

**VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

September 17, 2019

The regular meeting of the Valley Fire District Board was held on **Tuesday, September 17, 2019** at the Valley Fire District, located at 5287 Dogwood Drive, Peninsula, Ohio 44264. The following were in attendance.

BOARD MEMBERS	OFFICERS	OFFICERS	FIRE CLERK
Amy Anderson, Chair	Capt. Duber	Lt. Moledor	Catherine Anson
Daniel Schneider	Lt. Packard	Lt. Sebastian	
Richard Slocum			LEGAL
			Ed Pullekins

The regular board meeting of the Valley Fire District was called to order by Anderson at 5:31 PM.

Announcements: Anderson offered thanks on behalf of the board to everyone who contributed to the retirement ceremony for Assistant Chief Dave Morehouse.

Approval of Minutes. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve minutes of the **August 19, 2019** regular meeting. Voting. All Yes. **[20190917-01]**

Purchase Orders. Items at \$2,500 or more must be signed by the board. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the purchase orders. Voting. All Yes. **[20190917-02]**

TYPE	NUMBER	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT NAME	\$AMOUNT
BC	57 -2019	4901-760-740-0000	Capital Equipment	10,000.00
BC	58 -2019	1000-290-500-0000	OTHER	5,000.00

Bank Reconciliation. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the bank reconciliation. Voting: All Yes **[20190917-03]**

Approval of Payroll. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the payroll. Voting: All Yes **[20190917-04]**

Approval for Payment of Bills. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the payment of bills. Voting: All Yes **[20190917-05]**

Business.

- **Financials.**
- **Life Force Closures.** MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the Life Force closures. Voting: All Yes **[20190917-06]**
- **Policy Review/Assets Inventory.** Pending information on payroll from legal counsel.
- **Meeting Date Changes.** Due to a scheduling conflict, the regular meeting in November will be changed to Wednesday, November 20 at 5:30 PM.
- **Clerk Training.** Anson requested funds to attend the annual training for clerks sponsored by the Auditor of State. The \$100 cost can be split by Valley and Boston Township, pending their approval. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the cost of the training. Voting: All Yes **[20190917-07]**

REPORTS.

Anderson. Anderson provided a handout on property tax based on a selection of actual houses showing the total amount collected per house and the share going to Valley for operating and capital levies. The total 8.8 mils for both levies amounts to an annual distribution of \$261,000 to Valley. In comparison, 1 mil in Copley brings in \$523,069. Given the small number of houses and desire to keep generational residents, she is not in favor of raising any levies and cautions that we must live within our means.

Engine Equipment Committee, Part 1. Varga and Razak discussed information provided to the board earlier regarding the recommendation for purchase of a new engine at an estimated cost of \$540,000. The committee went over the options and recommended a mid-price vehicle. In response to the question from the board regarding the concern of the cost, the committee stated that, accounting for inflation, this vehicle costs less than the lower-quality one it is replacing. A major concern and cost factor is that a higher quality vehicle will last longer and cost less in repairs during the life of the vehicle. Among the items discussed: zinc-coating to extend the life of

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the chassis; cab size; upgraded engine and brakes due to the hills in the area; and NFPA standards. Prior to the meeting, the chief suggested to a board member that \$90,000 could be cut from the price but the equipment committee had no knowledge of those cuts. The board expressed thanks for the time and effort put into the recommendation and the opportunities set up to view several vehicles which provided a learning experience for the board.

Tender Equipment Committee. While no members of the committee were present, an update was provided. Two proposals were received ranging in price from \$250,000 to \$347,000. The recommended vendor representing the lower bid is not on the state list and they would be requested to publicly bid on specifications. This vendor has an excellent reputation based on a review with other fire departments. Items discussed included cab size, storage area, tank size, and pressure rating. The board discussed holding off on the purchase.

Duber, for Riedel.

- All three new hires have taken their pre-employment physical.
- The new data management system has been installed.
- Inspections are continuing. Moledor stated we are caught up with inputting data and 8-9 inspections took place last month. He is meeting with the vendor of our new management system regarding inspection tracking.

Duber.

- 2818 is under repair in Twinsburg with air conditioner problems.
- Graphics have been installed on Car 1.
- Training packets have been prepared for the new hires.
- He investigated billing for water rescues with area departments. Contrary to the newspaper report, no one bills for water rescue and, while considered, legal issues have been an obstacle. Kent has had 26 water rescues this year. The board questioned the stats provided by the chief (who had indicated that the list was done quickly and that we were between systems). The officers agreed that more work needed to be done for a complete picture since the coding had changed.

Packard.

- Joint training will be set up for the new hires to attend together.

Sebastian.

- The Stryker contract has been finalized and he has ordered the new batteries. Because the blood pressure equipment has changed, he needs to purchase additional cuffs.
MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve \$100 for the purchase of additional cuffs. Voting: All Yes [20190917-08]
- The Seek thermal camera approved at the last meeting has been installed on a vehicle at Station 1.
- All hydrants have now been inspected. Village of Boston Heights hydrants are the only ones experiencing problems: 13 hydrants are out of service with 15 tagged as obstructed. Work is being arranged to address the issues.
- EMS supplies will be ordered to be paid from the new grant.

Razak, for the Association.

- They are preparing for the steak dinner and tickets are almost sold out.
- The association approved the use of a gun raffle but will wait until after the steak dinner.

Capital Budget Presentation. Slocum provided handouts earlier and presented a PowerPoint on the capital budget to outline previous discussions and to bring Boston Heights representative Ron Fenn up to speed. Fenn indicated that Boston Heights is willing to negotiate on equipment purchases and will set up a special safety committee meeting with the mayor in attendance for Slocum to present the information. Vehicle tours can be arranged for VBH representatives.

Engine Equipment Committee, Part 2. When questioned by the board, the engine equipment committee stated the quoted figure for the recommended engine was 93% accurate. Items influencing the final price are the size of the cab, the type of cab, and the side-mount versus top mount. The committee was divided on which type of mount to recommend, with the top mount adding \$4500 to the cost. The final cost could be discounted 8-10% with a cash payment up front.

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MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve \$540,000 for the purchase of the vehicle from Sutphen recommended in the September 10 letter from the committee, pending finalization of specifications and review by the chief. Voting: All Yes **[20190917-09]**

Anson was requested to contact the bank for an updated figure on loan payments. The equipment committed was requested to contact the vendor with a specifications build, final cost with discounts, an estimated delivery time, and an estimated date for payment.

In response to a question from the board, the committee stated that this way of evaluating purchases was highly recommended and they expressed appreciation to the board for allowing the process. The board thanked the committee again for all of their work and enthusiasm in the process.

Executive Session. MOTION by Anderson, seconded by Slocum, to enter executive session to discuss personnel issues. Anson called roll.

Anderson. Yes Slocum. Yes Schneider. Yes

Motion passed. The trustees entered executive session at 7:23 PM. **[20190917-10]**

MOTION by Anderson, seconded by Anderson, to enter regular session. Anson called roll.

Anderson. Yes Slocum. Yes Schneider. Yes

Motion passed. The trustees reconvened at 7:36 PM with no action taken during the session. **[20190917-11]**

Adjournment.

There being no further business, Slocum motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Anson, Clerk

Amy Anderson, Chair