

**BUECHEL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
TRUSTEES BOARD MEETING
OFFICIAL MINUTES
JULY 1, 2008**

Chairman Jack Clark called the July 1, 2008, meeting to order at 5:03 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Chairman Jack Clark
Jerry Strange
Kenneth Hill
Henry Ott
Paul Sinclair
Steve Wolfe

Chief Jonathon Yuodis
Assistant Chief Rick Harrison
Assistant Treasurer Johanna Gabhart
Recording Secretary Myra Curry

Also In attendance to the meeting were: Sgt. Steve Hardesty, Firefighter James Riggs, Explorer's Joey Medcraft and Jordan Duncan. Chairman Clark welcomed them to the meeting.

The minutes of the June 3, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Jerry Strange made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Kenny Hill. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Henry Ott made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as submitted, seconded by Paul Sinclair. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Yuodis reported the district collected \$43, 352.00 for the Crusade for Children which was down about 2% from last year.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds Committee/Major Equipment Committee

Paul Sinclair reported the fence is deteriorating and he is in the process of getting estimates to have it repaired.

Budget Committee

Jerry Strange reported the Chief is in the process of completing the necessary documents for a line of credit with the Kentucky Association of Counties (KACO). Discussion followed. Henry Ott made a motion to adopt the resolution relative to establishing a line of credit with KACO, seconded by Kenny Hill. Motion carried.

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Personnel Committee

Henry Ott stated the Personnel Committee met on June 3 and reviewed the testing process for the firefighter candidates. On another matter, Paul Sloan has resigned from the District. Chairman Clark accepted the minutes from the Personnel Committee meeting.

Henry Ott requested that any Board members who have not reviewed the alcohol and drug testing program to please do so as it will be voted on at the next meeting.

Henry Ott stated we need to adopt a 1 year probationary period for the new hires. Henry Ott made a motion that the Buechel Fire Protection District institute a standard one-year probationary period for all newly hired employees in order to evaluate them based on merit and fitness, seconded by Paul Sinclair. Discussion followed. Paul Sinclair asked who would do the evaluation. Henry Ott stated the Shift Captain, Chief and Assistant Chief. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on how to handle promotions from one rank to another. Henry Ott made a motion that the Buechel Fire Protection District institute a six-month promotion evaluation period (PEP) for any member promoted to a greater rank, understanding that should the member fail to meet the merit and fitness standards of the newly promoted position, he or she shall be returned to his former rank, seconded by Paul Sinclair. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

Henry Ott reported that the Board will be asked to adopt a resolution at the next Board meeting concerning the sick leave pension program. Discussion followed.

Following today's Board meeting, Henry Ott has agreed to meet with all the paid staff to discuss issues they have raised.

Steering Committee

No report.

LOSAP

Kenny Hill reported the life insurance invoice has been paid.

Nominating Committee

Paul Sinclair stated the firefighter election was held on Saturday, June 28 and Steve Wolfe was elected. Steve Wolfe was sworn in.

Kenny Hill reported that he has received resumes to fill the term of Bob Johnson from Marty Fautz, Charlie Buckley and Lori Riordan. We still have 30 days left in the process.

Training Academy

No report

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Metro Safe and CAD System

Chief Yuodis has conducted a survey of EMS runs in which the department has responded to during the last six months and determined that we were dispatched to 283 runs at a cost of \$677.00 in diesel fuel, the usage of employee's time and energy, and wear and tear on the vehicles. Because of this cost, Chief Yuodis has sent a letter to Metro Safe directing them to reduce our med run responses from Delta, which is dual response, to Echo, which is only for life threatening responses. This will reduce our responses to medical incidents to about 120 runs a year. There is an over ride in CAD if an ambulance is coming from a long distance they can still dispatch us, this should start in about two weeks. Discussion followed.

