

State of Louisiana

***FIREMENS' SUPPLEMENTAL PAY BOARD OF REVIEW
MEETING***

FEBRUARY 24, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Firemens' Supplemental Pay Board of Review

February 24, 2021

10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS AND STAFF PRESENT:

Brien Ruiz, Chairman

Dwayne Thevis

Richard Parker

Ronald Schillace

Charles Williams

Kay DeBenedetto

Candace Oby

Mark Campbell

Conner Junkin, Esq.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jerry Tarleton, Chief St. George FD

Courtney Edwards, Ville Platte FD

Chris Soileau, Chief Ville Platte FD

Gary Blocker, Chief Covington Fire Department

Ali Mutz, East Bank Consolidated

Firemens' Supplemental Pay Board of Review Meeting

February 24, 2021

ROLL CALL

MR. RUIZ:

All right. Let's -- let's have a roll call and make sure we all here.

MR. CAMPBELL:

Mr. Ruiz.

MR. RUIZ:

Here.

MR. CAMPBELL:

Mr. Schillace.

MR. SCHILLACE:

Here,

MR. CAMPBELL:

Mr. Parker.

MR. PARKER:

Here.

MR. CAMPBELL:

Mr. Thevis.

MR. THEVIS:

Here.

MR. CAMPBELL:

Mr. Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS:

1 Here.

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 All right. We have a quorum. We'll call the meeting to order.

4 **REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 10, 2020**

5 **MR. RUIZ:**

6 I reviewed the minutes when she sent them last week, and I didn't see
7 anything wrong with them. Have any of y'all reviewed them?

8 **MR. THEVIS:**

9 Yeah, I reviewed them. I didn't see anything wrong with them.

10 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

11 Yeah. This is Ronnie. After reviewing them, everything appears to be in
12 order. I'll go ahead and make a motion to accept the minutes for December the
13 10th, 2020.

14 **MR. RUIZ:**

15 I have a motion. Can I have a second?

16 **MR. THEVIS:**

17 Dwayne Thevis, second.

18 **MR. RUIZ:**

19 Ten-four. All right. All in favor, signify by saying "aye."

20 (All aye.)

21 **MR. RUIZ:**

22 The motion passed.

23 Okay. Candace, now we can bring in, I guess Mr. Alexander Gorman.

24 **MS. OBY:**

25 Actually -- go ahead, Mark.

1 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

2 No. I was going to say, I think we're going to go with St. Helena Fire
3 District No. 4.

4 **MR. RUIZ:**

5 New business first?

6 **MS. OBY:**

7 Yes.

8 **MR. RUIZ:**

9 So we need a motion to go to new business.

10 **MR. THEVIS:**

11 Dwayne Thevis. I'll make a motion to move to new business.

12 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

13 I'll second it.

14 **MR. RUIZ:**

15 All in favor, signify by saying "aye."

16 (All aye.)

17 **MR. RUIZ:**

18 All right. The motion passed.

19 **NEW BUSINESS**

20 ST. HELENA FIRE DISTRICT #4

21 Bradley Graves, Chief

22 New Town

23 **MR. RUIZ:**

24 New business.

25 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

1 Okay. Chief Bradley Graves is on.

2 **MS. OBY:**

3 Yeah. So, Mark, give a little update on what's going on with St. Helena. Is
4 -- this is -- this, apparently, is a new fire district for supplemental pay. I don't
5 know if it's a new fire district in general, but we do not currently have a warrant
6 for them or anybody receiving for them.

7 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

8 Right. We have an application for Brandon McDaniel. And, let's see,
9 Candace, was that approved in the last Board meeting?

10 **MS. OBY:**

11 So we had him on the schedule for the last Board meeting, on the list of
12 applications, but, after reviewing it, we realized that we don't have a new -- a
13 questionnaire or a warrant for this district. So they submitted a questionnaire,
14 which is attached in your packet and --

15 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

16 The ordinance.

17 **MS. OBY:**

18 And an -- yes, and an ordinance.

19 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

20 This is Ronnie. So, basically, at the last meeting, we approved the
21 firefighter, but we did not approve the fire district. So what we need to do today
22 is approve the fire district.

23 **MS. OBY:**

24 Right.

25 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

1 Okay. After reviewing it, everything appears to be in order. I'll make a
2 motion to approve St. Helena Fire District 4 as a new fire district.

