

RECORD OF BOARD MINUTES

Boone County, Kentucky

August 10, 2011

The Point Pleasant Fire Protection District Board of Trustees met in regular session at the Point Pleasant Fire Station, Marshall Station, 3444 Turfway Road, Boone County, KY at 9:30 AM on the 10th day of August 2011, with a quorum present:

Chairman Ed Divine

Treasurer Debbie Newman

Secretary Arthur Crowe

Trustee James Rice

Chief Giordano

Council Bill Knoebel

Members absent: Trustee Brian Laws, Trustee M.L. Thinnes and Trustee Jason Matthews.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Divine called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

REPORT TO/FROM COUNCIL

Update on WBS: The case has been moved from Kenton to Boone county, but has not arrived as of yet. Council's opinion is the District has made an offer and it is up their attorney to move it forward; he is content to let the case sit.

Report on Ventilation Truck: Council has been briefed on issue involving ventilation truck. He is making contacts to see who has jurisdiction and how they want to handle this since the unit was purchased in Hamilton County. It may involve retaining services of another council since Knoebel cannot practice in Hamilton county, OH.

Council, Chair and Chief have conversed on the time-line for the tax rates.

Chairman Divine asked about the status of Chapter 27. Asst. Chief Seibel advised that changes are proposed to Chapter 27 of the personnel policy. Chief Giordano had advised some minor changes are proposed and will be forwarded to the committee for review and then to bring to the rest of the board. The changes will also be forwarded to council for review.

MINUTES OF JULY, 2011 DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

The chair noted a few minor corrections needed to be made to verbiage in the July minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was submitted for all to review.

- The Boone Health insurance payment was 3 months of payments in advance and HRA for the full year.
- Secretary Crow asked about the payment to City of Erlanger which Treasurer Newman advised was the ALS contract.

- There was a deposit in excess of \$25,000 for the KOHS grant. Chairman Divine asked if the KY State Police MOU had been signed in compliance with this grant. A/C Seibel advised that it had.

The chair entertained a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Secretary Crowe moved accept; seconded by Trustee Rice. Motion carried; all in favor.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief's report was not submitted in paperwork form at the meeting; Chief Giordano advised this would be distributed at a later date. He did advise that most items to report focused strictly upon operations and preparing for the tax rate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

No report.

BUDGETING & FORECASTING

No report.

RETIREMENT

Auditor reported back that there are areas she would like to look more into to make sure reported amounts were correct. Chair and Chief had already met with her in regards to this and she is to report back to them. They are waiting on costs of computer software. They are still awaiting to hear back.

There was a comprehensive meeting with the third party administrator. Chief Giordano will put together a summary and submit them as a supplement to the minutes.

ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS

No report.

INTERNSHIP

No Report

WORKER'S COMPENSATION

No Report

HEALTH INSURANCE AND BENEFITS

No Report

VEHICLE STATUS

No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussed at the beginning of the meeting.

PETITIONERS & COMMUNICATIONS

No Report

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No need to enter into executive session.

KRS 61.810 (1) b, c, e, f, g, j, and k:

(1) All meetings of a quorum of the members of any public agency at which any public business is discussed or at which any action is taken by the agency, shall be public meetings, open to the public at all times, except for the following:

- a. (f) Discussions or hearings which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee, member, or student without restricting that employee's, member's, or student's right to a public hearing if requested. This exception shall not be interpreted to permit discussion of general personnel matters in secret;*

NEW BUSINESS

Time-line was distributed in regards to the tax hearings. The chair entertained a motion to accept and follow the time-line. Motion made by Treasurer Newman; seconded by Secretary Crowe. Motion carried all in favor.

Chief Giordano distributed paperwork with the new numbers and projections. Chief Giordano advised we did not receive any information until Tuesday of last week and they are requesting the information turned in by September 2nd, which is why the time-line is so tight. The time-line will inconvenience the board but will ensure the District remains in compliance and meets all requirements. Chief Giordano gave short presentation on history of rates and reports. In May, there was another piece of property applied for and was awarded FTZ status for current and previous 2 years property for over \$218,000. Chief Giordano has been investigating this in depth for the last 60 days and it appears that they may not qualify for this exemption. This may be reversed. However, this current exemption is off of the numbers. With this in mind, the current assessments are low and not good. The rate computations were presented. Real property came in at \$27 million less (a 5.9% reduction). Personal property is \$87 million (27% lower than previous year. Total property is off 14.5% from last year. This is a significant problem. The bottom line is the compensating rate for the District would be over \$2.00, more than could be legally assessed.

In discussions with Chairman Divine, the Chief's recommendation is not to do anything with the rate, in the belief that some of these revenues will come back into play (if the FTZ is reversed). Furthermore, the Chief does not want to hand-cuff and restrict the District's choices in the future if, in fact, these are the rates that the District has to deal with. If, in the next year, these do not come around, the District will have to make a rate adjustment. To keep in with the time-line, the Chief recommended advertising the rate at \$1.75. This does not prevent the District from taking anything at the October meeting of anything less than comp. Council

advised that if the \$1.75 rate is what the District decides to stay with, there is nothing preventing the Board from accepting this rate at today's meeting and the only action needed to be completed would be to advertise the rate. No public hearing would be necessary.

Some followed in regards to the rate. This proposed rate shows that the District is doing everything within its power to maintain operations in a fiscally responsible manner and gives the District some leeway to work with in the future. Again, if revenues stay low, the District will need to investigate raising the rate in the future, but it will have that option. This rate will mean the District will be deficit spending this fiscal year, but again, some of the reduced revenues are expected to come back. Council Knoebel advised Trustee Rice of what the compensating rate was, how it worked and how it was figured. Treasurer Newman inquired if a slight increase would be prudent to reduce the amount of deficit spending. Chief Giordano advised this would be prudent if we knew we were not going to get the FTZ assessments. The District is already expecting some assessments coming back that were not part of the FTZ. It is Chief Giordano's advice not to move the tax rate with so many unknown, particularly since it allows the District room to maneuver in the future: long term financially he advises not to move the current tax rate. Chief advised he will prepare complete, explanatory documentation for the District personnel on the rates.

Chairman Divine entertained a motion to set the property tax rate at \$0.0175 per \$100 for Fiscal year 2011/2012. Motion made by Secretary Crowe; seconded by Treasurer Newman. Motion carried, all in favor.

The Chair entertained a motion to set the personal property tax at \$0.0175 per \$100 for Fiscal year 2011/2012. Motion made by Secretary Crowe; seconded at Trustee Rice. Motion carried, all in favor.

Chairman Divine read the resolution.

Chairman Divine asked about the status of the audit. Chief Giordano advised the independent auditor is awaiting information from him. He will complete this.

Chairman Divine noted that the August 31st meeting shall not be needed. Chief Giordano noted that the entire time-line was no longer needed as the District voted to retain current rates. Only requirement remaining was to advertise the current rate, which he would complete.

The Chair entertained a motion to withdraw the timeline that was recently adopted. Motion made by Treasurer Newman; seconded by Trustee Rice. Motion carried, all in favor.

Secretary Crowe advised that Turfway Park approached our District about using hose to clean their barns. Our District loaned them some hose, to which they were very grateful. They had given the District 5 "Track Packs" in appreciation. Chief Giordano will raffle these off to the membership.

ADJOURNMENT

The next Point Pleasant Fire District Board Meeting will be at the Marshall Station on September 14, 2011 at 9:00 AM.

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Secretary Crowe; seconded by Trustee Rice. Motion passed, all in favor.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Art Crowe", is written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Art Crowe

Secretary

Point Pleasant Fire Protection District

Board of Trustees

