

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

MAY 16, 2022

The regular meeting of the Valley Fire District Board was held on **Monday, May 16, 2022** at the Valley Fire District, 5287 Dogwood Drive, Peninsula, Ohio 44264. The following were present.

BOARD MEMBERS Dan Schneider, Sr. Richard Slocum	OFFICERS Chief Riedel	OFFICERS Lt. Moledor Lt. Sebastian	FIRE CLERK Catherine Anson LEGAL COUNSEL David Randolph
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The regular board meeting of the Valley Fire District was called to order by Slocum at 5:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes.

MOTION by Schneider, seconded by Slocum to approve minutes of the **April 18, 2022** regular meeting. Voting: All Yes. **[20220516-01]**

Appropriations Reallocation: MOTION by Schneider, seconded by Slocum to approve reallocations. Voting: All Yes. **[20220516-02]**

FUND	NAME	FROM	TO
4901-760-323-0000	CAPITAL-REPAIRS	3,600.00	
4901-220-315-0000	CAPITAL-ELECTION EXPENSE		(2,100.00)
4901-220-314-0000	CAPITAL-TAX COLLECTION		(1,500.00)
1000-220-100-0000	SALARIES	13,500.00	
1000-110-500-0000	ADMIN-OTHER		(3,500.00)
1000-220-420-0000	FUEL		(10,000.00)
4901-760-740-0000	CAPITAL-EQUIPMENT	6,000.00	
4901-760-323-0000	CAPITAL-REPAIRS		(6,000.00)

Approval of Purchase Orders. (Items at \$2,500 or more are signed by the board.) MOTION by Schneider, seconded by Slocum to approve the purchase orders. Voting: All Yes. **[20220516-03]**

SB NUMBER	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT NAME	\$AMOUNT	
50 -2022	1000-220-420-0000	FUEL	10,000.00	
51 -2022	1000-110-500-0000	ADMIN-OTHER	3,500.00	
52 -2022	1000-110-312-0000	AUDITING SERVICES	4,000.00	
THEN/NOW	VENDOR	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT NAME	\$AMOUNT
02 -2022	FALLSWAY	4901-760-740-0000	CAPITAL-EQUIPMENT	6,000.00

Financials and Approval of Bank Reconciliation.

- Anson noted that she will request supplemental appropriations for the Capital fund due to equipment purchases and emergency repairs as a contingency if needed later in the year and to the Operating fund primarily due to fuel costs. Details will be distributed to the board for review prior to the next meeting.
- MOTION by Schneider, seconded by Slocum to approve the bank reconciliation. Voting: All Yes. **[20220516-04]**

Approval of Payroll. MOTION by Schneider, seconded by Slocum to approve **Payroll #5 of May 3, 2022.** Voting: All Yes. **[20220516-05]**

Approval for Payment of Bills. MOTION by Schneider, seconded by Slocum to approve the payment of bills. Voting: All Yes. **[20220516-06]**

Business.

- **2023 Budget.** MOTION by Schneider, seconded by Slocum to approve the 2023 Budget to be submitted to the Summit County Fiscal Office. Voting: All Yes. **[20220516-07]**

Reports.

Riedel.

- The officers have interviewed and would like to hire Paige Fitzwater as a Firefighter/EMT. MOTION by Schneider, seconded by Slocum to approve the hire. Voting: All Yes. **[20220516-08]**
- Costco Safety Day is set for this Saturday and the Memorial Day Parade is on.

