

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

STATE OF LOUISIANA

FIREMENS' SUPPLEMENTAL PAY

BOARD OF REVIEW



BOARD MEETING - DECEMBER 4, 2013, at 10:00 A.M.

Brien Ruiz, Chairman

Ozias "Junior" Price

Ronald Schillace

Bruce Brewer

Roy Robichaux

STAFF PRESENT:

Paul Schexnayder, Esq.

Katie Ryland

Kelli Boudreaux

ALSO PRESENT:

Chad Major, Baton Rouge Fire Department

I N D E X

	PAGE(S)
1	
2	
3	CALL TO ORDER 3
4	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - August 21, 2013 Meeting 3
5	OLD BUSINESS
6	New Orleans Airport Fire - Questionnaire 5
7	Oakdale Fire Department - Charlene Hudgens
8	St. Tammany #13 - New Department
9	Lonnie Johnson, Andrew Ostendoif,
10	and Patrick Schubert
11	NEW BUSINESS
12	Billing Spreadsheet
13	Covington Fire Dept. - Vernessa Williams 15
14	Jefferson Parish Fire Dept. - Arthur Zink 18
15	Village East Fire Prot. District Board
16	Ray Billiot & Armond Triche, Jr. 21
17	
18	LEGAL MATTERS 29
19	NEW APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL 31
20	BUDGET MATTERS 34
21	SET TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING 34
22	ADJOURN 34
23	
24	
25	

CALL TO ORDER

1
2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 We'll call the meeting to order, the Supplemental Pay
4 Board for December 4, 2013.

5 Roll call, please.

6 **MS. RYLAND:**

7 Mr. Ruiz?

8 **MR. RUIZ:**

9 Here.

10 **MS. RYLAND:**

11 Mr. Price?

12 **MR. PRICE:**

13 Here.

14 **MS. RYLAND:**

15 Mr. Schillace?

16 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

17 Here.

18 **MS. RYLAND:**

19 Mr. Robichaux?

20 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

21 Here.

22 **MS. RYLAND:**

23 Mr. Brewer?

24 **MR. BREWER:**

25 Here.

1 MR. RUIZ:

2 All present and accounted for.

3 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETINGS

4 August 21, 2013

5 MR. RUIZ:

6 All right. Approval of the minutes of the August 21st
7 meeting.

8 MR. SCHILLACE:

9 I so move.

10 MR. RUIZ:

11 And a second?

12 MR. PRICE:

13 Second.

14 MR. RUIZ:

15 All in favor of the approval of the minutes, signify by
16 saying "aye."

17 Aye.

18 MR. PRICE:

19 Aye.

20 MR. SCHILLACE:

21 Aye.

22 MR. BREWER:

23 Aye.

24 MR. ROBICHAUX:

25 Aye.

1 **MR. RUIZ:**

2 Any opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 Hearing no opposed, the motion passes.

5 **OLD BUSINESS**

6 **New Orleans Airport Fire - Questionnaire - David Tibbetts**

7 **MR. RUIZ:**

8 Old business, questionnaire for New Orleans Airport.

9 **MS. RYLAND:**

10 Yes. At the last meeting, you requested that
11 Mr. Tibbetts provide the questionnaire for the New Orleans
12 Aviation Board. He did provide the documentation.

13 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

14 Seems like, if I remember correctly, that the issue at
15 hand was who signed the warrant?

16 **MS. RYLAND:**

17 Correct.

18 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

19 What has changed since the last meeting?

20 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

21 The question, I think, is whether they are a public
22 agency or whether they are a contract agency, and the
23 questionnaire says that they don't have a contract to provide
24 firefighting. So, if they're not -- the question right above
25 it says that they are not budgeted for municipality, parish,

1 or fire protection district.

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 Then it says, does the employee belong to a municipal
4 civil service system, "yes," because all the employees, other
5 than the fire chief, gets paid through the City of New
6 Orleans.

7 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

8 It still comes to a legal question.

9 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

10 I think it's one of those hybrid things. I don't know
11 -- you have to decide which way you want to go, but it almost
12 seems like it could go either way, because it is in that gray
13 area.

14 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

15 It is in the gray area, because I make a motion that we
16 approve his application.

17 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

18 I second that motion.

19 **MR. PRICE:**

20 Question, you're saying that if they are a private
21 organization -- in other words, I'll give you an example in
22 Alexandria, the fire protection at the airport is Wackenhut,
23 so, in other words, they don't qualify for supplemental pay.

24 I've got a question I was going to bring up a little bit
25 later, but, I mean, since we're in it now, because I have two

1 guys coming to work from there. Of course, they have been
2 employed there for some time, so they had to do a year with
3 us before they can get supplemental pay.

4 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

5 Yes, correct.

6 **MR. RUIZ:**

7 Anymore questions?

8 Chief Roy, did you -- I didn't read this whole thing.
9 Did they determine who is going to sign the warrant?

10 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

11 It appears that the deputy director and chief
12 administrative office.

13 **MR. RUIZ:**

14 Okay. The deputy director and chief -- I didn't see
15 that, okay, that answered my question.

16 All in favor of the approving this application, signify
17 by saying "aye."

18 Aye.

19 **MR. PRICE:**

20 Aye.

21 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

22 Aye.

23 **MR. BREWER:**

24 Aye.

25 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

1 Aye.

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 Any opposed say "nay"?

4 (No response.)

5 Hearing no nays, the motion passes.

6 Oakdale Fire Department - Charlene Vickers Hudgens

7 **MR. RUIZ:**

8 All right. Oakdale Fire Department?

9 **MS. RYLAND:**

10 This is an application that we received for the last
11 meeting, but you all denied because of her job duties, so
12 they had sent in a letter from the fire chief explaining in
13 detail her job duties more specifically.

