



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS  
PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES  
SUPPLEMENTAL Pay

***FIREMEN'S SUPPLEMENTAL PAY  
BOARD OF REVIEW***

***Meeting Minutes***

May 16, 2019

**Call to Order**

Mr. Ruiz called to order the regular meeting of the Fire Supplemental Pay at 10:00 AM on May 16, 2019 at the Financial Services Conference Room.

**Roll Call**

Introductions were made. The following persons were present: Brien Ruiz, Ronnie Schillace, Frank Cusimano, Richard Parker, Dwayne Thevis, Paul Schexnayder, Rachel Lenox, Candace Oby, Mark Campbell, Connor Junkin, Charles Hudson, Terence Morris, Ryan Bergeron, Dave Tibbetts, Stephen Schmidt, and Beckie Haydel.

**Review & Approve Minutes**

Mr. Cusimano makes a motion to accept the minutes for March 14, 2019, seconded by Mr. Parker. Motion Passed.

**Old Business**

**NEW ORLEANS** – Discussion continued on the eligibility of Jude Galliano for Supplemental Pay. Mr. Galliano has provided the Board with a signed and notarized copy of his application. The issue with the application for Mr. Galliano has been the refusal of Chief McConnell to sign the application. Discussion by the Board and Legal determined that the Mayor's signature on the application would be acceptable as a person with authority. Mr. Cusimano made a motion to approve the eligibility of Supplemental Pay for Mr. Galliano. Motion was seconded by Mr. Schillace. Motion passed. Twenty Five hours are owed and payable once Mr. Galliano provides the complete application packet.

**KENNER** – Terence Morris, Charles Hudson and Ryan Bergeron were in attendance at the request of the Board. Mr. Morris and Mr. Hudson were asked to provide more information on their position and assigned duties. Mr. Morris and Mr. Hudson were sworn in by Mr. Schexnayder. Mr. Morris testified that he was retired from NOFD after 31 years of service and has now joined Kenner FD as Fire Chief. Mr. Cusimano

motioned to approve Mr. Morris for Supplemental Pay. Motion was seconded by Mr. Schillace. Motion passed. Mr. Charles Hudson testified that he previously worked with JPDFD. Mr. Hudson left that Department and is currently serving as Chief of Administration for Kenner FD. Board determined that Mr. Hudson's job duties, as well as his prior service qualifies him for Supplemental Pay. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Schillace and seconded by Mr. Parker. Motion passed.

**Jefferson Parish Fire / East Bank Consolidated** – In attendance were Dave Tibbets (Chief), Steven Schmitt (Deputy Chief) and Beckie Hearn (Secretary). All three were sworn in by Mr. Schexnayder. Mr. Schmitt's application was deferred in the March Board meeting and the board asked Mr. Schmitt to attend the May meeting to discuss his job description. Mr. Schmitt told the Board that he previously held a position with NOFD and received Supplemental Pay. Mr. Schmitt testified that his new position as Deputy Chief included budget and finance work as well as field work in the event of emergency situations such as large scale fires, floods, hurricanes, etc. Chief Tibbett testified that Mr. Schmitt has in fact answered those types of calls. Mr. Cusimano made a motion to accept the application of Mr. Schmitt, Mr. Parker seconded. Motion passed.

Beckie Haydel's app. was denied in the March Board meeting due to her job title of secretary being ineligible. Mrs. Haydel appealed the decision and was put on the agenda for the May meeting. Mrs. Haydel and Chief Tibbets swore that Mrs. Haydel completed Fire Fighter I training, has bunker gear and is available for catastrophic events such as large scale fires, floods, hurricanes, etc. Chief Tibbett testified that Mrs. Haydel has participated in such events. Mr. Cusimano motioned to accept the application of Mrs. Haydel. Mr. Parker seconded. Motion passed. Mrs. Haydel became eligible for supplemental pay as of November, 28, 2018.

## **New Business**

**Orleans Parish Communication District / OPCD** – NOFD secretary Aubrey Jarrett has asked the Board to remove the warrants of those employees of OPCD (Orleans Parish Communication District) who were transferred from NOFD into OPCD. At the time of transfer a defined amount of employees were receiving supplemental pay. Those employees, and only those employees, were grandfathered in to continue receiving supplemental pay. The Board discussed the rationale of removing the warrants from NOFD and decided that the warrants stay where they are (with NOFD). The Board concluded that OPCD is not a Fire Station and that the issue was more of a clerical issue that Chief McConnell and Mrs. Jarrett should find resolution on. In the meantime, supplemental pay for those employees of OPCD had been modified in April and removed in May. This was an error and missing supplemental will be repaid.

It should be noted that Aubrey Jarrett was made aware of the decision of the Board. On 5/30/2019 Aubrey told Mark Campbell that she had made a contact at OPCD who would

provide her with the information needed in maintaining the validity of the documents / warrants. The warrants will remain at NOFD.

**Rapides FD** – Chad Landis sent application in. He will be moving to a new department which is not civil service approved at this point. Mr. Landis has 11 years prior service in Pineville and a Fire Fighter One certificate from Ohio. The Board discussed the acceptance of the Ohio certification and concluded that they would honor the certificate as a reciprocal agreement. Mr. Cusimano made a motion to accept the application of Mr. Chad Landis, Mr. Schillace seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Schillace made a motion to amend the agenda in order to review the applications of Tommy R Spencer Jr. of Hammond and Claude Foster Jr. of Livingston Parish. Mr. Cusimano seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mr. Cusimano made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss the commonality between Jefferson Parish FD and East Bank Consolidated (EBC). Mr. Thevis seconded the motion. The motion passed. Candace Oby stated her concern that some applications say EBC but then warrant shows up under JPF. It was determined by the Board that all new warrants should be under EBC. Mr. Ruiz led discussion on what defines an employee and the responsibilities of the Chief to monitor those warrants signed by the Chief. Chief Tibbett of JPF asked for clarification of what constitutes an employee. It was discussed that an employee is one who is hired by, fired, disciplined, directed, sets hours of work etc. If employees do not meet those standards it is the responsibility of the Chief to have them removed.

### **New Applications**

Sixty One applications were presented to the board for approval. Motion made by Mr. Frank Cusimano to approve 61 applications, seconded by Mr. Thevis. Motion passed.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Schillace, seconded by Mr. Cusimano. Motion Passed.

**SET TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING: August 15, 2019**

Minutes submitted by: Mark Campbell

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Brien Ruiz, Chairman