

FIRE SUPPLEMENTAL PAY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 9, 2025

A regular meeting of the Municipal Fire Fighters Supplemental Pay Board of Review, June 9, 2025 at Louisiana Department of Public Safety, Management and Finance Office

Brien Ruiz called the meeting to order and welcomed the new board member, Patrick Carpenter.

ROLL CALL - Candy Diez

The following members and staff were present:

Board Members

Charles Williams
Brien Ruiz
Patrick Carpenter
Earl Borden

Staff

Candy Diez
Misty Bently
Jordan Moreau
Becca Robison
Sherlyn Shumpert, Esq.

Visitors

Michael J Kimble, BRFD Chief
Shane Spillman, BRFD, COA
G. C. Tarleton, SGFD, Chief
Jared Mobile, Port of South LA, Captain
Charles Graffeo, Port of South La, Chief Mech
Tamara Kennedy, Port of South Louisiana, Chief of Staff

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Earl Borden made a motion to approve the minutes.

Charles Williams seconded and the motion passed.

Earl Borden stated that he was not listed as present at the February board meeting but that he did attend.

Candy Diez stated that she is working on a contract with a transcriber and that hopefully she can start at the August board meeting.

Our staff will correct the minutes to show that Earl Borden was present at the February meeting and have a corrected copy of the minutes at the July 30th board meeting.

APPEALS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW MUNICIPALITIES

Port of South Louisiana

Tamara Kennedy, Chief of Staff and Jared Mabile, Captain spoke on behalf of the Port of South Louisiana.

Brien Ruiz stated that according to Act 513 of 2024 they are entitled to supplemental pay.

After some discussion about who would sign the warrants and the new applications Earl Borden made a motion to approve as a new municipality.

Patrick Carpenter seconded and the motion passed.

The three signatures will be:

Chief of Staff – Preparer

CEO - Certifier

Assistant Director of Maritime Operations – Approver

Earl Borden made a motion to accept signatures. Patrick Carpenter seconded and the motion passed.

Sherlyn Shumpert explained what had just been voted on.

Brien Ruiz discussed that maritime workers have a different certificate. Delgado is the only certificate.

Candy stated that the application for Alvin Morris is incomplete and will not be accepted as is and will have to be resubmitted through the portal.

Brien Ruiz would like to be notified when the Port of South Louisiana are set up in the portal.

Earl Borden stated that as a board they need to clarify what certificate is acceptable for Port of South Louisiana. What certificate are other ports submitting with their applications?

Jared Mabile discussed the Delgado training.

The staff will present which certificates are acceptable at the next board meeting.

Patrick Carpenter clarified that this port will be eligible for supplemental pay from when the law became an act, July 1, 2024.

Action on Alvin Morris – denied due to incomplete application.

A motion was made by Patrick Carpenter. The motion was seconded by Earl Borden.

NEW BUSINESS

Live Oak Volunteer FD - Brian Miller, Fire Chief

Patrick Carpenter made a motion to table Brian Miller's request due to Brian Miller not being in attendance.

Charles Williams seconded and the motion passed.

Baton Rouge FD - Amy D. Fowler, Medical Training Officer

Earl Borden discussed the qualifications as the law currently states.

Michael Kimble fire chief of BRFD testified on behalf of his department and of Amy D. Fowler.

Charles Williams said the law only states who does not qualify not who does qualify and medical training officer is not one that is excluded.

Earl Borden made a motion to approve. Charles Williams seconded and the motion passed.

Candy Diez stated on behalf of the DPS staff that this is not a job title that we would add to supplemental pay without bringing it before the board of review.

Bayou Cane FPD - Katelyn D. Prejean, Paramedic

Earl Borden made a motion to approve. Patrick Carpenter seconded and the motion passed.

Earl Borden stated that in the past the fire chief of Bayou Cane FPD testified about this job title.

Patrick Carpenter stated that he recognized that this job title will come before the board again as a way for the staff to be clear that they are not doing something that is against the law.

Bayou Cane FPD - Landon D. Poimboeuf, EMT

Earl Borden made a motion to approve. Patrick Carpenter seconded and the motion passed.

