

**BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, December 17, 2013
Bluffton Fire Station #35, Headquarters**

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Terry Reynolds, Jack Bennett, Bob Rogers, Dave Meeder, Ed Olsen (by phone)

Absent: John Oram, Mike Raymond

Members Present: John Thompson, Paul Boulware, Dan Wiltse, Bob Payne, Joe Helms, Crystal DeRosia, Randy Hunter, George Brown, Jeff Meyer, David Rice, Alexander Elliott, Derek Franks, Paul Woods, Alex Sanchez, Phillip Horton, Sandy Stroud, Derek Church, Leslie Jones Hart

VIA Video Conferencing: Shawn Fitzpatrick, Justin Olds, Aaron McIntyre, Donald Bach, Matt Tranquilli, Travis Boulware, Tom Lamb, Chris Black, Marcos Farr, Brandon Stevenson, John Roe, Charles Eaton, Steve Arnold, Ryan Magers, Carson Stone, Rod Oates, Todd Shisler, Greg Linacre, Allen Cramer, Dylan Taylor,

Community Members: Doug Volk, Sam Cable, Kathy Thompson, Amie Thompson Douglas and family, Ashley Thompson and Greyson, Lisa Church and family, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Church, Angela Stroud and Samantha, Lisa Wechsler

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM by Board Chairman Reynolds.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer

Board of Directors Roll Call

- **PROMOTIONS:** Chief Thompson was sworn in as Fire Chief, with the help of his wife and family. Derek Church was promoted to Battalion Chief and Sandy Stroud was promoted to Lieutenant. Both men received assistance from their families. Congratulations to all!
- **FY2013 FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT:** Lisa Wechsler summarized the audit for the FY2013. It will be submitted to the Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) for review and consideration for the Excellence in Financial Reporting Award. The district has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the past two years.
- **NOVEMBER MINUTES:** Chairman Reynolds called for approval of the minutes from the November 12, 2013 meeting. Director Rogers made a motion to approve the minutes and Director Bennett seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.
- **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Chief Thompson stated that overtime was over budget due to being 8 firefighters short. New recruits will start on January 6, 2014. We are currently slightly under budget for the year. Director Rogers moved to approve the Financial Report. Motion was seconded by Director Olsen and approved with a unanimous vote.

- **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:**

- **Fire Chief Remarks:** Chief Thompson stated that there will be some restructuring within the Department. Chief Boulware will now be in charge of Administrative and Support functions, while Chief Cramer will be heading the Operations Division. A new training officer will be hired to take Chief Cramer's place.
- **Fire Prevention Statistics:** Fire Marshal Wiltse reviewed the monthly Fire Prevention Statistics, including the many seasonal events. Fire Marshal Wiltse also stated his office is becoming more involved in the building plans process. Among Lt. Stroud's activities were programs at Sun City and helping serve Thanksgiving lunches at M.C. Riley School with other firefighters.
- **Training Report:** Captain Hunter reported the District's training events being planned. This includes a Hazardous Materials drill event in May. Several annual Firefighter promotions will take place in January from testing held in November. In-house fire recruit school for the new recruits (and others outside the District) will be held January-March, with graduation scheduled for March 14, 2014.
- **Run, Alarm and Trend Reports:** Chief Boulware reported the monthly statistics, which included 403 calls, 5 of which were structure fires. Response time average was 6:30.
- **Stations 36 and 37 Update:** Chief Thompson stated Colleton River is looking at a building currently being used for the development's POA may work for the permanent station. A garage with an attached breezeway would need to be added. Station 37 (Palmetto Bluff) has acknowledged in writing that they would need to build a fire station in the future.

- **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Station 33 Construction Update:** Chief Thompson reported that Station 33 construction is moving ahead quickly. EMS has moved in and completion date should be around January 7-15, 2014.

- **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Executive Session:** Chairman Reynolds asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Director Rogers motioned and Director Olsen seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 4:56. The Board reconvened at 5:10.

- **PUBLIC DISCUSSION:** None

- **ADJOURNMENT:** Director Rogers made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Director Olsen seconded. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:12.