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- The board discussed allowing paid shifts for attending the Memorial Day Parade. Since this would fall under scheduled shifts, no resolution was deemed to be required.
- Engine 1 is back in service after a backup camera repair but the cable still needs replaced.
- Engine 2 has an air leak.
- **Charging for Rescue Services.** Legal Counsel Schrader indicated prior to the meeting that it is permissible to charge for rescue services. Riedel checked with Life Force and they would be able to bill the patient for these services. We need to come up with a billing schedule, forms, and method of collecting billing information for those calls where transport is not used.
- **Charging Inspection Fees.** The county collects and keeps fees for major building inspections conducted by the department. We would be able to directly charge for other inspections such as for adoption cases or annual inspections. We will need to come up with a billing schedule, procedures and forms.
- **Staffing Model.** The current staffing model is no longer working and we should start to consider other models. Our roster has shrunk and we are experiencing difficulty filling all shifts. Raises may help in attracting new hires but we can't compete with the salaries offered by full-time departments. And full-time departments who pay triple for overtime are still experiencing hiring shortages. Moledor indicated we have received seven applications since January and 3 of those had no certifications.
- During the Chief's report, Riedel indicated that he was unable to get many if any volunteers to attend the Memorial Day events and that he felt the only way to get attendance was to make it a paid event. Board members Slocum and Schneider discussed and agreed to pay staff for the time and asked the Chief if he thought there needed a board resolution for this. Riedel responded that he felt it was a "staffing issue" within his authority. Hearing no objection from the lawyer, Slocum and Schneider let the matter stand without a resolution.
- **ARPA Grant.** He and Anson are looking at a one-time grant opportunity due June 10 for help with new hires and incentive pay for those currently working. The board agreed to pursue that grant.

Riedel for Duber.

- Duber is working a shift tonight.
- In addition to updates on the engines, Car 2 is out of service for a look at the fuel system.
- The new county water trailer is due to be in service in June.

Riedel for Packard.

- Packard is out of town today.
- While there were no COVID call offs this month, they did experience difficulty filling shifts due to other call offs. McVey collected overtime this month for filling in and going over the base 212 hours per pay period.
- He expressed appreciation for everyone who helped out with the pancake breakfast including board members and wives and children. He also thanked Anson for updating all of the pay reporting sheets.

Riedel for Levitt.

- Levitt is working a shift tonight.
- The annual maintenance forms have been updated.
- The new tanker is scheduled to be delivered on Monday.

Moledor

- Five inspections have been completed this month.
- He is working with the treasurer for the association in getting a Venmo account set up for easy donations.
- He is still working on finding new vendors for quality t-shirts.
- He is finishing up on a PUCO grant proposal.

Sebastian

- He distributed the paperwork for the new squad purchase with the adjusted price still under the approved board limit. The new cost includes a new cot loading system and new cot.
- He has approached the Village of Boston Heights on a purchase of an automated cot loading system and new cot for Medic 2. Ron Fenn, in attendance, requested that a letter be sent to Ron Antal outlining the purchase request details including installation fees and indicating the purchase will be for Medic 2. Fenn verbally approved moving ahead with the purchase immediately. The invoice will be paid directly by Boston Heights.

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- Penn Care will install the recently purchased cot system at \$1,600, substantially lower than last month's quote. This cost brings the entire purchase within the previously approved allowance. MOTION by Schneider, seconded by Slocum to approve the installation cost.
Voting: All Yes. **[20220516-09]**
The installation will be done tomorrow. He will provide training at Wednesday's meeting and will have a video available for those who missed the meeting. We may be able to get \$3,000 in a trade-in for the old cots. He thanked the board for approving the replacement of the cots with an industry-standard version.
- All extinguishers have been serviced.
- **Ambulance Service Contracts.** He asked for an update regarding the possibility of requiring businesses, such as nursing homes, to have a contract with an ambulance service to transport non-emergency patients with a guaranteed pick-up within two hours. A city ordinance is required. Fenn indicated that Boston Heights is working on this. Charging nuisance fees to regular businesses is another possibility where frequent calls are made.
- He expressed appreciation to Fenn and the Village of Boston Heights for their support of the department. Slocum seconded appreciation for the support of Boston Heights. Fenn expressed appreciation for the all the work being done by the department.

There being no further business, Schneider motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Anson, Clerk

Amy Anderson, Chair