

Special Meeting of the
Board of TFD Fire Commissioners
DRAFT -- Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2019
Thompsonville Fire Station, 35 N. Main Street

1. Call to Order: by Comm. DuFour at 6:00 pm.

2. Roll Call: present was Comm. DuFour, Comm. Perry, Comm. Dodd. Absent were Comm. Reidy, and Comm. Crowley. Also present was Interim Chief Deskis and Dept. Secretary Wawer.

3. Executive Session: a) H&H Stipulation Agreement 927, b) Position of Fire Chief:

MOTION to enter Executive Session made by Comm. DuFour, seconded by Comm. Dodd. Discussion: none. Roll Call- Motion passed 3-0. All Commissioners present, Interim Chief Deskis, and Dept. Secretary Wawer entered Executive Session at 6:01 pm.

Interim Chief Deskis and Dept. Secretary Wawer left Executive Session at 6:06 pm.

Returned from Executive Session at 6:34 pm. No action taken.

4. Discussion of New Pension Company Transition:

Comm. DuFour said we need to name trustees for the new pension plan. Dept. Secretary Wawer said she gave Beirne Wealth the names of the current trustees which are Comm. DuFour, Comm. Dodd, and David Hayes. The Board agreed to keep the trustees the same.

5. Approval of Invoices/Bills:

Commissioners reviewed, discussed and approved checks for invoices/bills

6. Discussion of Staffing Levels:

Interim Chief Deskis said Firefighter Luke just retired and Firefighter Grady will be retiring in a few weeks. One member is out due to an injury. Another member might

have surgery on his hand. That will create some overtime. Should the department hire someone to fill those shifts or just pay for the overtime? I know there is a set overtime budget. Currently we are halfway through our budget. I just wanted to let the Board know that we could go over budget on overtime. The Fire Marshal and Training Officer can help cover shifts during the day. But there will be overtime for the night shifts. Comm. DuFour asked how many members are there now. Interim Chief Deskis replied once Firefighter Grady retires there will be 4 members on each shift. There is also the Fire Marshal and the Training Officer. Comm. DuFour asked how many union members are there. Dept. Secretary Wawer replied nineteen. Comm. DuFour said a member is retiring soon so that will be eighteen. Would it be cheaper to hire more people or pay the overtime? Interim Chief Deskis said I can't answer that right at this moment. I would like to hire some more people, so we don't lose what we have. Staffing is about as low as it can go. It is cheaper to pay the overtime because you don't have to pay for benefits or pension. But what happens if someone gets hurt on the job? It may be cheaper right now but if a person gets hurt, we could be paying a lot for overtime. I would recommend filling those two positions. Comm. DuFour said we know we are going to have to hire one person. Do we need to hire two more? Interim Chief Deskis said he will put together a cost comparison for the Board. Comm. Dodd asked about hiring temporary employees. Interim Chief Deskis said it is hard because of union negotiations. Comm. Dodd said I was thinking it would be something to get us through to the next budget year.

7. Adjourn:

MOTION to adjourn made by Comm. DuFour, seconded by Comm. Dodd. All in favor by ayes at 6:47 pm.