3 **MR. RUIZ:**

4 Do we have a second for discussion?

5 **MR. THEVIS:**

6 Dwayne Thevis. I'll second it.

7 **MR. RUIZ:**

8 Okay. I got a question. Fire District No. 4 -- I'm trying to read this paper
9 that -- that he sent into us saying that he was hired on 6/23/14. My question is to
10 the lawyer, is this -- is this piece of paper that he sent us sufficient enough to
11 verify that this gentleman is employed?

12 **MR. PARKER:**

13 Brian, I think -- I think that's just for the fire district.

14 **MR. RUIZ:**

15 That's for the what?

16 **MR. PARKER:**

17 It's the -- that's when the fire district became incorporated.

18 **MS. OBY:**

19 Well, no. What he's saying is, the Chief Graves, which is -- we have Chief
20 Graves on -- in the meeting. He sent in a letter saying that Mr. Brandon, which
21 is -- Brandon McDaniel, which is the person they're sending the application for,
22 he was hired back in 2014, but they didn't have an actual copy of the minutes
23 where he was hired. So the Chief sent in a letter saying, you know, when he was
24 hired, and they sent in a copy of the newspaper that had the -- basically, you
25 know, the minutes where he was hired.

1 **MR. JUNKIN:**

2 So which would prove when he started?

3 **MS. OBY:**

4 Right. I think, as far as on our end, we usually accept a letter from the chief.

5 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

6 Candace, if I can weigh in here. I think, actually, what we have is probably
7 more documentation than we get with just a letter from the chief, so --

8 **MS. OBY:**

9 Yeah.

10 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

11 We do have where it was published --

12 **MR. RUIZ:**

13 Okay. I understand.

14 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

15 -- in the newspaper that those were the minutes that he was hired effective
16 6/23/14, was the exact date.

17 **MS. OBY:**

18 Right.

19 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

20 Correct, that's it.

21 **MS. OBY:**

22 He actually got his Firefighter I certificate in March of '20, so that would be
23 the reason why, you know, he never got supplemental pay before then. So our --
24 based off of our calculations and -- and the -- the application that was approved
25 at the last Board meeting was effective the date he got his Firefighter I, which

1 would have been March 14th of '20, since he already had his year of firefighter
2 experience prior to that. Of course, that includes Act 110.

3 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

4 What you sent me, what I'm looking at, he got his Firefighter I --

5 **MS. OBY:**

6 Are you looking at the right application?

7 **MR. RUIZ:**

8 Yeah, Ronnie. Because --

9 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

10 Yeah. I see. I see.

11 **MR. RUIZ:**

12 -- best I can figure it out, it's March of 2000 -- March 14th of 2020.

13 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

14 Okay. I'm sorry. I see it now. Okay. I'm sorry. Go ahead.

15 **MR. JUNKIN:**

16 March 14th or March 4th?

17 **MR. RUIZ:**

18 The 4th.

19 **MS. OBY:**

20 Four.

21 **MR. RUIZ:**

22 Yeah, because I'm looking at it right here too.

23 **MS. OBY:**

24 So he would get -- of course, Act 110 would go to the JLCB for March to
25 June of '20, and he would receive from July through actually this March when

1 we add the applications on from this meeting. We're not adding them on in
2 February because it's already the end of February. We don't have time. So
3 everyone will get paid in March who is approved at this meeting.

4 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

5 Okay. But -- but we approved them at our last meeting. All we are doing
6 today is approving the fire district that he worked there.

7 **MR. RUIZ:**

8 Can you approve somebody ahead of time? How can you -- how can we
9 approve somebody if they're not -- if their fire department ain't approved? To
10 me, that was null and void. We need approve the district first, and then come
11 back and -- and do this gentleman.

12 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

13 We can do that too. It was by no fault of anybody. It was just -- it was just
14 discovered once it was done that the fire district was not on the -- so I'll go
15 ahead and make a motion to approve the firefighter.

16 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

17 Wait, wait. I think there's one other thing though we need to look at. You k
18 now, the fire district -- the fire protection district has been, actually, in effect
19 since 2000. We don't have anybody on.