14 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

15 But she's a secretary to the fire chief?

16 **MS. RYLAND:**

17 Yes.

18 **MR. PRICE:**

19 In other words, she does firefighter abilities. I see
20 that on the letter right there.

21 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

22 According to the letter, she does both dispatching and
23 firefighting abilities.

24 **MR. BREWER:**

25 She is Firefighter I.

1 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

2 She's Firefighter I?

3 **MR. BREWER:**

4 Yes, it is in there. She got it this year.

5 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

6 She works 35 hours or more?

7 **MS. RYLAND:**

8 Yes.

9 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

10 And she responds to fires.

11 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

12 I'll make a motion we approve her.

13 **MR. PRICE:**

14 Second.

15 **MR. RUIZ:**

16 Motion to approve and a second.

17 Any further questions?

18 (No response.)

19 Hearing no questions, all in favor of the motion to
20 approve her, signify by saying "aye."

21 Aye.

22 **MR. PRICE:**

23 Aye.

24 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

25 Aye.

1 **MR. BREWER:**

2 Aye.

3 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

4 Aye.

5 **MR. RUIZ:**

6 Any opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 Hearing no opposed, the motion passes.

9 St. Tammany #13 - New Fire Protection District

10 Lonnie Johnson

11 **MR. RUIZ:**

12 St. Tammy No. 13, new fire protection district.

13 **MS. RYLAND:**

14 This was an application that was sent in that was -- the
15 signatures that you all questioned.

16 **MR. RUIZ:**

17 Uh-huh.

18 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

19 I understand the explanation in the letter, okay, but we
20 still -- I believe that it makes sense according with the
21 laws that are on that. On the questionnaire, it still has
22 the wrong title of the signing authority.

23 **MR. RUIZ:**

24 Can we send them a letter and ask them -- explain to
25 them exactly --

1 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

2 It's George Osbourne. Is he the mayor or parish
3 president.

4 You all said that you all knew the parish, you know, that
5 person was not. I mean, it ought to be corrected on the
6 application.

7 **MR. RUIZ:**

8 Is he --

9 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

10 He's the chairman of like a fire board?

11 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

12 He's the chairman of the fire board, okay, and the
13 backup paperwork that is in here that there is a state statute
14 that allows them to be their own governing authority, the way
15 I read it. It's Section 40:149, 95, and 99.

16 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

17 Are there any other fire departments in Fire District 13
18 that receive supplemental pay?

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 You know, they've got so many different fire districts
21 in St. Tammany Parish.

22 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

23 I know. Here's a new one, 13. This is it.

24 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

25 We had a question last time about the application with

1 regard to be signed by the municipality mayor or the parish
2 president, and it was stated that this George was neither.
3 They sent a letter explaining why George signed it, but the
4 application still has, in my opinion, the wrong titles. It's
5 misleading.

6 **MR. RUIZ:**

7 Did we send a letter telling them who needs to sign it?

8 **MR. RYLAND:**

9 Well, just saying that --

10 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

11 The other fire protection districts in St. Tammany, they
12 all are signed by the mayor or parish president?

13 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

14 Yes, that was what I was basically asking. I'm sorry.
15 I didn't make it clear.

16 **MR. BREWER:**

17 According to this letter, one of them is signed by a
18 board.

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 Correct.

21 **MR. BREWER:**

22 It says Fire District No. 4 --

23 **MR. RUIZ:**

24 That's Mandeville.

25 **MR. BREWER:**

1 -- okay, they signed, but other than that, I don't know.
2 I don't know other than the fact what's in this letter.

3 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

4 As far as him meeting the requirements, the individual
5 himself, he meets the requirements to receive supplemental
6 pay?

7 **MS. RYLAND:**

8 Yes.

9 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

10 So that's not the issue. The issue is who signs the
11 paperwork?

12 **MS. RYLAND:**

13 Right.

14 **MR. RUIZ:**

15 The only thing I can do is, I can check with District 4
16 to find out who signs their warrants.

17 **MS. RYLAND:**

18 I mean, we can pull the warrant.

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 We need to find out -- if we're allowing one to do them,
21 maybe the wrong person in District 4 signed this application.

22 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

23 Again, if you'll help me with it, but it looks like
24 there is a statute that allows the chairman of the fire board
25 to sign.

1 **MR. RUIZ:**

2 Correct.

3 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

4 Okay. I'm not questioning that assignment. I'm
5 questioning the guy signing it. I'm questioning the title of
6 him signing it. He's signing as the mayor or parish
7 president.

8 **MR. RUIZ:**

9 Right. He's --

10 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

11 He's not the mayor or the parish president.

12 **MR. RUIZ:**

13 Right. He needs to be signing as the chairman of the
14 fire service board -- I mean, of the fire board.

15 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

16 So his application should be sent out --

17 **MR. RUIZ:**

18 Did we send him an letter explaining --

19 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

20 I make a motion we approve this application pending the
21 changing of the title of the person that signs the warrant.

22 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

23 I'll second it.

24 **MR. RUIZ:**

25 Any discussion?

1 Katie, the letter you sent them last time, did they
2 understand that we were voting for the chairman of the board
3 to sign?

4 **MS. RYLAND:**

5 Yes.

6 **MR. RUIZ:**

7 So they do know that we don't have a problem with George
8 Osbourn if he signs as chairman of the board, we just have a
9 problem with him signing of mayor or parish president?

