

**CENTRAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #4  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

October 20, 2020

Minutes

**I A Public Hearing will be held as follows:**

**Date: October 20,2020**

**Time: 6:00PM start**

**Location: Central Fire Protection District No. 4  
11646 Sullivan Road, BR. LA 70818**

**Item #1      Open Public Hearing**  
Chairman Abadie announced Opening of Public Hearing

**Item #2      Roll Call Taken**

Members Present:

Donnie Abadie, Jr., Chairman

Chuck Langlois, Secretary

Ken Montgomery

Kevin Rogers O.D.

Scott Browning, DDS

Guests Present:

Stephen Branscum, Fire Chief

Emily Clark

Derek Glover, Assistant Chief

Corey Martin, Captain

Britt Hines

Mark Corrick 15340 Pinewood Drive

Wayne Messina 7256 Woodland Drive

**Item #3      READING ALOUD OF HEARING AGENDA ITEMS**  
Chairman Abadie read aloud the agenda items

**Item #4      MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PUBLIC WILL BE HEARD ON THE  
BOARD'S LEVYING ADDITIONAL OR INCREASED MILLAGE RATE  
WITHOUT FURTHER VOTER APPROVAL AND/OR ADOPTING THE  
ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATES AFTER REASSESSMENT AND  
ROLLING FORWARD TO RATES NOT TO EXCEED THE PRIOR  
YEAR'S MAXIMUM. THE INFORMATION RELATING TO THE  
MILLAGE RATES AND HEARING IS AS FOLLOWS:**

Millage	Next Tax Year Revenues From Increased Millage	Tax Revenues for Current Year	Amount of Increase in Taxes Attributable to Millage Increase
10.00 mills	\$1,986,896	\$1,771,611	\$215,285
5.00 mills	\$993,448	\$885,805	\$107,643
4.25 mills	\$844,430	\$752,934	\$91,496

- Chief Branscum asked to speak to all present regarding the need to roll forward in regards to revenue and the 2016 CDL ( Community Disaster Loan) that was taken out for the Department after 2016's flood. Payments are now due. Chief Branscum informed everyone that notice was given to Department that the CDL will not be forgiven (as the prior administration hoped) and payment will start for the full amount.
- Mr. Corrick asked to speak. He asked about the process of property values being assessed and the difference between property values.
- Mr. Messina asked to speak. He asked if the fire Department was sound enough at the moment to not increase the millage.
- Chief Branscum and Chairman Abadie explained that the millage rate was not being increased. The Fire Department wants to roll the rates forward as voted upon. The amount of the increase is calculated from the Tax Assessor's Office considering the homeowner's assessed property value. Chief Branscum gave the difference between rolling forward vs. using the adjusted millage rates.
- Mr. Messina asked when the millage rates were originally voted for. Chief Branscum could not recall the exact year for each but explained that it may have been 9 years ago. The 5 mill tax and service fee are coming up to voters in the spring of 2021.
- Mr. Messina said his property value went up 35K and asked what the dollar amount increase would be on his property. Chief Branscum explained that the amount is \$20.80 per every 100 K for assessed values.
- Dr. Rogers mentioned to Mr. Messina about locking in assessed value at a certain age.
- Mr. Messina brought up that because of his income he is not allowed him to be locked in at that age.
- Mr. Messina brought up his widow older sister living off of a social security check, she has no more income, but the cost of living continues going up. He is worried about the cost of living increasing and the public on fixed incomes, which are not increasing. He voiced that even the small amounts of increases can affect citizens.
- Chief Glover addressed Mr. Messina regarding that the fire service is the only place that homeowners see a benefit from the taxes. The Departments ISO Class Rating affects the homeowners insurance amounts.

- Chief Branscum addressed everyone regarding the Central Fire Department rating that just finished. He explained that we do not have the results yet. He gave the details that rating looks into everything the Department does excluding financials. Many aspects of the rating have improved but we still do not have the results.
- Dr. Browning spoke up about clarifying the board is not raising the millage, the board is just continuing with what was voted on in previous elections.
- Chief Branscum spoke about medical certifications. 100% of employees are EMT and we have some going for AEMT. This is being done in response to a shortage of ambulances and long wait times.

**Item #5 CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING**

Chairman Abadie asked if there was anything further from the public. No one present had anything further to add.

**Item #6 ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING**

Chairman Abadie asked to adjourn the Public Hearing.