20 Chief Graves, are you -- are you not a supplemental pay recipient?

21 **MS. OBY:**

22 You're muted.

23 **MR. JUNKIN:**

24 He also, I think he needs to be sworn in.

25 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

1 He may be a volunteer chief.

2 **MR. GRAVES:**

3 No. I've been the chief since 2020. I haven't been getting supplemental pay
4 since I've been a full-time chief. I wasn't able to redo the Firefighter I course.

5 **MR. JUNKIN:**

6 Y'all -- do y'all want me to swear him in?

7 **MS. OBY:**

8 Yes.

9 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

10 Please.

11 **MR. JUNKIN:**

12 All right. Please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear to tell the --
13 that the testimony you're about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
14 but the truth?

15 **MR. GRAVES:**

16 I do.

17 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

18 Okay. I -- I was going to say I just thought it was curious that the fire
19 district has been created since 2000 and we didn't have anybody on. And,
20 typically, the first person that gets put on is the chief.

21 **MR. GRAVES:**

22 Well, I've taken concessions over the years, just -- me, I'll pass more money
23 on to the other guys and everything else, so I wouldn't have to --

24 **MR. RUIZ:**

25 How many people you got employed with you?

1 **MR. GRAVES:**

2 Right now, we got five.

3 **MS. OBY:**

4 So my only other question is, on the application -- and, Mark, I think you --
5 probably this is what stood out to you when you were in a conversation, is that if
6 the application is not signed by the mayor or the parish president, and I think
7 when you were talking with maybe the chief or someone with the district, they
8 were saying that they don't have a parish president?

9 **MR. GRAVES:**

10 There's a police jury system. We're an entity of the police jury. We have
11 separated from them and maintain our own billing and --

12 **MS. OBY:**

13 Okay.

14 **MR. GRAVES:**

15 -- pay our own bills and, you know, receive our own tax money from the
16 Sheriff's Office. Now --

17 **MS. OBY:**

18 Could the president of the police jury sign this?

19 **MR. GRAVES:**

20 Yeah.

21 **MR. RUIZ:**

22 Yes. That's who needs to sign it.

23 **MR. GRAVES:**

24 Yeah.

25 **MR. RUIZ:**

1 The police jury is a form of government.

2 **MS. OBY:**

3 And that signature is on -- is that on a different application that we don't
4 have, Mark?

5 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

6 No.

7 **MS. OBY:**

8 So they need to resubmit the front page with his signature.

9 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

10 Well -- and so who is Frank Johnson who signed the new department
11 questionnaire?

12 **MR. GRAVES:**

13 That's -- that's the police jury president.

14 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

15 Okay. Well, then, yes, he would also need to sign applications.

16 **MS. OBY:**

17 So, Mr. Graves -- go ahead, Mark.

18 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

19 I'm looking at the application, and I have on there effective date 3/4, and
20 then I -- I've got for March \$283, that's -- that's not correct.

21 **MS. OBY:**

22 Oh, okay. Okay. So that needs to be adjust -- and we -- and that's fine. We
23 can adjust it, as long as they approve the effective date, Mark, we can correct the
24 amount.

25 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

1 Okay.

2 **MS. OBY:**

3 We do need to get a signed application. Mr. Graves, if -- in the section that
4 says mayor or city or parish president, we will need that to be signed by the
5 police jury president.

6 **MR. GRAVES:**

7 On the individual application?

8 **MS. OBY:**

9 Yes.

10 **MR. JUNKIN:**

11 And I would just point out that, basically, our rules say that this has to be a
12 certifying -- basically, a certifying official -- designated official of a governing
13 authority, and they just need to notify you of who that's going to be.

14 **MR. GRAVES:**

15 Okay.

16 **MR. RUIZ:**

17 We need the fire chief and appointing authority to sign the paperwork each
18 month.

19 **MR. GRAVES:**

20 Each month?

21 **MR. RUIZ:**

22 And the appointing authority -- unless the fire -- the police jury president
23 wants to designate to somebody else to sign that paperwork, his name needs to
24 be on that paperwork.

25 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

1 He can't designate anybody else.

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 I don't think so neither, but I'm just saying what Conner just said.

4 **MR. JUNKIN:**

5 It says that the fire chief is required, but as far as the -- as far as the parish
6 official, I believe that just needs to be a designated official, and they just need to
7 let us -- they need to -- have to let us know who that is for the application.

8 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

9 Mark is going to send you the certified signature document that you will
10 need to complete, along with the new faceplate (phonetic) for the application.