10 **MS. RYLAND:**

11 Yes.

12 **MR. RUIZ:**

13 Anymore questions?

14 **MR. PRICE:**

15 Maybe he should have put down here mayor and then they
16 have to put parish president there too. In other words, he
17 signed on that line right there, in other words, he's got
18 mayor, parish president, or he's a board chairman or whatever.
19 Do you think you can add that name to that?

20 **MS. RYLAND:**

21 Yes.

22 **MR. PRICE:**

23 I mean, Paul, do you see any problem with that?

24 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

25 No.

1 **MR. PRICE:**

2 Yes. I mean, if he's going to be signing -- in other
3 words, that's where the confusion is. Like you said, the
4 title, they just add that title to it right there.

5 What you think, Roy?

6 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

7 I agree. Leave it blank. Leave it blank on the title
8 and let them fill it out.

9 **MR. PRICE:**

10 Right. They can do that.

11 **MR. RUIZ:**

12 Do we need a substitute motion?

13 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

14 I mean, you do that on the back of the warrant now. You
15 ask for the person's title.

16 **MR. PRICE:**

17 Right.

18 **MR. RUIZ:**

19 Do you all want that in a motion or can you do that
20 administratively?

21 **MS. RYLAND:**

22 That's fine.

23 **MR. RUIZ:**

24 Which way?

25 **MS. RYLAND:**

1 I can do it administratively.

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 Okay. So back to the original motion to approve this
4 gentleman's application, after the proper signatures are?

5 **MR. PRICE:**

6 I'll second. You need a second.

7 **MR. RUIZ:**

8 Roy, seconded it. Chief Roy seconded it.

9 **MR. PRICE:**

10 Okay.

11 **MR. RUIZ:**

12 All in favor of the motion, signify by saying "aye."

13 Aye.

14 **MR. PRICE:**

15 Aye.

16 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

17 Aye.

18 **MR. BREWER:**

19 Aye.

20 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

21 Aye.

22 **MR. RUIZ:**

23 Any opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 Hearing no opposed, the motion passes.

1 MR. RUIZ:

2 New business.

3 MR. ROBICHAUX:

4 Wait we still have two more.

5 MS. RYLAND:

6 The other two people.

7 MR. RUIZ:

8 Back to old business.

9 What about this -- this is separate?

10 MS. RYLAND:

11 It's the same application.

12 MR. RUIZ:

13 So we've got three more?

14 MS. RYLAND:

15 No. It's just all three under the same --

16 MR. RUIZ:

17 All right. So we did Johnson, that was the first one,
18 this is the letter, right?

19 MR. ROBICHAUX:

20 Right.

21 MS. RYLAND:

22 Yes.

23 St. Tammany #13 - New Fire Protection District

24 Patrick Schubert

25 Andrew Ostendoif

1 **MR. RUIZ:**

2 So then we've got Schubert, and I don't want to mess up
3 Mr. Andrew's name.

4 **MR. PRICE:**

5 Ostendoif.

6 **MR. RUIZ:**

7 Okay. I'll entertain a motion to approve these two
8 gentlemen under the same pretense as --

9 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

10 I'll make a motion.

11 **MR. RUIZ:**

12 Motion by Chief Roy.

13 **MR. PRICE:**

14 Second.

15 **MR. RUIZ:**

16 Second by Mr. Price.

17 Any questions?

18 (No response.)

19 Hearing no questions, all in favor of the motion,
20 signify by saying "aye."

21 Aye.

22 **MR. PRICE:**

23 Aye.

24 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

25 Aye.

1 **MR. BREWER:**

2 Aye.

3 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

4 Aye.

5 **MR. RUIZ:**

6 Any opposed say "nay"?

7 (No response.)

8 Hearing no nays, the motion passes.

9 **NEW BUSINESS - Billing Spreadsheet**

10 **MR. RUIZ:**

11 Now we go to new business, billing spreadsheet, that is
12 this?

13 **MS. RYLAND:**

14 Yes. This was put in your packet just to let you know
15 that we sent out final notices at the end of last month with
16 the warrant to all municipalities to let them know what was
17 still outstanding with their warrants. This is what we still
18 have outstanding as of yesterday afternoon. A lot of the
19 municipalities have paid off all of their debt, but these are
20 the ones that still owe.

21 **MR. RUIZ:**

22 The question -- and that's why Mr. Major is here, and I
23 didn't speak to Mr. Major about it. I spoke to Mr. Price
24 about their -- is that they were telling us that they did all
25 the proper paperwork and these people still got their checks.

1 So, if the Board allows Mr. Major to speak, I'd like him to
2 talk to the Board about the problems they have in Baton Rouge.
3 Is it okay for him to speak?

4 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

5 I don't mind.

6 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

7 I don't mind.

8 **MR. MAJOR:**

9 Thank you.

10 **MR. PRICE:**

11 And your title is?

12 **MR. MAJOR:**

13 I'm Chad Major, and I'm the chief administration of the
14 Baton Rouge Fire Department.

15 Recently, you all sent a letter to us with 22
16 individuals on the letter, so we had staff research all of
17 them. I understand what the statute says, the statute says
18 that is the overpayment, the employer shall seek for
19 reimbursement for overpayment, but the statute also states
20 that the employer shall give notification. I'll give an
21 example, if someone was retiring -- this is December now. If
22 someone was retiring January 14, 2014, I would send a
23 notification in to give you all a head's up that you would
24 need to adjust and prorate for that month.

25 Out of those 22 individuals that you all had sent us

1 notice on, 19 of those we had sent that to you all, and for
2 those on this Board that know me, I'm more so about finding
3 the solution to the problem than finding who caused the
4 problem or what caused the problem. I mean, what is the
5 solution, and in saying that, I think that we are willing to
6 make good on the three that we know that we made a mistake
7 on, but on the 19, and those are the smaller ones, but on the
8 19 that I know we sent notice and I can show that we did send
9 notice, I don't think it should be a department's
10 responsibility. I know that our attorney has been in contact
11 with the State's collection attorney or Paul?

