

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
MADISON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR SESSION**

**01-19-2022**

**CALL TO ORDER @ 7:15 pm**

**ROLL CALL:**

x Mr. Adams	-- Mr. Gaunter	x Chief Baker
x Mr. Anderson	x Mr. Lee	x Joanne Clapp
x Mr. Donaldson	x Mr. Wayman	x Stacy Dame

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - The pledge was recited by all before the 2022 Reorganization meeting which was held immediately prior to this meeting.

**REGULAR SESSION**

**DISTRICT VFIS ACCIDENT & SICKNESS INSURANCE:**

Mike Gehring with Benedict Insurance presented the 2022 VFIS Accident & Sickness renewal policy for Full Time, Part Time and Board Member Life and Disability coverage while on duty. This policy includes a rider for Part Time employees who work greater than 27 hours per week which expands their coverage to Full Time status. Per Mr. Gehring, the 2022 full time premium has increased \$716 (directly related to # of employees) while the part time premium has decreased \$454 (directly related to the # of employees) resulting in an overall increase of \$262 over 2021. The annual renewal premium, due on February 1, 2022 is \$5,012 (Full Time \$2,689 and Part Time \$2,323).

Mr. Gehring asked if the water line incident at Station #2 the prior week was going to require a claim to be filed; Chief Baker reported no claim is necessary. Mr. Gehring also asked that he be kept apprised of the anticipated completion date so that he can determine if any change is needed to the existing property coverage.

Mr. Gehring also announced his retirement later in 2022. His replacement will be another agent within their office (not yet selected).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The December 15, 2021 Regular Session minutes were presented.

Motion to approve Regular Session minutes as presented: Mr. Adams

Seconded by: Mr. Wayman

ROLL CALL: Four Ayes (Mr. Donaldson, Abstain)

**BILLS & PAYROLL - December 2021**

Bills (\$45,871.10) and Payroll (\$272,767.28) for a total of \$318,638.38 are motioned for acceptance and payment.

Motion to approve bills and payroll as presented by: Mr. Adams

Seconded by: Mr. Wayman

ROLL CALL: All ayes

**FINANCIAL REPORT - December 2021**

Joanne Clapp, Fiscal Officer, summarized the December 2021 Revenue and Expenditures (Fund Summary Report).

**OPENING PUBLIC PORTION** - None to report.

**LEGAL COUNSEL**

Ms. Dame thanked the Board for the re-appointment for 2022. She also provided the following update on the case before the Board of Building Appeals regarding Cask 307: the 60 day hearing is scheduled for January 31, 2022 at 2:00 pm. The appellant asked for a continuance to March however we opposed the request. No variance has been filed with the State Fire Marshal's Office. Ms. Dame will keep Board members informed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** - None to report.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Station #2 Renovation and Addition Project - Update**

Chief Baker reported that excavation has begun and there were some abandoned leach lines discovered. The sewer line for the bathrooms was struck but has been repaired. Block work was started but is now stalled due to weather.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 22-01 District VFIS Accident & Sickness Insurance**

A resolution approving renewal of the district insurance policies and authorizing premium payment.

Motion to accept Resolution 22-01 made by: Mr. Anderson

Seconded by: Mr. Wayman

ROLL CALL: All eyes

**CHIEF'S REPORT - December, 2021 - Chief Tod Baker**

Chief Baker thanked the Board for continuing his contract as Fire Chief.

There are no staff anniversaries so Chief Baker recognized the entire staff for their continued dedication to the District as they ran a record number of calls and worked with significant overtime hours.

Tax revenue year to date is 8.6% over budget while salaries remain about 14% under budget even with all the overtime hours paid. EMS revenue is at 13% above budget and MFD remains a top collector in the county.

The call volume for 2021 was 3,558; 12% above 2020 and 330 higher than the previous run record.

Chief Baker thanked Ms. Dame & Chief Sopko for their continued efforts in working with Cask 307 in an effort to come to a resolution.

Fire inspections continue and outstanding inspection collections continue to improve. Inspections are temporarily delayed due to J. Solymosi being on medical leave. Captain Sopko will cover any urgently needed inspections/issues.

Testing for the open full time positions will be held on January 24, 2022 at 6:00 pm here at Station #3. Chief Baker would like to swear in the new members at the next meeting and have a start date of March 6, 2022. The plan is to re-visit part-time status with all candidates not selected.

He reported that he, Mr. Gauntner & Mr. Lee met with representatives from the part-time unions today to discuss collective bargaining; will discuss further in executive session.

Chief Baker reported that the Madison Emergency Department is now closed indefinitely; UH/Lake to re-evaluate again in mid-February. Diagnostics is slated to return to the site. The letter from the Board was sent to UH/Lake Health and he has been in contact with the commissioners. He's tentatively having a meeting with Dan Ellenberger (UH) next Friday - the Board members and commissioners will be invited to attend if available. He expressed concern if the facility is turned into an Urgent Care it will only add to the ever-increasing call volume which is also strained with approximately 1/3 of current calls being over-lapping.

Mr. Adams stated he is very impressed with the number of applications/internal interest received. He asked if there is any one specific aspect that creates a draw to the District; Chief Baker responded that it is the first time the fire district has opened the hiring process up to outside of the part time roster. Chief Baker stated that 18 of the 20+ applicants are from east of Madison.

**CLOSING PUBLIC PORTION** - None to report.

**CLOSING BOARD COMMENTS**

Mr. Lee requested that the Board approve Ms. Dame drafting a resolution for Mr. Vest commending his service to the Fire Board and the Madison community.

Motion made to approve the resolution by: Mr. Adams

Seconded by: Mr. Wayman

ROLL CALL: All ayes

Motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss collective bargaining, personnel & employment @ 7:45 pm by: Mr. Anderson

Seconded by: Mr. Wayman

ROLL CALL: All ayes

Regular Session reconvened at 8:08 pm.

Motion was made for Ms. Dame to compose a collective bargaining agreement for the Part-Time Union outlining new pay rates of \$18.00, \$20.00 & \$22.50 and authorizing Board Chair to sign by: Mr. Anderson

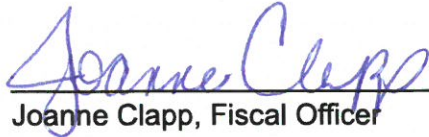
Seconded by: Mr. Wayman


ROLL CALL: All ayes

FF J. Sopko represented the part-time firefighters in thanking the Board for their time and continued support. The members are thankful for all that the Board has done to keep the department running.

Motion to adjourn Regular Session @ 8:10 pm by: Mr. Wayman  
Seconded by: Mr. Adams

ROLL CALL: All ayes

  
Joanne Clapp, Fiscal Officer

  
Robert Lee, Chairman