11 **MR. GRAVES:**

12 Yes, ma'am.

13 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

14 And, Chief, also, if I could say one other thing -- excuse me, Board, for
15 stepping in here, but I know that last year was a difficult year. You know, he got
16 certified -- he got his firefighter certification in March, which everything started
17 going really crazy, but we need you, in the future if you have other firefighters
18 should get certified, please, send their application in sooner so that we can avoid
19 all of this back pay issue and all of that.

20 **MR. GRAVES:**

21 Yes, ma'am. I was trying to --

22 **MR. RUIZ:**

23 Chief, you can -- you can't see, but we can see, he's owed like -- when you
24 add the 208 -- \$283, then you're going to add to that, and he's going to be over
25 \$1,800 in Act 110 money that he's not gonna be able to receive until December.

1 **MR. GRAVES :**

2 Yeah. Well, I had every intention of, you know, getting this wrapped up a
3 lot quicker, but I was in a wreck in July and broke my neck.

4 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

5 And I see that. I'm very sorry, and, like I said, last year was a crazy year.

6 **MR. GRAVES:**

7 Yes, ma'am.

8 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

9 But I'm just saying, you know, for future, you can send them in --

10 **MR. GRAVES:**

11 Yes, ma'am.

12 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

13 -- you know, as soon as you know that they're going to get their -- their
14 certification, that way, we'll avoid having all of this back pay issue.

15 **MR. GRAVES:**

16 Yes, ma'am. I'm sorry.

17 **MR. RUIZ:**

18 Because we will -- we will approve any individual, and Candace and Mark
19 will look at his -- his date, and then he'll start receiving supplemental pay when
20 that date arrives, that confirmation date arrives. You don't have to wait until
21 after he's confirmed as a firefighter to send this paperwork in. That'll help us out
22 -- help them out.

23 **MR. GRAVES:**

24 Okay.

25 **MR. RUIZ:**

1 All right. So there's a motion on the floor recognizing -- Conner, is it -- can
2 we go ahead and recognize District 4 as a fire department, even without that
3 paperwork that we need?

4 **MR. JUNKIN:**

5 No. I would say you need the paperwork.

6 **MR. RUIZ:**

7 Okay. So, Ronnie, you need to rescind your motion.

8 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

9 Don't we have the paperwork for the fire district? We just don't have the
10 correct paperwork for --

11 **MS. OBY:**

12 The application, yeah. So --

13 **MR. JUNKIN:**

14 Yeah. I'm sorry, that's correct.

15 **MS. OBY:**

16 Yeah. So you --

17 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

18 Y'all can approve the district, and then when we get the new application, it
19 can just go on the new application list.

20 **MR. RUIZ:**

21 Okay. That's what I asked him. So we can make -- Ronnie's motion is to
22 approve the district, correct, Conner?

23 **MR. JUNKIN:**

24 Yes. We can. We have all the paperwork for the district, so we can approve
25 the district.

1 **MR. RUIZ:**

2 Okay. And there's a motion on the floor to approve the district from
3 Ronnie. So all in favor -- is there any more questions about the district?

4 (No response.)

5 **MR. RUIZ:**

6 All right. Let's call for a vote on the approval of the district. All in favor,
7 signify by saying "aye."

8 (All aye.)

9 **MR. RUIZ:**

10 Motion passes.

11 **MR. GRAVES:**

12 All right. And then I'll send in -- well, Chief, you know what the -- do you
13 need anything from me? Do I need to send you that --

14 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

15 We need the new certifying signature letter.

16 **MR. GRAVES :**

17 Right. But the application, I'm talking about the application, they need a
18 signature on the application.

19 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:**

20 Yeah, from the parish -- police jury president.

21 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

22 You have a copy of the application, and you can get that done?

23 **MR. GRAVES:**

24 Yes.

25 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

1 Or do I need to send you anything?

2 **MR. GRAVES:**

3 Yeah, I think I got it. He put a file on my desk yesterday.

4 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

5 All right. Thank you.

6 **MS. OBY:**

7 Okay. Thank you.

8 **MR. RUIZ:**

9 We need a motion to go through the regular order of business?

10 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

11 So move.

12 **MR. RUIZ:**

13 Old business. All in favor of going back to old business, signify by saying
14 "aye."

15 (All aye.)