12 **MS. RYLAND:**

13 With Paul.

14 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

15 I'm not the collection attorney. We don't have a
16 collection department.

17 **MR. MAJOR:**

18 But it's just one of those things -- and it's not really
19 about the principle of it or anything else. I mean, if we
20 made a mistake, we're more than happy to pay for it. If a
21 mistake was made elsewhere, I mean, we just need to figure
22 out a solution where it doesn't happen again, but I know for
23 years, we didn't -- you know, nothing. We've done the same
24 process for years, and if the rules have changed or if the
25 methodology has changed, well we need to be brought in on

1 that.

2 I can make a suggestion because we've had a lot of
3 discussions about this over the past few weeks, maybe there
4 be some off-colored piece of paper when you send the warrants
5 out, and that off-colored piece of paper, whatever color you
6 want to make it, blue, white, orange, whatever, is a place
7 where you fill out for the following when you do the warrants
8 for that part, for the following months -- I know
9 terminations and resignations are something totally
10 different, but for those that are retiring, which is most of
11 these that we have -- of the ones that you all sent is, most
12 of those were retirements, that you fill out that paper and
13 that should trigger, hey, we really need to look at this
14 because these are the ones we need to prorate.

15 We had a couple of them. One of them retired on the 28th
16 of -- I think it was March -- 28th or 29th of March. He had
17 overpaid \$17.00, but if you go back and look at February when
18 when we sent the warrants in for the next month, we even
19 showed on there, notice that this person -- had his name and
20 everything else -- will retire and his last day to be
21 employed is the 28th of March. He got overpaid \$17.00, and
22 those are things we are getting back, but out of the 22, I
23 can prove 19 of the 22 that we sent the notice.

24 **MR. RUIZ:**

25 So what can we do to --

1 **MS. RYLAND:**

2 We're definitely going to look into it. We're look into
3 it, but -- are you writing them on the warrant, like all of
4 the changes on the warrant each month?

5 **MR. MAJOR:**

6 Yes.

7 **MS. RYLAND:**

8 Okay.

9 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

10 I thought we looked into it.

11 **MS. RYLAND:**

12 Because we had looked into it, and I know a couple that
13 we had looked at were not on the actual warrant.

14 **MR. BREWER:**

15 We don't have those notices?

16 **MS. RYLAND:**

17 They are on a piece of paper, but they are not written
18 on the warrant.

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 You've got the warrants, don't you?

21 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

22 She's got the warrants, but they still have the names on
23 them.

24 **MR. RUIZ:**

25 I haven't ever seen that paper, so I really don't know --

1 **MR. BREWER:**

2 The warrants?

3 **MR. RUIZ:**

4 I'm haven't made it that far --

5 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

6 The actual paper, you've got to

7 **MR. RUIZ:**

8 And I've seen the chief's secretary --

9 **MR. PRICE:**

10 Four people have to sign it and they have to send it all
11 over the city to get it signed.

12 **MR. MAJOR:**

13 I don't have to sign it, but I know what I've seen them
14 do it before.

15 Okay. This is the person I was just talking about.

16 **MS. RYLAND:**

17 Right, right.

18 **MR. MAJOR:**

19 And then you look on here --

20 **MS. RYLAND:**

21 Like, that is when it should have been noted -- for that
22 month by his name, it should have been noted that something.

23 **MR. MAJOR:**

24 Yes, but there's anything -- unless I'm --

25 **MS. RYLAND:**

1 And I know you all probably sent something in, but it
2 also needs to be on the warrant itself.

3 **MR. MAJOR:**

4 Right. We sent something in with the warrant.

5 **MS. RYLAND:**

6 Right, right, and I guess --

7 **MR. MAJOR:**

8 We tried to explain that -- I was clueless on my part,
9 because I don't do it, but they explained it to me.

10 **MS. RYLAND:**

11 But we're going to look at each one them, when we have
12 some time to look at each of them.

13 **MR. MAJOR:**

14 And, in our case, I mean, I have 610 employees, so it's
15 a lot to go through it. I have a staff that goes through
16 them, and that's a wonderful thing, and here is why I said
17 what I said a while ago, I'm not about whose fault it is or
18 anything like that because that doesn't solve anything. Some
19 of them we made mistakes on. One of them was a termination,
20 and for seven months, he just happened to have the same last
21 name as somebody else and that's what happened.

22 **MS. RYLAND:**

23 Right.

24 **MR. MAJOR:**

25 We'll never get that money. We're going to eat that,

1 and I understand that and I'm okay with that. You know, it
2 adds up to nearly \$7,000 when you add all of them up, and the
3 chief is here and knows, you know, \$7,000, that's a new
4 portable, that is a brand-new air pack, and I'm not poor
5 mouthing. In our case, I mean, our budget can absorb that,
6 but I think for in the future we need to change that or adopt
7 some kind of policy or something into the paperwork to throw
8 a flag up every month to make, you know, somebody double
9 check or look again, a better way of doing it, so to speak,
10 and for the ones that we are responsible for, I'm certainly
11 willing to go ahead and move forward and fix that. For the
12 other ones, just like this one, I mean, I read the paperwork
13 on him. Matter of fact, the position I hold now is where he
14 retired from, but we put in and we sent it the month before,
15 and it wasn't on this part of it. There is another sheet
16 that we send, and it says, effective -- in his case, it was
17 March 28th or whatever it was, I can't remember exactly, that
18 he will be retired, so he should have been prorated for 28
19 days of the month.

