

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

AUGUST 15, 2022

The regular meeting of the Valley Fire District Board was held on **Monday, August 15, 2022** at the Valley Fire District, 5287 Dogwood Drive, Peninsula, Ohio 44264. The following were present.

BOARD MEMBERS Amy Anderson Dan Schneider, Sr. Richard Slocum	OFFICERS Chief Riedel Capt. Packard	OFFICERS Lt. Moledor Lt. Sebastian	FIRE CLERK Catherine Anson LEGAL COUNSEL Al Schrader
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The regular board meeting of the Valley Fire District was called to order by Anderson at 5:40 PM.

Approval of Minutes.

MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve minutes of the **July 20, 2022** regular meeting. Voting: Slocum and Schneider: Yes. Anderson: No. [20220815-01]

The board discussed the reasoning behind the No vote from Anderson. Anderson felt the minutes unfairly highlighted her absence from the May meeting since she has rarely missed any board meetings during her entire six-year tenure as a board member. Slocum moved to cancel the approval until the minutes could be fixed to address the issue. Upon reviewing the minutes, the wording on Anderson being absent did not occur in the minutes but in explanatory notes on a handout from the previous meeting. Slocum then moved to rescind the previous motion to allow the original approval of the minutes to stand.

Supplemental Appropriations. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the supplemental appropriations. Voting: All Yes. [20220815-02]

FUND	NAME	ADDITIONAL
1000-220-420-0000	Fuel	10,000.00

Approval of Purchase Orders. (Items at \$2,500 or more are signed by the board.) MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the purchase orders. Voting: All Yes. [20220815-03]

SB NUMBER	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT NAME	\$AMOUNT		
62	-2022	4901-760-740-0000	Capital Equipment	20,000.00	
	VENDOR	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT NAME	\$AMOUNT	
04	-2022	STRYKER	4901-760-323-0000	CAPITAL MAINTENACE	5,000.00
			1000-220-323-0000	GENERAL MAINTENANCE	827.60

Financials and Approval of Bank Reconciliation. Anson pointed out the increase in interest payments from the STAR OHIO and suggested transferring \$50,000 from the Huntington checking account to the STAR OHIO account to take advantage of the increased rates. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve a transfer of \$50,000 from checking to the STAR OHIO account. Voting: All Yes. [20220815-04]

MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the bank reconciliation. Voting: All Yes. [20220815-05]

Approval of Payroll. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve **Payroll #8 of July 26, 2022**. Voting: All Yes. [20220815-06]

Approval for Payment of Bills. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the payment of bills. Voting: All Yes. [20220815-07]

Life Force Closures. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the Life Force Closures. Voting: All Yes. [20220815-08]

Station Staffing. The board reviewed information on hiring three full-time firefighters presented by Riedel and Anson. The board and members present discussed possible scenarios for staffing. The officers polled members who may be interested in the positions on what the ideal offering may include. Riedel stated that we can buy into the health care plan offered by Boston Heights. Boston Heights Councilperson Fenn agreed that they would like to help out with full-time employees to address the staffing problem. Riedel and Anson will configure the data based on the discussion and will provide information to the board prior to the next meeting. Riedel noted that the employee manual will need a rewrite and suggested working with Lexipol to update the manual. He'll provide more information at the next meeting.

Clerk Salary: Anderson recommended a raise for the clerk, given the increased workload, and back-dating the raise to May 2022. She asked Anson to come up with a figure based on the additional workload by the next meeting.

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Reports.

Riedel.

- We will defer the hiring of Paige Fitzwater while she is on deployment with the Army.
- Dan Lowman is requesting a 6-month leave. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the leave. Voting: All Yes. **[20220815-09]**
- We would like to hire the following persons as EMT/Firefighters: Anthony Rothgery, Marcus Santoli, and Brandon Ciresi. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve hires. Voting: All Yes. **[20220815-10]**
- The old tanker will be put up for auction.
- The officers have been busy covering shifts and answering calls.

Riedel for Duber.

- He is finishing up on mutual aid work.
- Five interviews for new hires have been set up with three people recommended for hire.
- Engine 2 is out of service.

Riedel for Levitt.

- The Hazmat training grant has been awarded for \$4,725.
- Annual hydrant testing has been completed and hose testing will start in September. Pump testing will be scheduled soon.
- There have been some staffing complaints when only one person was scheduled for a shift. The officers addressed single shifts by having someone on call and easily reached by radio to partner with the shift worker.
- He has been contacted regarding the Cascade Filling Station Grant. This is not an award but covers air bottle fill ups.
- Anderson asked about the status of the SOPs. Duber has them almost completed.

Packard.

- Four people have signed up for NOTS training and 2 more may sign up.
- We are offering online EMS training.
- Three members took driver training sponsored by Hudson.
- Call numbers have been up a little.
- One person with single-digit shift scheduled may resign.

Moledor.

- 25 inspections have been completed.
- The program from FARO Tech is up for renewal.
- Service on both RIT-PAK bags have been completed. The SCBA mask that was missed during the last update was updated on this visit. And the mask that was built incorrectly was repaired.
- He is waiting on prices for shirts, both the shirt itself and the custom embroidery. He found suitable shirts on Amazon for \$17. The embroidery could cost \$20 per shirt. Anderson, formerly a proponent of names on shirts, questioned whether in today's social climate it might be a better idea to leave names off the shirts. The officers will consider this.

Sebastian.

- He presented the Stryker maintenance contract at the last meeting and is now asking for approval to accept the contract. The three-year contract would cost \$5,827.60 per year. MOTION by Slocum, seconded by Schneider to approve the Stryker maintenance contract. Voting: All Yes. **[20220815-11]**
- The state EMS grant was awarded for a significantly lower amount this time: \$800. These grants normally are awarded for \$3,000 but funds are low this year.

Schrader.

- **Park Meeting.** He attended a meeting with park officials along with Anderson and Mayor Schneider of Peninsula regarding a possible land swap. These swaps normally take two years to complete. The park will send out its own appraisers. We will have our own local appraisers as well. In response to a question from Anderson, Slocum thinks this is a great deal. The board discussed possible scenarios regarding the use and maintenance of the driveway and what land parcels may be included in the swap. The station garage should not be part of the appraisal since it is owned outright by the District and is indicated as such in the lease.
- He is still investigating charges for services.

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Slocum.

- He thanked Ron Fenn for advocating for full-time salary support from Boston Heights.

There being no further business, Slocum motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Anson, Clerk

Amy Anderson, Chair