16 **MR. RUIZ:**

17 Motion passes.

18 **OLD BUSINESS**

19 EAST BANK CONSOLIDATED FIRE DEPARTMENT

20 ALEXANDER GORMAN

21 **MR. RUIZ:**

22 Candace, East Bank Consolidated.

23 **MS. OBY:**

24 Okay. So I asked Mark -- me and Mark talked about this. We -- okay.

25 Mark, this is Gorman. So we -- at the last Board meeting, we had an application

1 for Alexander Gorman from Jefferson Parish Fire Services, and at that meeting,
2 we made -- the Board made a -- a motion and accepted his application effective
3 September 16th of 2021, that's in the minutes, that's what the Board approved at
4 the last meeting. And from what I can tell after going through the minutes, the
5 Board approved that effective September 16th of 2021, because that was a year
6 after he received his Firefighter I certificate. And I believe the reason why the
7 Board made that motion is because maybe prior to him getting his Firefighter I,
8 he didn't really fight fires. It looks like maybe he was this hazardous materials --
9 HAZ MAT person.

10 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

11 He was in law -- I thought he was in law enforcement.

12 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

13 No. He did have some law enforcement experience, but that had no bearing
14 on what he was doing for fire, but he does -- does have HAZ MAT.

15 **MR. RUIZ:**

16 Most -- most fire departments have hazardous material personnel on the fire
17 department. But what I can understand what this says, he's going to be moving
18 underneath that new division that we approved under Chief Adams.

19 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

20 Correct.

21 **MR. RUIZ:**

22 And that's where he's going to be working from, that's where his warrants
23 are gonna be from -- if and when we approve this; am I correct?

24 **MS. OBY:**

25 So that's -- that's correct. We received his application for Jefferson Parish

1 Fire Services. He was not receiving supplemental pay at that time. Since then,
2 we have received an application from East Bank Consolidated requesting that he
3 get supplemental pay from the time when he was at East Bank Consolidated.

4 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

5 July 13th, 2019.

6 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

7 But he didn't have his Fire I.

8 **MS. OBY:**

9 No. He got -- so, basically, it would be -- so I guess the -- the whole issue is
10 at the last Board meeting, we approved him -- we approved -- y'all approved him
11 to receive supplemental pay effective a year from the date of his Firefighter I,
12 September 16th of 2021. He got his Firefighter I in -- on September 16th of
13 2020. But that application came from Jefferson Parish Fire Services. He started
14 working there January 1st of 2021, correct?

15 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

16 Yes.

17 **MS. OBY:**

18 Okay. So he has not started receiving supplemental pay yet. We have him
19 on a schedule to start receiving in September -- this coming September.
20 However, since the last Board meeting, we received an application from East
21 Bank Consolidated, which is where he worked prior to --

22 **MR. RUIZ:**

23 He had his Firefighter I, so it just -- that doesn't make no difference.

24 **MS. OBY:**

25 He did. He had his Firefighter I in September of 2020.

1 **MR. RUIZ:**

2 Correct. But anything prior to that, even if it was working, if he didn't do
3 his Firefighter I, he's not eligible for supplemental pay.

4 **MS. OBY:**

5 So that's why we're bringing it to the Board is because does -- now we have
6 another application where he would be effective September of 2020.

7 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

8 But is -- is it -- are they using that East Bank Consolidated as his prior year
9 of service?

10 **MS. OBY:**

11 No. This is a complete new application. Like, if you see, it's an application
12 from East Bank Consolidated saying --

13 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

14 But, yeah, he would be considering that one year of service with East Bank
15 Consolidated as is prior service, right?

16 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

17 But did he fight fire, because his title says fire record's clerk.

18 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

19 No, that's -- that's who signed the form.

20 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

21 Oh, oh, oh, I'm sorry.

22 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

23 I thought -- I thought the same thing at first.

24 **MS. OBY:**

25 So --

1 **MR. RUIZ:**

2 So, Candace, I've got a question. What were they -- we already approved
3 him. He still is getting his State pay in September of this year. What are they
4 asking? He got certified September 16th, 2020. His year -- his one year makes
5 -- it's on the 16th of September '21.

6 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

7 I think they're trying back it a year up.

8 **MR. RUIZ:**

9 How? He didn't have his Firefighter I.

10 **MS. OBY:**

11 They're trying to say that he -- so East Bank Consolidated is sending an
12 application. He started working at East Bank Consolidated in July of 2019, and
13 he got his Firefighter I in September of 2020. They're trying to get him
14 supplemental pay effective September of 2020, not 2021.