20 **MR. RUIZ:**

21 So we -- what she's saying is, if it would have been put
22 on this sheet, it would have been caught.

23 **MS. RYLAND:**

24 Uh-huh.

25 **MR. MAJOR:**

1 Right.

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 Okay.

4 **MR. MAJOR:**

5 Because they made the -- Renee, which is the girl right
6 here, as well as the fire chief's secretary, Debbie, show me
7 where they put it at and send it in.

8 Maybe, like I said, we can come up with something for
9 where -- like a colored sheet or whatever, that you fill that
10 out for anybody that you know. Now, maybe we need to -- or I
11 say "we," you all need to look at a way for resignations and
12 terminations subsequent to a certain date because you all
13 have a cutoff date, how we would handle those, so maybe just
14 adopting some updated policies that would save everyone a
15 headache. I know I've talked to other departments that have
16 just made retribution. Even though they may have done
17 nothing wrong, they just went ahead and paid it, but if we
18 did that and the problem will continue to exist I think and
19 that doesn't help the problem.

20 So I respectfully request that we look into this, you
21 all look into this, and we see where we move forward from
22 here.

23 **MS. RYLAND:**

24 Definitely. We'll look into it.

25 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

1 We do have rules on it, but they are kind of vague and
2 general.

3 **MR. MAJOR:**

4 Imagine that. Lawyers do that.

5 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

6 It's not me, myself.

7 **MR. MAJOR:**

8 That's how lawyers make money.

9 **MR. RUIZ:**

10 Okay. Thank you, Mr. Major.

11 **MR. MAJOR:**

12 Thank you all. Do you all have any other questions for
13 me? If not, I've got other places to be. Thank you all very
14 much.

15 **MR. RUIZ:**

16 So maybe come up with some ideas that will help
17 everybody else. We would appreciate that.

18 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

19 I have a question. The one that we just saw from Baton
20 Rouge, they are not filling in the title.

21 **MS. RYLAND:**

22 They send in -- because there are so many, we let them
23 do a spreadsheet at the end where they have the people's name
24 and the title next to it.

25 **MR. RUIZ:**

1 Yes.

2 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

3 On the spreadsheet, did they mark that he retired?

4 **MS. RYLAND:**

5 No.

6 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

7 Okay.

8 **MR. RUIZ:**

9 Now, they send in a special paper, without a doubt.

10 **MS. RYLAND:**

11 Yes.

12 **MR. RUIZ:**

13 That's why I asked if his name --

14 **MS. RYLAND:**

15 It wasn't marked on the warrant.

16 **MR. RUIZ:**

17 If it would have been marked on the warrant, they might
18 have caught it, that's why I asked that question. I knew the
19 answer.

20 **MS. RYLAND:**

21 Correct.

22 **MR. RUIZ:**

23 That's why I asked that.

24 **MS. RYLAND:**

25 And it was sent in the month before, and, I mean, we

1 can't -- we keep up with 12,000 people, we can't -- that's
2 not our responsibility to make sure that it's caught two
3 months later. They should be on the warrant at the time it's
4 due.

5 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

6 Right. The rules do allow them to send in a letter.

7 **MS. RYLAND:**

8 Yes, yes. Because -- I mean, we accept faxes, we accept
9 e-mails for people that are retiring, but --

10 **MR. BREWER:**

11 Maybe if they send a letter in, like he said, on a
12 different colored piece of paper.

13 **MS. RYLAND:**

14 Right, right.

15 **MR. RUIZ:**

16 We'll come up with some rules --

17 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

18 How do you get different colored paper by fax?

19 **MS. RYLAND:**

20 We'll let them tell us when.

21 **MR. RUIZ:**

22 We'll just come up with rules and we'll make sure that
23 everybody abides by them where they don't have to pay. It's
24 just as simple as that.

25 **MR. PRICE:**

1 Maybe we can come back at the next meeting and have some
2 suggestions by then. How does that sound?

3 **MS. RYLAND:**

4 That's fine.

5 **MR. PRICE:**

6 Maybe at the next meeting, Katie and them can come up
7 with some suggestions and we can --

8 **MS. RYLAND:**

9 Paul can come up with some suggestions.

10 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

11 Can I ask one other question?

12 **MS. RYLAND:**

13 Sure. Yes, sir.

14 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

15 What is the difference between the two Jefferson Parish
16 departments?

17 **MS. RYLAND:**

18 It's the same. It's just two invoice numbers. They
19 were made at two different times, but it's the same.

20 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

21 Okay. It's invoice numbers?

22 **MS. RYLAND:**

23 Yes, sir.

24 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

25 Okay. It says account number, and --

1 **MS. RYLAND:**

2 Yes, sir.

3 **MR. PRICE:**

4 I see Grand Isle. What's wrong with Grand Isle?

5 **MS. RYLAND:**

6 They kept somebody on their warrant way to long, but
7 they actually owed about \$9,000, and they actually just cut
8 us a check for \$3,000, so it's come down. They are going to
9 pay it in increments.

10 **MR. PRICE:**

11 Okay.

12 **MR. RUIZ:**

13 At least they're willing to pay it.

14 **MS. RYLAND:**

15 Yes.

16 **MR. RUIZ:**

17 I can't say the same thing, what's going to happen where
18 I work at.

19 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

20 Right, but the department was run by the City and the
21 City still owes it. It seems like the City owes it.

22 **MS. RYLAND:**

23 I don't know.

24 **MR. RUIZ:**

25 Anymore discussion on billing?

1 (No response.)

