

**BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Tuesday, January 17, 2012
Bluffton Fire Station #35, Headquarters**

MINUTES

Commissioner’s Present: Terry Reynolds, Mike Raymond, Jack Bennett, Bob Rogers, David Meeder, John Oram

Absent: Ed Olsen (excused)

Member’s Present: Barry Turner, John Thompson, Lynn Wiltse, Beth Napolitano, Randy Hunter, Dan Wiltse, Robert Payne, George Brown, John Kautter, Rick Cramer, Todd Malphrus, Richard Dollahan, Terry Sheriff, Emerson Kovalanchik, Giovanni Scianna, Michael Rehill, Keegan Alcock, Matt Henne, Michael Provo, Blake Crosby, Sandy Stroud

VIA Video Conferencing: Joseph Dembeck, Ted Lange, Rhett Livingston, Tim Walsh, Enrique Baez, Adam Corn, Justin Olds, Derek Church, Jayme Beach, Alan Beacham, Grant Turner, Jim Thomas, Matt Urys, Randy McGarvey, Tony Pavidonis

Community Members: Joe Fraser, Heather Moulton, James Atkins, Amanda Lamb (members of the design team), Tina Kautter (family member), Mary Kautter (family member), Corbin Wiltse (family member), Carter Wiltse (family member), Doug Volk (community member), Joe Paolo (community member), Susan Ciccarelli (family member), Aiden Andrew (family member), Jacob Andrew (family member)

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM by Commissioner Bennett

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer

Promotion Recognition

Commission Role Call

- **WELCOME** – Commissioner Bennett welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- **DECEMBER MINUTES** – Commissioner Bennett called for approval of the minutes from the regular meeting from December 20th. Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rogers and approved with a

unanimous vote. Commissioner Bennett then called for approval of the minutes from the special meeting held January 10th, 2012. Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting. Motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

- **FINANCIAL REPORT (*Presented by Commissioner Reynolds*)** – Commissioner Reynolds asked Chief Thompson to provide the update. Chief Thompson explained the accounts that were currently over budget. Chief Thompson also noted that he didn't receive any questions on the audit so it's being accepted as presented at the December 20th meeting. Commissioner Raymond made a motion to approve the financial report. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rogers and Commissioner Reynolds and approved with a unanimous vote.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

- ***Fire Prevention Statistics:***
 - Fire Marshal Wiltse went over the monthly Fire Prevention Statistics.
- ***Public Education Report:***
 - Chief Cramer went over the events performed in the last month and upcoming events.
- ***Diversity Committee:***
 - None.
- ***Run, Alarm and Trend Reports:***
 - Chief Malphrus went over the reports briefly.
- ***Training Report:***
 - Chief Cramer went over the reports briefly.
- ***Fire Chief's Report:***
 - None
- **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - 2012 Nominating Committee Report – Commissioner Rogers presented the nominees for the committee as Terry Reynolds, Chairperson; Jack Bennett, Vice – Chair; Ed Olsen, Secretary; John Oram, Treasurer. After not receiving any other nominations, Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to approve the slate as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Raymond and approved with a unanimous vote. The new slate will begin their roles at the February Commission Meeting.
 - Station 30 Relocation/Construction – Commissioner Rogers made a motion that the Commission approve Chief Turner and Station 30 Relocation Committee move forward to contract with the design/build team of Frazier and Court Atkins for the new Station 30 as reviewed at the special meeting held on January 10, 2012 with a

guaranteed maximum price of \$2,138,851.00. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Oram. Commissioner Raymond asked if the price included sewer hookup as previously discussed. Chief Turner noted that prices were received but could only be discussed in Executive Session. Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss additional pricing regarding sanitation.. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Raymond and approved with a unanimous vote. Commission entered Executive Session at 4:22 PM. The Commission returned from Executive Session at 4:46 PM. Commissioner Raymond made a motion to amend the initial motion from Commissioner Rogers to include the grinder pump station option and the maximum price to not exceed \$2,200,000.00. Commissioner Meeder gave a brief overview of the guaranteed maximum pricing option used to determine a price for the station construction and that he felt the reasonable price per square foot was being exceeded. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reynolds and was approved with five in favor and one opposed (Commissioner Meeder).

- Station 30 Relocation & Station 33 Addition Funding – Commissioner Reynolds made a motion that the Commission move forward to obtain necessary Beaufort County approval of the Station 30 and 33 financing plan as presented to the Commission at the November 15 Commission Meeting and further discussed in Executive Session at the December 20, 2011 meeting. Approval of this financing plan will allow the District to finance both Station 30 and 33’s construction projects by using the General Reserve Fund and Debt Service Funds rather than borrowing required project funds thereby saving the District substantial interest costs. The finance plan is defined and was distributed to the Commission during the meeting but did not include the additional funds approved for the grinder pump station option. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Oram. Commissioner Reynolds noted that there are sufficient funds for this financing plan and it would save the District and taxpayers approximately \$800,000.00 in interest. He also noted that by using this financing plan, the General Reserve Fund will be reduced about \$300,000.00 below the Commission – set three months of operating expenses but will ask Beaufort County Council to approve putting the tax collections from the Debt Service Fund into the General Fun which should rebuild the General Fun in about two years. Commissioner Raymond asked for detailed information to be provided in advance for review in the future. Commissioner Meeder also noted he was not previously aware of voting for the funding of the Station 33 project. Commissioner Reynolds reviewed the discussion from the November 15th meeting for Commissioner Meeder. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rogers and approved with a unanimous vote.

- **NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

- **OPEN DISCUSSION**

- Joe Paolo asked if there was sewer hook up on the property for the Station 30 relocation. Chief Turner explained that there was not, which is why there’s an additional cost of hooking to an existing sewer line across the street.

- **ADJOURNMENT:** Commissioner Rogers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Raymond seconded the motion and the motion carried with a unanimous vote at 5:12 PM.