15 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

16 But you can't. He didn't get his certification till September of '20.

17 **MS. OBY:**

18 Right. But they're saying that he already had his year of service before then.

19 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

20 But he didn't have a certification.

21 **MS. OBY:**

22 I know, but --

23 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

24 He was working at the fire department for a year before getting it that -- we
25 routinely do that.

1 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

2 I think we just did it for the --

3 **MR. RUIZ:**

4 I understand what they want. They don't want him to wait to September.
5 They want to give it to him now.

6 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

7 Yes.

8 **MS. OBY:**

9 See, because in -- and how we usually approve every application is, you hire
10 a firefighter July 1 -- I mean, say, January 1, you hire a new guy as a firefighter.
11 Well, if he doesn't get his Firefighter I until June, he still will get supplemental
12 pay come that next January.

13 **MR. RUIZ:**

14 Correct. How much do we owe him?

15 **MS. OBY:**

16 This would be --

17 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

18 9/16 of '20, through December 31st is \$1,750.

19 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

20 And then he would also get -- see, that's -- that's another thing. We
21 approved his application effective -- his new application effective a year from
22 his Firefighter I.

23 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

24 9/26/21.

25 **MS. OBY:**

1 The whole issue is, what do -- but the Board approved that because -- from
2 my understanding is because something to do with his position. I don't know if
3 he -- he --

4 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

5 He wasn't in the fire service last time. He was working -- if I recall right, he
6 was working as a sheriff -- for the Sheriff's Department or something, and they
7 was trying to use that as a prior service, but it wasn't firefighting.

8 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

9 No. I -- I -- I think that he just included in his application prior service as a
10 sheriff. That has basically been removed from the application.

11 **MR. RUIZ:**

12 In 2019, what was his job classification when he was hired by East Bank
13 Consolidated?

14 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

15 Assistant HAZ MAT coordinator?

16 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

17 Correct.

18 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

19 And he worked full time with that fire department?

20 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

21 Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

22 **MS. OBY:**

23 He worked for East Bank Consolidated.

24 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

25 East Bank Consolidated, yep.

1 **MS. OBY:**

2 July of 2019.

3 **MR. RUIZ:**

4 Yeah. We owe him the money.

5 **MS. OBY:**

6 And then when he got his Firefighter I in September of '20.

7 **(UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER):**

8 The year of service --

9 **MR. RUIZ:**

10 If we gave everybody else prior service, then this gentleman would qualify
11 for prior service, too.

12 **MR. PARKER:**

13 Mr. President?

14 **MR. RUIZ:**

15 Go ahead.

16 **MR. PARKER:**

17 Does the -- the hire --

18 **MR. RUIZ:**

19 Richie. I can't hear you.

20 Any of y'all heard what Richie said?

21 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

22 No.

23 **MS. OBY:**

24 No.

25 **MR. PARKER:**

1 I'll call you back.

2 Can you hear me now?

3 **MR. RUIZ:**

4 Yeah.

5 **MR. PARKER:**

6 All right. My question was, does the clock for his prior service -- for the
7 one year of service start counting the day he's hired, or does it start counting
8 after he gets the Firefighter I?

9 **MR. RUIZ:**

10 It's from the day he's hired. That's how we treated everybody else.

11 **MR. PARKER:**

12 Okay. I just -- I just didn't remember.

13 **MR. RUIZ:**

14 That's what -- Candace, like I said, that's how we treated everybody else. So
15 if we treat everybody else that way, we need to treat this gentleman this way.

16 **MR. PARKER:**

17 Okay. And I apologize I missed it because I was moving from my office to
18 my car.

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 That's all right, Richie. We understand.

21 **MS. OBY:**

22 So the only time that I think the Board has ever handled that differently is if,
23 say they were hired in a position where they weren't actually doing fire duties
24 that would qualify them. If the Board agrees that his position as -- at East Bank
25 Consolidated, when he started in July of 2019, serves as that purpose as the

1 assistant coordinator for HAZ MAT, then it would just be a normal -- the Board
2 would approve it effective when he got his Firefighter I. And if that's the case,
3 then we would need the Board to make another motion on the previous
4 application that was approved, because instead of him waiting until a year from
5 his Firefighter I in September, he would be receiving it from September of '20,
6 concurrently.

