

SOUTH OLDHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.  
MINUTES JANUARY 22, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Board was held on Monday, January 22, 2024 at the Firehouse.

The meeting was called to order by Board President, David Thompson, at 7:30 p.m. with the following Board Members present: Patrick Stoess, Tim Deibel, Rawert, Hoskins, Jones, Gardner, Beard, Wakefield, Davis, Thompson, Nelson, Johnson, Holder, Robert Deibel, Marshall, Espisito, Miller, and Turner. Also present were Chief Blakely and Laura Stoess.

OFFICER REPORTS:

SECRETARY: The Minutes of the November meeting were read and approved.

TREASURER: The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer, Matt Nelson. Major Nelson reported the following bank balances for December:

Capital Improvement account	\$ 1,095,446.97
Checking account	\$ 17,539.51
Money Market account	\$ 2,106,705.75
Auxiliary account	\$ 5,303.02
Chief's account	\$ 1,662.71
Total cash on hand	\$3,226,657.96

Major Nelson reported that the interest earned year-to-date on the capital improvements account is \$32,697.96. The interest earned year-to-date on the Money Market account is \$42,168.19. Major Nelson reminded Members that money is kept in the Money Market account as long as possible in order to earn interest before funds are transferred over to other accounts. In addition, we are now saving \$5,000 per quarter on insurance.

Motion to accept the December Treasurer's report was made by William Marshall. Norb Rawert seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Major Nelson reported the following bank balances for January:

Capital Improvement account	\$ 1,099,285.24
Checking account	\$ 26,906.36

Money Market account	\$ 1,953,736.12
Auxiliary account	\$ 3,953.02
Chief's account	\$ 830.71
Total cash on hand	\$3,084,711.45

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Eddie Turner. Richard Beard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Blakely reported 81 responses for December and 1123 responses for 2023. He reported 55 responses to date for January. Training for the month consisted of drivers training, firefighter review, ice rescue, hazardous materials, search and rescue, and CPR recertifications. Shift training consisted of extrication, vehicle stabilization, and air bag systems.

Fire Schools and Training for January include County Fire Tactics Officer Development Program January 15-19, 2024 and Georgetown Fire Symposium January 20-21, 2024. Upcoming Fire Schools and Training will be an NFA PICO class February 3-4, 2024 and an NFA DMICO class February 24-25.

Staff certifications include NIMS 300/400 for Sgt. Norris and Firefighter Brown.

School fire drills were performed at Kenwood Station and Camden Station Elementary Schools.

Unit 5401 needs repair work for the replacement of oil sensor and ball joints. Two estimates were obtained, but the earliest the work can be done is January 31, 2024. Work was done on Unit 5438 to repair the head gasket. Annual SCBA testing was completed.

Kentucky Artisan Distillery has advised that they have contracted with Easy Pro to handle the pressure washing. This will be scheduled as the weather allows.

In December, the Department conducted a Toy Drive in connection with the Barry Stoess Christmas Food Baskets program to provide toys for local children.

The Lucas Device has been ordered. Delivery is expected in twelve (12) weeks. South Oldham Fire Department will offer the Emergency Medical Technicians Course in 2024.

Recent incidents include a lengthy extrication on Hwy. 329, a structure fire at 5418 Smith Haven Lane in LaGrange, a structure fire at 116 Duncan Avenue in LaGrange, and a structure fire at 419 Hoffman Lane.