Jefferson East Bank Consolidated FD - Randy J. Hardy, Fire Technician I

Patrick Carpenter made a motion to open discussion.

Earl Borden stated it seems like this position is maintenance which is excluded from supplemental pay.

Patrick Carpenter stated this job does not appear to have any fire suppression duties.

Charles Williams made a motion to deny. Patrick Carpenter seconded and the motion passed.

St George FD - Russell T. Shultz, Chief of Special Operations

Earl Borden stated that this is not a position that is excluded from receiving supplemental pay.

Earl Borden made a motion to approve.

Patrick Carpenter seconded and the motion passed.

St. George FD - Dustin Yates, Governmental Affairs Director

Earl Borden stated that he does not see where this job title is excluded and that Dustin Yates reached out to him prior to the meeting and said that he is breaking service at some point and wants to be removed from the agenda.

Brien Ruiz and Charles Williams stated that they think this job title is all clerical. Charles Williams stated that the job description says he does not respond to any emergencies nor is he notified of any emergencies and that it is basically a lobbyist.

Candy Diez requested that if this job title is not qualified would Dustin Yates have to pay back the money he received since January 3rd of 2025.

Earl Borden argued that some departments have a chief of administration all clerical who do paper work and policy and we still pay them supplemental pay and we don't recoup back pay from them. We have an audit that says we are paying supplemental pay to people who are not entitled to it but we are not having a discussion about taking that money so he would be totally against taking money back from anyone.

And he said if we are going to say this job is totally clerical we need to access every position in the fire department.

Brien Ruiz said that not every position is before us at this time, this position is before us at this time. Governmental Affairs Director is before us now.

Earl Borden mentioned that Brien Ruiz told him that if you are already receiving supplemental pay and you move into a position that isn't primarily firefighting that you should be entitled to supplemental pay.

St. George FD Chief Tarleton said he thinks this job title does qualify for state supplemental pay. He stated that if we hired from outside and didn't promote up and didn't have FF1 they would not qualify for supplemental pay. Chief Yates did come up through the ranks and decided to go on to another career and resigned from supplemental pay. His opinion is that he may very well meet the qualifications.

Earl Borden made a motion to remove Dustin Yates from the agenda with the understanding that there be no back pay owed. Brien Ruiz stated that Dustin Yates is the mayor. No vote was taken on whether the new position qualifies for supplemental pay.

Patrick Carpenter seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Earl Borden made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss a new business item.

He said he has spoken to some fire chiefs and when their department has an item on the agenda they have to drive five hours to attend a board meeting for a few minutes and then drive five hours back. He would like the board to consider allowing these chief's to attend the board meeting by zoom

Sherlyn Shumpert said she will look into this.

LaGov Accounts Receivable Update and Discussion

Candy stated that Kay DeBenedetto has not showed her how to pull the report and she will send the report when that happens.

Patrick Carpenter asked how municipalities notify the staff of changes. Candy Diez explained the process.

BOARD MEMBER CONFIRMATION LETTERS Board members have not received their confirmation letters.

PRESENTATION OF MOST RECENT BUDGET PROJECTIONS

Numbers were presented. The Projected Remaining Balance is a deficit

NEW APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL: 236

Earl Borden made a motion to approve the applications.

Patrick Carpenter seconded and the motion passed.

Patrick Carpenter asked about applications from his municipality that he did not see on the new applicant spreadsheet. Candy Diez looked up the application and said they are being processed.

NEW ACT 110 MONEY APPROVAL: Current \$9,533 YTD \$131,533

Charles Williams made a motion to approve.

Patrick Carpenter seconded and the motion passed.

SET DATE AND TIME OF 2025 BOARD MEETING DATES:

July 30, 2025 @ 12:00 Noon

Louisiana State Firemen’s Association Conference

Two Poydras St, New Orleans, LA 70130

ADJOURN

Charles Williams made a motion to adjourn.

Earl Borden seconded and the motion passed.

X

Brien Ruiz, Board Chairman

X

Candy Diez, Adm. Program Manager