Dr. Browning made the motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. Chuck Langlois Seconded. All members present approved the motion.

**II A public meeting will be held as follows:**

**Date: October 20, 2020**

**Time 6:30 p.m.**

**Location: 11646 Sullivan Rd.,  
Baton Rouge, LA 70818**

**AGENDA:**

**Roll Call**

Same as public hearing.

**Opening Prayer**

Chairman Abadie opened with a word of prayer.

**Reading aloud of Agenda Items**

**Review and acceptance of minutes from September 15, 2020 regular meeting.**

Kevin Rogers made a motion to accept minutes from the September 15, 2020 regular meeting. Chuck Langlois seconded. All members present approved the motion.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1) None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Adoption/Setting 2020 Millage Rates**

Maximum Authorized Millage Rates	2020 Adjusted Millage Rate After Reappraisal/ Reassessment	Proposed Increased Millage Rate to Be Adopted/Levied	Next Tax Year Revenues From Increased Millage	Tax Revenues for Current Year	Amount of Increase in Taxes Attributable to Millage Increase
10.00 mills	8.920 mills	10.00 Mills	\$1,986,896	\$1,771,611	\$215,258
5.00 mills	4.460 mills	5.00 Mills	\$993,448	\$885,805	\$107,643
4.25 mills	3.790 mills	4.25 Mills	\$844,430	\$752,934	\$91,496

- A. Adoption of a resolution adopting and levying the 2020 adjusted millage rate(s) after reappraisal/ reassessment, which rates are set forth above.  
Chuck Langlois made a motion to adopt resolution 102020-001 as rates set. Kevin Rogers seconded. All members present approved the motion.
- B. Adoption of a resolution rolling forward/increasing 2020 adjusted millage rates to higher rates not to exceed the maximum millage rates authorized by voters as set forth above and levying such increased millage rates.

Ken Montgomery made a motion to adopt resolution 102020-002. Scott Browning seconded. All members present approved the motion.

**2. Adoption of a Resolution setting Service Charge rates for 2020**

Chief Branscum addressed the Board regarding on the \$32.00 service charge rate. Anticipated revenue around 398K, just a slight increase. Scott Browning made a motion to adopt Resolution 102020-003. Ken Montgomery seconded. All members present approved the motion.

**3. Adoption of resolution calling for an election April 24, 2021, for purpose of renewing the service charge and the 5.0 mill property tax.**

Chief Branscum addressed the Board regarding the renewal of the service charge and 5.0 mill tax up for renewal. Anticipated revue 1.4 million for this 10 year renewal this is about 40 % of the budget. This tax covers Capital outlay and Salaries. The service charge is \$32.00 per structure not door.

Member of public asked about increasing this amount, Chief Branscum explained he has not done the numbers for exact amount but concerned about bringing it back to the voters for change will not be beneficial.

Kevin Rogers made a motion to adopt Resolution 102020-004. Chuck Langlois seconded. All members present approved the motion.

**4. Review financials for the month of September.**

Kevin Rogers made a motion to accept financial reports for the month of September. Scott Browning seconded. All members present approved the motion.

**5. Setting of insurance rates for the 2021 policy period.**

The Humana rates have a decrease in premium amounts for 2021. Scott Browning made a motion to set 2021 insurance rates for the department at the prior year's 65/35 % split. Chuck Langlois seconded. All members present approved the motion.

**6. Approval of credit card changes.**

Chuck Langlois made a motion to approve removing Assistant Chief Eller from the credit card account and at the same time adding Assistant Chief D. Glover. Kevin Rogers seconded. All members present approved the motion.

**7. Update on Hurricane Delta response and approval of overtime costs.**

Chief Branscum notified the board on the emergency calls ran by the department during Hurricane Delta. He gave them the estimated overtime costs for this disaster event.

Kevin Rogers made a motion to approve all overtime cost associated with Hurricane Delta. Scott Browning seconded. All members present approved the motion.

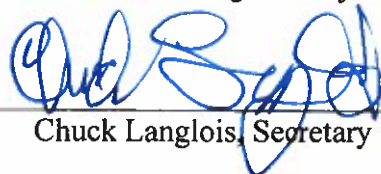
**8. Administrative matters.**

Personnel updates  
Moss Bluff update  
AFG update

**9. Adjournment**

**Motion to Adjourn**

There being no further business presented before this board Chuck Langlois made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ken Montgomery seconded the motion. All members present approved the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

  
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Chuck Langlois, Secretary