2 Covinton Fire Department - Vernessa Williams

3 **MR. RUIZ:**

4 Covington Fire Department.

5 **MS. RYLAND:**

6 Okay. We brought this application before the Board
7 because of the job title as fire alarm dispatcher. The
8 applicant does have Firefighter I.

9 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

10 Have we approved any fire alarm operators from Slidell
11 Fire District 1 in the past; do you know?

12 **MR. RUIZ:**

13 I'm sure we have.

14 **MR. PRICE:**

15 We might have, but things have changed since then.

16 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

17 Didn't we do it -- we looked at the standard for
18 Jefferson Parish last year and found out that dispatchers are
19 entitled to it?

20 **MS. RYLAND:**

21 I think so.

22 **MR. RUIZ:**

23 Yes, uh-huh. I agree with Chief Roy.

24 **MR. PRICE:**

25 What was that, Roy? I'm sorry.

1 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

2 We approved one for Jefferson Parish because we
3 researched them where the law allows their dispatchers to get
4 it, that's what I remember.

5 **MR. RUIZ:**

6 Correct. I remember the same thing.

7 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

8 I disagreed.

9 **MR. BREWER:**

10 Shreveport is getting them, too.

11 **MR. PRICE:**

12 Well, I know we've had some people from past.

13 **MR. RUIZ:**

14 Yes.

15 **MR. PRICE:**

16 But we've got some new people at our department that
17 aren't getting it. I mean, that's just what I'm trying to
18 find out.

19 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

20 It depends on whether they work for the fire department
21 or whether they work for -- through 911.

22 **MR. PRICE:**

23 They work for the fire department.

24 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

25 If they work for the fire department and they're

1 receiving captain's pay, that's Civil Service law.

2 **MR. BREWER:**

3 And they're Firefighter I.

4 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

5 Civil Service law says, if a dispatcher gets captain's
6 pay --

7 **MR. PRICE:**

8 Right. I understand, that's what our dispatcher's get
9 is captain's pay. How do you get out of the deal about --

10 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

11 because, in our case, they work for the 911 district.

12 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

13 They don't work for the fire department?

14 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

15 So they're not entitled to supplemental pay, nor are
16 they under Firefighter Civil Service. They are under Parish
17 Civil Service.

18 **MR. RUIZ:**

19 In my case, I've got three -- four dispatchers, three of
20 them receive supplemental pay, one does not. The one that
21 does not has not gone to school to get her certifications,
22 and she doesn't -- she'll never get it.

23 **MR. PRICE:**

24 I mean, we have some like that too, but, I mean, they --
25 why would they go if they're not going to get it anyway, and

1 that was the point right there?

2 **MR. BREWER:**

3 They can get it then, if they work for the department.

4 **MR. PRICE:**

5 Oh, yes, they work for the department. They never went
6 and got it because the chief said, you're not going to get
7 supplemental pay because you're not -- you know, you're not
8 in the realm of a firefighter or responding to fires. So, I
9 -- and that's my question, because it looks like we're
10 opening the gate for a bunch more people to come in.

11 **MR. RUIZ:**

12 The gate has been open.

13 **MR. PRICE:**

14 But, I mean, the thing is if you go out and broadcast
15 it, that's -- it's a wonder they don't. I mean, these people
16 are going to have to say that I want to get my, you know,
17 Firefighter I, and I was made aware that I can get
18 supplemental pay.

19 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

20 It doesn't exclude them.

21 **MR. PRICE:**

22 But just because they're getting captain's pay --

23 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

24 It has nothing to do with captain's pay. It says --

25 **MR. RUIZ:**

1 That's just Roy's group.

2 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

3 I'm looking at the exclusions, and they're not on the
4 list of exclusions, so...

5 **MR. PRICE:**

6 Right, but we do have somewhere in the law that says
7 they do have to respond to fires, right, or we interpret
8 that?

9 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

10 I think you all interpreted that.

11 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

12 Last year, because the dispatcher from Jefferson Parish
13 was here.

14 **MR. RUIZ:**

15 She came here.

16 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

17 Never came upstairs, stayed downstairs, and the Board
18 passed to give it to her, and she was a dispatcher, and all
19 of Jefferson Parish's dispatchers get it.

20 **MR. RUIZ:**

21 The only reason mine don't get it is because she doesn't
22 want to go get her certification.

23 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

24 Hammond dispatchers get it, but they primarily have come
25 up through the ranks, from fire suppression into dispatcher.

1 **MR. PRICE:**

2 That's how it is basically with us, because, you now,
3 I've got three or four of my dispatchers get it, but they've
4 come through the ranks and they've been here since, you know,
5 in the late '70s, you know. Since then we've changed the law
6 and everything so -- or changed the legal -- but, I mean,
7 that's -- I should say it's a different Board, how does that
8 sound?

9 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

10 It was a different Board.

11 They're not excluded from getting it based on the law.

12 I'll make a motion.

13 **MR. BREWER:**

14 I'll second it.

15 **MR. RUIZ:**

16 Any more discussion?

17 (No response.)

18 All in favor of the motion, signify by saying "aye."

19 Aye.

20 **MR. PRICE:**

21 Aye.

22 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

23 Aye.

24 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

25 Aye.

1 **MR. BREWER:**

2 Aye.

3 **MR. RUIZ:**

4 Any opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 Hearing no opposed, the motion passes.

7 **MR. RUIZ:**

8 Jefferson Parish.

9 **MR. PRICE:**

10 You know, excuse me just a second. Let me back up.

11 I've know we had some of them that have got it because
12 they have -- they were working in another position and come
13 back and was able to -- what we say prior service.

14 **MR. RUIZ:**

15 Chief Roy is exactly right. We have approved --

16 **MR. PRICE:**

17 I understand that, but I say that was the reason why I
18 think some of them right there -- I know I have one in fire
19 prevention right now.

