



## St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District # 3

P.O. Box 849  
Lacombe, Louisiana 70445-0847  
(985) 882-5977 Office (985) 882-6664 Fax  
[manager@stfd3.com](mailto:manager@stfd3.com)

Patrick F. Sicard  
Fire Chief

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### Regular Commissioners Meeting October 11, 2015 *Meeting Minutes*

#### **Called To Order:**

Chairman Montalbano called the meeting to order on Wednesday, October 11, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **Roll Call:**

Leo Casanave, A. J. Montalbano, Raymond Batiste, Danny MacGregor are present. Guest: Jake Groby, Councilman Absent Rock Petersen

#### **Secretary Minutes:**

##### ***Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Sept 9, 2015***

Mr. Casanave moved, Mr. MacGregor seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept them as presented. There being no discussion, a vote was called. Motion approved unanimously.

#### **Treasurer Report:**

Mr. Batiste noted the following balances in the respective checking accounts:

Balance in the general fund as of Oct 9<sup>th</sup> is \$ 288,549.68

Balance in the 2<sup>nd</sup> account fund as of Oct 9<sup>th</sup> is \$223,305.93

The credit card statements and fund allocations were distributed to the commissioners and were made part of these minutes.

Quarterly Financial Report – Distributed to Board – no amendment necessary

Mr. Casanave moved, Mr. MacGregor seconded to accept the treasurer's report as presented. There being no further business, a vote was taken. Motion unanimously approved.

#### **Chief's Report:**

- 1) Total calls for the year –864
- 2) Month responses – 104

Mr. Batiste moved, Mr. Casanave seconded to accept the Chief's report. There being no discussion, a vote was taken and carried unanimously.

**Minutes of Oct 11, 2015**

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**Assistant Chief's Report**

Employment/Training Chief Lober listed the following passing certifications:  
No new to report this month

**Old Business:**

**Update on Training Building**

Chief Sicard noted it is a complex process that will be bid by quotation. He met with local architect who will be helpful in the process by building specifications/options and send out to contractors for proposals. The cost for his services will be a percentage of the contract price. There was more discussion but no action was taken.

Mr. MacGregor inquired about the septic system. Chief Sicard noted that the new system has been in, but the EPA is testing. Chief Lober has been working with it to get a clearance. St. 31 and 32 are clear. St. 32 has an issue with the drainage system due to discharge pipe being under muck and water. They will be working to clear the system. The paperwork will be submitted noting the inability to obtain a sample. Councilman Groby advised to take pictures to send with the appropriate form. MacGregor noted to go online and enter in a work order for public works with the parish and they must complete the work in a certain time. There was more discussion. No action taken.

**New Business:**

**Attorney Contract**

Chief Sicard advised the board that there were some issues at STF District 12 involving their financial situation and that because of this some of the administration and the legal counsel were being targeted and rumors were abounding. Some of these informal and verbal allegations involved Robert Barnett, the full time attorney for FD12. Chief Sicard advised the board that we also use – on a pay-per-case basis – Rob Barnett. While no charges or arrests have been forthcoming from any bureau or law enforcement at this time, Chief Sicard has decided to suspend his contract with Barnett until further notice. Groby gave a brief summary of the financial actions of STFD12. Parish Council has called for an investigation of the fire district. Groby stated out of the abundance of caution, he also agreed to suspend the business with Barnett until an outcome is forthcoming.

Mr. MacGregor asked about the percentage of collections. Chief Sicard noted he would have to ask Theresa on the exact percentage. He will get back by email to the Commissioners on this information.

Motion by the board to suspend contract with Barnett by Mr. Casanave, seconded by Mr. MacGregor. There already having discussed issue, a vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Casanave moved to adjourn. Mr. Batiste seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried. Meeting is adjourned at 6:23 PM.