There will be an awards banquet on Saturday, January 27, 2024 from 6- 10 pm at Soiree in Crestwood Station. All are invited to attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Update on potential merger with Pewee Valley. Patrick Stoess reported that he, David Thompson, and Chief Blakely had a meeting with Todd Jones, Matt York, and Adam Hack from Pewee Valley. The discussion was good and the parties agreed on what additional information was needed from both sides. The parties are in the process of gathering and exchanging that information. Thereafter, Pewee Valley will have to decide if they would like to request a merger with South Oldham.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Major Nelson reported that we are updating the signors on our bank accounts at PNC Bank. Those accounts require two signatures. Major Nelson and Dennis Deibel are the approved signers on the primary bank account. Major Nelson and Chief Blakely are the approved signers on the Chief's account. Major Nelson and Dennis Deibel are the approved signers on the Money Market account. Major Nelson, Dennis Deibel, and David Thompson are the approved signers on the capital improvements account. Heather Blakely and TERESA Cheatham are the approved signers on the auxiliary account.
2. Major Nelson reported that it was becoming more difficult for our Members to find E.M. T. courses that are affordable and close in proximity. The Department would like to offer the Emergency Medical Technician's Course at our facility beginning in 2024. To do this, we need to utilize the services of a Medical Director. The Department has identified Dr. Thomas Pope as the person with the expertise necessary to fill this position. Dr. Pope will not be an employee of the Department, but will serve as an independent contractor. He will be paid \$500 for each E.M.T. course offered here and we expect to offer two (2) courses per year. Richard Beard made a motion to allow Chief Blakely to present Dr. Pope with a proposed agreement (approved by counsel) as an independent contractor to serve as the Medical Director for the Department under these terms. Tim Deibel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no other business to come before the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on February 26, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

  
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ROBERT DEIBEL III, SECRETARY

SOUTH OLDHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.  
MINUTES FEBRUARY 26, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Board was held on February 26, 2024 at the Firehouse.

The meeting was called to order by Board President, David Thompson, at 7:30 p.m. with the following Board members present: Robert Deibel, Patrick Stoess, Wakefield, Johnson, Nelson, Holder, Esposito, German, Rawert, Thompson, Davis, Marvin Stoess, and Marshall. Also present were Kelly King and Chief Blakely.

OFFICER REPORTS:

SECRETARY: The Minutes of the January meeting were read and approved.

TREASURER: The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer, Matt Nelson. Major Nelson reported the following bank balances for January:

Capital Improvement account	\$ 1,103,656.98
Checking account	\$ 23,466.23
Money Market account	\$ 1,911,612.00
Auxiliary account	\$ 3,915.96
Chief's account	\$ 1,227.94
Cash on hand	\$ 3,043,879.11

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Eddie Turner. David Holder seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Blakely reported 73 responses for February and 149 responses for 2024. Training for the month of February consisted of drivers training, task force-SAR training/confined space, search and rescue practical evolutions training, and RTF evolutions training with police/EMS/county fire. Shift training consisted of large area search, art of reading smoke, vehicle stabilization, air bag systems, RTF evolutions with police/county fire, personal protective equipment/SCBA, and building construction/fire behavior.

Fire schools and training for February include NFA PICO class Feb. 3-4, 2024; NFA STICO class Feb. 10-11, 2024; NFA DMICO Brant Stiles Officers School Feb. 23-25, 2024; and EMRTC homemade explosives: recognition, response, awareness. Upcoming training includes flashover skills on March 9, 2024; responses to lithium battery fires on March 6, 2024; extrication enhancement class from March 8-10, 2024; and NFA operations in small departments.

School fire drills were performed at Camden Station Elementary.

Unit 5401 needs repair work for the replacement of oil sensor and ball joints. Unit 5438 needs repair work to the head gasket. Annual SCBA testing has been completed.

Kentucky Artisan Distillery has scheduled the roof cleaning for February 29, 2024, weather permitting.

Shift crews have been working with Scout Troops with presentations on fire safety/first aid for their Scout badges.