20 **MR. RUIZ:**

21 Right. I understand that.

22 **MR. PRICE:**

23 Okay.

24 Jefferson Parish Fire Department - Arthur Zink

25 **MR. RUIZ:**

1 Jefferson Parish, Arthur Zink.

2 **MS. RYLAND:**

3 I brought this application before the Board of the job
4 title. To give you a little background on this application
5 also, we received a letter anonymously about this individual.
6 They said that he had switched positions, so we questioned
7 Jefferson Parish, and then they let us know that he had
8 switched positions and then they submitted a new application.
9 As you'll see with the PAF shows a resignation date at this
10 point in time. We requested that they send us the new PAF
11 where he has been reinstated in this new job title. We
12 haven't received it as of yet.

13 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

14 So he was receiving --

15 **MS. RYLAND:**

16 He was receiving it in his old -- yes, in his old
17 position, yes.

18 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

19 But he resigned?

20 **MS. RYLAND:**

21 Yes.

22 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

23 And then came back for this different position?

24 **MS. RYLAND:**

25 Correct.

1 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

2 Kind of what -- prior service. We can draw a line
3 there.

4 **MR. RUIZ:**

5 We ain't going to draw a line there because they've got
6 to send us the qualifications. I mean, we're still waiting
7 for information from the gentleman.

8 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

9 In order to attach it to the -- this is the resignation
10 PAF.

11 **MR. RUIZ:**

12 Right.

13 **MS. RYLAND:**

14 Right.

15 **MR. RUIZ:**

16 We need the rest of the information.

17 **MS. RYLAND:**

18 I guess my question is, is this job title acceptable?

19 **MR. PRICE:**

20 What I think it is, Katie, will be the prior service is
21 what is going to take care of that part, as far as the job
22 title. In other words, he's in a position now, but he had
23 prior service and was getting supplemental pay. I've got a
24 secretary in fire prevention that got supplemental pay. She
25 quit and she come back to work and now she's secretary of

1 fire prevention but she had prior service.

2 Roy, what do you think?

3 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

4 How much time --

5 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

6 I don't think prior service should matter.

7 **MR. BREWER:**

8 I agree with Roy.

9 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

10 But, I mean, you're either in a job that qualifies you
11 for it or you're not, just because I'm getting it now, if I'm
12 no longer a firefighter, you're going to keep giving it to
13 me?

14 **MR. PRICE:**

15 But, I mean, that was passed by law. I mean, it
16 wasn't --

17 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

18 It wasn't passed by law. I think it was this Board.

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 This Board, yes.

21 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

22 The previous Board.

23 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

24 If it was by the Board, I'll tell you it came before
25 something for us to get it. I don't think it was prior

1 service. It was something in the legislature that might have
2 come in --

3 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

4 The previous Board decided if you work your way up
5 through the ranks, then --

6 **MR. RUIZ:**

7 Well --

8 **MR. PRICE:**

9 I don't know if it was the prior --

10 **MR. RUIZ:**

11 Listen. I was here. I know. I wasn't chairman, but
12 I --

13 **MR. PRICE:**

14 I was thinking that prior service came up because this
15 girl, she had been working for a while before she ever, you
16 know, received supplemental -- I mean, like Dan Cotten. Dan
17 Cotten got it the same way, from prior service.

18 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

19 Yes, but Dan Cotten is also an active firefighter now.

20 **MR. PRICE:**

21 Sure. I understand.

22 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

23 I remember the Baton Rouge Fire Department came before
24 this Board, I wasn't on it at the time, to get the mechanics
25 and the reason being because they respond to fire calls, a

1 second alarm or greater, for the simple reason of if an
2 apparatus breaks down on a fire scene, the mechanics have the
3 equipment and the parts to fix it right then and there.

4 On this right here, they say that this person responds
5 to alarms and emergency calls in which the department is
6 answerable in order to ensure mobile data computer equipment
7 on the fire department vehicles is functioning properly.

8 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

9 Not only are we voting for job qualifications gives him
10 the right to have it, but my problem --

11 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

12 And the motion passed.

13 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

14 I understand. I agree with that.

15 My problem is, if you look at the PAF, it says he's
16 going from a permanent job to no job.

17 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

18 Right.

19 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

20 It's not saying he's going -- if he's going into a
21 technician job, say it.

22 **MR. PRICE:**

23 I believe what he told her. I'm not trying to say that
24 we need to put him back because he -- you know, but all you
25 guys see on that sheet that he's fired and he hasn't been

1 hired back.

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 Ain't none of us denying that he shouldn't get
4 supplemental pay, but we need the rest of the paperwork.

5 **MS. RYLAND:**

6 I agree. I was questioning the job title, and I didn't
7 know the prior service end of it. I am kind of with you.

8 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

9 Can we approve pending you receiving the proper --

10 **MS. RYLAND:**

11 Okay. Yes, that's the next step.

12 **MR. PRICE:**

13 Not until we receive it.

14 **MS. RYLAND:**

15 Correct. No, he wouldn't be put on until we received
16 the proper paperwork.

17 **MR. RUIZ:**

18 Make a motion.

19 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

20 I make the motion we approve this application pending
21 that you receive proper documentation of his job description.

22 (Off-the-record discussion.)

23 **MR. RUIZ:**

24 Village East --

25 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

1 Are we going to vote?

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 Yes.

4 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

5 I make the motion.

6 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

7 I'll second.

8 **MR. RUIZ:**

9 All in favor of the motion, signify by saying "aye."

10 Aye.

11 **MR. PRICE:**

12 Aye.

13 **MR. BREWER:**

14 Aye.

15 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

16 Aye.

17 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

18 Aye.

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 Any opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 Hearing no opposed, the motion passes.

