. This amount is 6.67% which is approximately \$7.00 on the normal \$104 residential amount currently being paid. Over a year that equates to just under 2 cents a day. Since 2009, social security income has seen cost of living increases of approximately 35% yet the fire district has not gone up.

**The board discussed increasing the assessments in the amount allowed of 6.67% on all allowable assessments.**

Motion: Wade Merritt                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Jim Lawson                      **Motion Passed**

Discussion on a date for the workshop to enact updated Administrative Policies and SOGs for the department based on Safety Inspection Compliance results and audit findings.

**The board discussed having a workshop on May 25th at 9am to review the SOGs and Administrative Policies.**

Motion: Wade Merritt                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Steve Lawson                      **Motion Passed**

### Upcoming Events & Training

- May Training Sessions will consist of Mutual Aid and Hurricane Preparedness Operations to include:
  - Incident Command System (ICS) & National Incident Management System (NIMS)
  - Hurricane Exercises & Community Involvement
  - Helicopter Landing Operations
  - Emergency Vehicle Operations Driver Training Update
  - Mutual Aid Operations & County Implemented app called PULSARA

**The board discussed the Arbon Quote for motors and switches. It was decided that this item would be tabled until the next meeting where more quotes will be presented on this repair.**

**A motion was made to discontinue the fire department support for standby operations for personal burns. This motion did not pass.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Open the floor to public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment of meeting at **8:32pm**

Motion: **Wade Merritt**                      2<sup>nd</sup>: **Steve Lawson**                      **Motion Passed**

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING June 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**

These minutes were approved and accepted as read this date 13 June 2024

Larry Cunningham, Chairperson

James Lawson, Secretary

Other Authorized Board Member

James L Lawson or

