

**St. Matthews Fire Protection District
Board of Trustees
January 18, 2024**

A meeting of the St. Matthews Fire Protection District Board of Trustees took place on January 18, 2024, at the district's headquarters: 240 Sears Avenue, Louisville KY 40207.

Board members present were Chairman Rick Tonini, Secretary Kathy Wrigley, Treasurer Michael Abell, Trustee Marshall Bradley, Trustee Brendan Montgomery, Trustee Chris Mooser and Trustee Jim Seiler.

Also present were Chief Nicholas Clark, Deputy Chief Stuart Monohan, Assistant Chief Frank Flynn, Assistant Chief Mike Riordan, Human Resource Director Michael Frantz, Accountant Robin Roberts, Attorney Mark Leach, Attorney Karen Paulin, and Administrative Assistant Erin Grant.

Chairman Rick Tonini called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

The newly graduated class of recruits were welcomed and congratulated by the board of trustees. Their 24/48 shifts will begin on Saturday, February 3.

The minutes for the December 14, 2023, board meeting were approved by motion of Treasurer Michael Abell. Second by Secretary Kathy Wrigley. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report

Chief Clark provided an update to the board that he has spoken to Christine Kesler and she is still on track to come on board around May/June to replace current accountant, Robin Roberts, upon her retirement.

Treasurer Michael Abell reviewed the highlights from the comments to financials report. He specifically mentioned EMS billing received and unscheduled overtime both being higher than budgeted. Treasurer Abell also made mention that we have received the second Real Estate Tax deposit in January. Approval of the December expenditures were motioned by Trustee Jim Seiler. Second by Trustee Brendan Montgomery. Motion Carried.

Old Business

Auditor Changes – Chief Clark revisited the topic from previous meetings of potentially changing auditors for the FYE June 30, 2024 audit. Accountant Robin Roberts suggested that it may be helpful to have 1 more year with our existing auditor while Christine Kesler is still transitioning. Follow up discussion held regarding preferences of changing auditors or changing of the managing partner with current auditor, Dean Dorton. A motion was made to change the lead managing partner with Dean Dorton for the next FYE audit by Trustee Chris Mooser. Second by Treasurer Michael Abell. Motion Carried.

Dating Policy – Chief Clark provided an update that the dating policy has been finalized and was distributed on December 21, 2023. An addition was made to the policy that an employee in a supervisory role must report any relationship with a subordinate co-worker.

Stryker EMS Equipment Proposal – An update was provided on the purchase of the new EMS stretchers and equipment approved at the last meeting. Assistant Chief Flynn mentioned that we were able to save around \$48,000 from the initial quote that was received. The equipment is expected to arrive in about 4-6 weeks. The contract provides for 7 years of full maintenance on the equipment and if any equipment were to break, Stryker will loan us equipment to use during the repair period. Chairman Tonini asked what the plan is to do with the existing supply of Ferno stretchers. Chief Clark mentioned that we will be able to trade the equipment in for a small amount of money.

New Business

Legislative Day in Frankfort – Chief Clark, Assistant Chief Flynn and Chairman Tonini attended the annual legislative day in Frankfort and reported positive feedback about discussions held with Senator Berg and Senator Adams.

Pension Spiking – Chief Clark discussed issues that we currently face with the KPPA's pension spiking rule, which reviews the member's last 5 years of employment to determine if the employee experienced annual increases greater than 10% and excludes that number from the creditable compensation used to calculate the retiring employee's monthly retirement allowance. Employees that work many overtime hours will not receive credit for these hours in their retirement allowance. An attempt is being made to renegotiate the contract to raise the cap to 25%.

Fire Service Executive Development Institute (FSEDI) Program – Chief Clark announced that he has been accepted into this year long program and will attend the first convention in Virginia in February. FSEDI is a program to provide new and aspiring chiefs with the tools they need to have a successful and productive tenure.

Fire & EMS Operation Report

Fire Report – Our newest recruit class started working days at Station 46 on Monday, January 15 and have been training with Major Cipolla and Captain Davis who have been integrating them and preparing them for their new roles. Their first day with their new crew will be Saturday, February 3. Chief Clark mentioned that he is very excited about their potential and the vacant holes that they will be filling.

EMS Report – Deputy Chief Monohan and Assistant Chief Flynn will be taking ambulance 148 A to Sumner, Iowa for a remount. This is the first remount that we have done and will essentially provide us with a brand-new ambulance. We anticipate the remount work to be complete near the end of April 2024 when we will bring it back and it will return to full service for the District.

Fire and EMS statistical reports for December were provided with the board packages. Assistant Chief Riordan reviewed the breakdown of the calls for the year, the December mutual aid, and specifically mentioned that when looking at Calls vs. Transports statistics

over the last 5 years, this shows unsustainable growth. Chief Clark noted that we are looking at ways to remedy this challenge and one option to alleviate employee strain would be to go out of service during shift change to allow for those coming off shift to be able to leave on time.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Trustee Marshall Bradley to go into an executive session of the board members for the discussion of a legal matter. Second by Trustee Brendan Montgomery. The session began at 4:46 PM. Motion by Trustee Marshall Bradley to adjourn the executive session at 5:47 PM with no action taken. Second by Treasurer Michael Abell. Motion Carried.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion to be brought forth, the meeting was adjourned at 5:49 PM. Motion by Trustee Marshall Bradley. Second by Trustee Chris Mooser. Motion Carried.

The next meeting of the St. Matthews Fire Protection District Board of Trustees is scheduled for 4:00 PM on Thursday, February 15, 2024.

The next meeting of the Jefferson County Suburban Fire Service is tentatively scheduled for July 10, 2024.

Chairman

Secretary

*Supporting documents as referenced may be obtained by contacting the
St. Matthews Fire Protection District.*