23 Village East Fire Prot. District Board

24 Ray Billiot and Armond Triche, Jr.

25 **MR. RUIZ:**

1 Now, we'll go to Village East Fire Protection District
2 Board. These are new applications?

3 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

4 I don't see no Firefighter I.

5 **MR. RUIZ:**

6 Is this a new fire department?

7 **MS. RYLAND:**

8 New fire department and two new applications.

9 **MR. RUIZ:**

10 Does anybody know where Village East is?

11 **MS. RYLAND:**

12 It's in Houma.

13 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

14 Where?

15 **MS. RYLAND:**

16 Houma.

17 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

18 It's in Houma.

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 Terrebonne Parish. Is it in the city of Houma or it's
21 in Terrebonne Parish?

22 **MS. RYLAND:**

23 All I can give you Houma.

24 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

25 It's in Terrebonne Parish. He's a parish president. I'm

1 just -- well, yes, here's where the parish president --

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 That's Chief Roy's side of the river.

4 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

5 Is the application in order?

6 **MS. RYLAND:**

7 Yes, sir.

8 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

9 I make a motion to approve the application and the two
10 members.

11 **MR. RUIZ:**

12 Second?

13 **MR. PRICE:**

14 Second.

15 **MR. RUIZ:**

16 Seconded by Mr. Price.

17 Any more discussion?

18 (No response.)

19 Hearing no discussion, all in favor of the motion,
20 signify by saying "aye."

21 Aye.

22 **MR. PRICE:**

23 Aye.

24 **MR. BREWER:**

25 Aye.

1 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

2 Aye.

3 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

4 Aye.

5 **MR. RUIZ:**

6 Any opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 Hearing no opposed, the motion passes.

9 **LEGAL MATTERS**

10 **MR. RUIZ:**

11 Legal matters?

12 **MR. SCHEXNAYDER:**

13 I think we took care of it.

14 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

15 I've got a question for you, and it's -- I don't know
16 the process is why I'm asking. We got the notification of
17 the 210 (sic) people, and in your letter that you all wrote
18 you said that there was funds available in this year's budget
19 to pay them, but it still needs to go back for legislature
20 approval.

21 **MS. RYLAND:**

22 They have to approve us to be able to pay the money.

23 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

24 Okay.

25 **MS. RYLAND:**

1 Because it's last year. Even though we have the money
2 in this year's budget, they have to approve it.

3 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

4 So they don't have to appropriate any money, they just
5 have to approve it?

6 **MS. RYLAND:**

7 Yes.

8 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

9 So they won't get paid until it's approved?

10 **MS. RYLAND:**

11 Correct.

12 **MR. RUIZ:**

13 And they do it monthly, but we used to submit everything
14 quarterly.

15 **MR. PRICE:**

16 Right.

17 **MR. RUIZ:**

18 For a while we was doing it yearly. We was doing it
19 quarterly, then they started doing it yearly, and then they
20 went back and submitted them quarterly, that way people
21 wouldn't have to wait a year.

22 **MR. BREWER:**

23 Right.

24 **NEW APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL**

25 **MR. PRICE:**

1 I'll make a motion for the applications.

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 New applications.

4 St. George has a big, old fire department.

5 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

6 I'll second the motion.

7 **MR. RUIZ:**

8 Who made the motion?

9 **MR. PRICE:**

10 I made the motion.

11 **MR. RUIZ:**

12 Mr. Price made the motion. Seconded by Chief Roy.

13 All in favor of the motion to approve the new
14 applicants, signify by saying "aye."

15 Aye.

16 **MR. PRICE:**

17 Aye.

18 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

19 Aye.

20 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

21 Aye.

22 **MR. BREWER:**

23 Aye.

24 **MR. RUIZ:**

25 Any opposed?

1 (No response.)

2 Hearing no opposed, the motion passes.

3 **SET TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

4 **MR. RUIZ:**

5 All right. Set time and date of the next meeting,
6 March 12, 2014, 10 o'clock. The week after Mardi Gras. Does
7 anybody have any problems?

8 (No response.)

9 (Off-the-record discussion.)

10 **ADJOURN**

11 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

12 I will make the official motion to adjourn.

13 **MR. PRICE:**

14 I'll second it.

15 **MR. RUIZ:**

16 All in favor, signify by saying "aye."

17 Aye.

18 **MR. PRICE:**

19 Aye.

20 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

21 Aye.

22 **MR. ROBICHAUX:**

23 Aye.

24 **MR. BREWER:**

25 Aye.

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

I, Michelle S. Abadie, Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, as do hereby certify that the foregoing fifty-three (53) pages, constitute a true and correct transcription of the meeting held on December 4, 2013, regarding the Firemens' Supplemental Pay Board of Review;

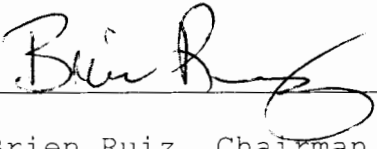
That the minutes of this meeting were transcribed by me from an audio recording of the proceedings;

And that I am not related to any of the parties herein, nor am I otherwise interested in the outcome of this matter.

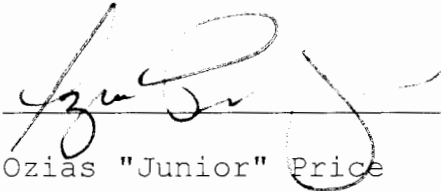


MICHELLE S. ABADIE, CCR #24032

*** APPROVAL OF MINUTES ***



Brien Ruiz, Chairman



Ozias "Junior" Price