Henry Ott made a motion we return to Delta, dual response, seconded by Paul Sinclair. Discussion followed. Henry Ott argued that the District should support the EMS system in that we are a public service agency that the budget consequences are very minor and that net effect is approximately 1.5 runs a day for the paid staff. Paul Sinclair argued that we have responded to minor runs between midnight and 0800 hours and that an accident could occur which could injure or kill responding firefighters leaving their families to cope with the tragedy. Jerry Strange asked if for any reason could we go back to delta response at any time, and suggested we study this issue and if it does not work we will go back to dual response. Discussion followed. A roll call vote was taken: Strange – no; Hill – no; Ott – yes; Sinclair – no, Wolfe – no. There being 4 no and 1 yes, motion does not carry.

Paul Sinclair asked when they were going to get Juniper up and running. Assistant Chief Harrison stated the registration and username request have been submitted for the Shift Captains and Sergeants, so we can get our times, they will not be sending faxes at some point in the near future.

Ordinances

No report

Explorer Post

Assistant Chief Harrison turned this over to Paul Sinclair. Paul stated he has a proposal to allow the explorers to ride along with career and volunteer crews on fire runs if they are at least 16 years old. According to the rules from Mark Wilson, the Explorer Learning for Life guidelines, they would be limited or excluded from any dangerous situations. Discussion followed.

Steve Wolfe stated this is the first year no one is on academic probation in the program.

Jordan Duncan, President of the Explorer Post, explained about the explorer's 2nd annual weekend training that is sponsored by the Jefferson County Firefighters Association.

Grants

Assistant Chief Harrison stated the FEMA Fire Grant is still in the process.

Chairman Clark read a letter of resignation from Bob Johnson and it will become a part of the minutes.

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NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Clark asked Assistant Treasurer Jo Gabhart about the audit. She explained the books will be turned over to the auditors after tonight's meeting and wanted to know if anyone had any particular concern they want to bring to the attention of the auditor.

Chairman Clark stated the annual publication in the Courier Journal is due and the information needs to be forwarded to Bob Benson so it can be published in the paper.

Chairman Clark stated we will have our House Bill 44 Hearing on Tuesday, August 5, 2008 from 4:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Chairman Clark stated we need to set the tax rate on real and personal property tax for 2008. Currently the rate is 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. Kenny Hill made a motion to keep the tax rate at 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation as allowed by KRS, seconded by Jerry Strange. Henry Ott spoke against the motion, stating that the District has adopted policies this evening which reduce the services to the community and as a result, the tax rate should be reduced. Chairman Clark reminded the board that our tax income is for fire protection service and we are not funded to provide EMS service. Mr. Strange spoke against the motion in that our budget is tight, and the funding is needed. Discussion followed. A voice vote was taken on the motion: Strange – yes; Hill – yes; Ott – no; Sinclair – yes; Wolfe – yes. There being 4 yes and 1 no. Motion carried.

Chairman Clark reported at the September 2008 meeting we will be voting on the tax rate on automobiles, air planes, RV's, boats, and motorcycles.

Kenny Hill made a motion that \$8000.00 set aside for repairs to the fence be moved to offset fuel cost. The motion died for the lack of a second.

Paul Sinclair, on behalf of Sgt. Hardesty, brought forward the Districts response to an open records request Hardesty made. Henry Ott reported that he had reviewed the request prior to tonight's meeting, which resulted in the meeting to being scheduled following the board meeting. Based on his experience, it is important for someone from the district to respond within the appropriate time frame, and that most of the information he requested does not exist. Discussion followed. Chairman Clark asked Recording Secretary Myra Curry to give Sgt. Hardesty the salary recommendation from the budget for 2000-2001 budget to the current year 2008-2009 and Mr. Ott agreed to discuss how salaries are figured.

Jerry Strange made a motion to adjourn at 6:40 P.M., seconded by Kenny Hill. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

G. Henry Ott, Secretary
Buechel Fire Protection District

HOUSE BILL 44 HEARING AUGUST 5, 2008 AT 4:00 P.M.

NEXT MEETING AUGUST 5, 2008 AT 5:00 P.M.