Chief Blakely attended three (3) meetings in Owensboro for the KFA/Fire Commission for Kentucky Fire Chiefs. Some of the equipment has arrived for the Lucas Device and it will take 2-3 weeks to complete. We received our TEI from KBEMS to begin the SOFD EMT courses. Firefighter Foust will oversee the Oldham County Recruit class beginning February 29, 2024. The Junior Firefighter Program has seven (7) Junior Members with two (2) additional members preparing to start the program.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Awards Dinner: Chief Blakely reported that there was a great turn-out for the awards dinner. The following awards were handed out:

- a. Recruit Firefighter of the Year—Annabeth White
- b. Volunteer Firefighter of the Year—Lillian Davis
- c. Career Firefighter of the Year—Mike Miller
- d. Chief Milton Stoess Award—Lillian Davis
- e. Length of Service Awards for 5, 10, 15, and 20 years—see attached

2. Potential merger with Pewee Valley: Patrick Stoess advised the Board that the merger committee had another meeting with Pewee Valley. The main topic of conversation was the structure of the South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Board and how it related to the South Oldham Fire Protection District. South Oldham does not want to change the governing process of the Department and Pewee Valley does not want to conform to that process. The parties left the meeting with the possibility of having additional conversations; however, at this time, the discussions are suspended indefinitely.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Kelly King, CPA has proposed to take over all accounting and bookkeeping, including payroll for the Department. The new monthly charge for these services will be \$2,250 per month. Kelly King has not requested an increase for the cost of his services in many years. Richard Beard made a motion to allow Kelly King to continue to provide accounting services to the Department and to accept the new charge for these services. David Thompson is authorized to sign a new contract with Kelly King's office pending approval by counsel. The motion was seconded by David Holder. The motion carried.

There was no other business to come before the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on March 25, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

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ROBERT DEIBEL III, SECRETARY

SOUTH OLDHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.  
MINUTES MARCH 25, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Board was held on March 25, 2024 at the Firehouse.

The meeting was called to order by Board President, David Thompson, at 7:30 p.m. with the following Board members present: Patrick Stoess, Dennis Deibel, Rawert, Hoskins, Gardner, Wakefield, Davis, Johnson, Nelson, Holder, Marvin Stoess, Marshall, Esposito, and Jones. Also present were Laura Stoess (counsel) and Chief Blakely.

OFFICER REPORTS:

SECRETARY: The Minutes of the January meeting were read and approved.

TREASURER: The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer, Matt Nelson. Major Nelson reported the following bank balances for February:

Capital Improvement account	\$ 1,090,059.69
Checking account	\$ 86,268.94
Money Market account	\$ 1,705,422.48
Auxiliary account	\$ 4,765.96
Chief's account	\$ 561.17
Cash on hand	\$ 2,887,078.24

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Mark Hoskins. Marvin Stoess seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Blakely reported 76 responses for March and 232 responses to date for 2024. Training for the month of March consisted of drivers training, rope rescue, personal protective equipment, company operations, and emergency and disaster planning for Oldham County threats and targets. Shift training consisted of hose, nozzles, and appliances; CPR; fire behavior; rope rescue; and search and rescue with recruits.

Fire schools and conferences for March include NFA operations in small departments, extrication enhancements class March 9-10, and responses to lithium battery fires on March 6, 2024.

The station roof, gutters, and down spouts have been cleaned and pressure washed.

Shift crews have been working with Scout Troops with presentations on fire safety/first aid for their Scout badges.

Chief Blakely reported that we had a firefighter resign to accept a position with Okolona Fire. The position has been posted. The Safer Grant for staffing has been completed and submitted. The Lucas Device has been delivered and training is scheduled for April. Major Nelson demonstrated how the device works. The South Oldham EMT course began on March 4, 2024. The Oldham County Recruit class began February 29, 2024. There will be a public hearing on the Old LaGrange Road sewer expansion on March 28, 2024 at Maples Park.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. President Thompson announced that Dale McMakin has resigned from the Board. We will search for his replacement and plan to nominate at the July annual meeting.
2. Unit 5478 is in need of new tires. The current tires are ten (10) years old. The vehicle has been stuck three (3) times since Chief Blakely has been here. Larger tires are necessary so that the truck will not be buried. Chief is getting quotes. This expense was not planned in the budget, but it will be necessary.
3. Our May meeting is scheduled for Memorial Day, so we will not meet. President Thompson requested that Chief Blakely have a preliminary draft of the budget ready by the April meeting, if possible.

There was no other business to come before the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on April 22, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

  
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ROBERT DEIBEL III, SECRETARY