7 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

8 Correct.

9 **MR. RUIZ:**

10 Can I -- can we entertain a motion, gentlemen?

11 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

12 Brien, can I make a -- so we're -- we have two applications for supplemental
13 pay. We have one for East Bank Consolidated from 9/16/20, through December
14 31, and then the second application is for supplemental pay at Jefferson Fire
15 Services beginning January 1st.

16 **MS. OBY:**

17 So we would need two motions to approve both of those applications.

18 **MR. RUIZ:**

19 Okay. I understand. We need the application -- we need one motion to
20 approve when he worked at East Bank Consolidated. We need a -- so we can
21 pay him his money when he was still working there. And then we're going to
22 need another motion to -- get -- start him in December -- I mean, January 1 from
23 Jefferson Fire Service.

24 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

25 Yes, sir.

1 **MR. RUIZ:**

2 Do y'all understand, gentlemen?

3 **MR. PARKER:**

4 Yes.

5 **MR. RUIZ:**

6 Okay. Can we have the -- one motion at a time. Let's take East Bank
7 Consolidated first.

8 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

9 This is Ronnie. I'll make a motion to approve the application for Gorman
10 Alexander starting July of 2019, until December 31 of --

11 **MS. OBY:**

12 It would be September --

13 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

14 -- 2019.

15 **MS. OBY:**

16 It would be September 16 of '20, Ronnie.

17 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

18 Oh, September of '20.

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 Okay. Do we have a second?

21 **MR. PARKER:**

22 Richie Parker. I'll second it starting in September.

23 **MR. RUIZ:**

24 Okay. Any more discussion?

25 (No response.)

1 **MR. RUIZ:**

2 Hearing none, all in favor of that motion signify by saying "aye."

3 (All aye.)

4 **MR. RUIZ:**

5 Motion passed.

6 The second motion.

7 **MR. THEVIS:**

8 Dwayne Thevis. I'll make a motion to accept the application for Jefferson
9 Parish Fire Service.

10 **MS. OBY:**

11 Effective January?

12 **MR. THEVIS:**

13 Yeah. January.

14 **MR. PARKER:**

15 Richie Parker. I'll second that one.

16 **MR. RUIZ:**

17 Any more discussion?

18 (No response.)

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 Hearing none, all in favor of the motion signify by saying "aye."

21 (All aye.)

22 **MR. RUIZ:**

23 Motion passed.

24 Candace, when you -- when you can, can you send the Board that email
25 what -- how much back pay this gentleman's going to receive and how much of

1 it is Act 110 money?

2 **MS. OBY:**

3 He won't get Act 110.

4 **MR. RUIZ:**

5 And it's all in this calender year?

6 **MS. OBY:**

7 It's all in this fiscal year.

8 **MR. RUIZ:**

9 Okay.

10 **MS. OBY:**

11 He -- he will get --

12 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

13 1,750 for East Bank.

14 **MS. OBY:**

15 And then January, February, March, 1,500. So, what, about \$3,000,
16 something like that?

17 **MR. RUIZ:**

18 I wrote them both down. I added it up.

19 Richie?

20 **MR. PARKER:**

21 Yes, sir.

22 **MR. RUIZ:**

23 Can you -- do you know this gentlemen, or can you get in touch with Brian
24 Adams and let him know what's going on?

25 **MR. PARKER:**

1 Yes, I can do that, because actually he called me a minute ago. I told him I
2 had to call him back, so I've got to call him right back.

3 **MR. RUIZ:**

4 Okay. All right.

5 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

6 No. Wait. One second. I'm sorry.

7 And, Candace and Mark, we may need to do this in two separate payments
8 to get it correct in the towns.

9 **MS. OBY:**

10 We can.

11 **MS. DEBENEDETTO:**

12 So tell him he'll get one chunk from East Bank Consolidated and then
13 another chunk from Jefferson Parish.

14 **MR. RUIZ:**

15 You understand that, Rich?

16 **MR. PARKER:**

17 Yeah. I don't think it would make a difference to him as long as he gets it.

18 **MS. OBY:**

19 So, Mark, we may, if we can, before we balance, go ahead and pay him for
20 East Bank Consolidated in February, and then in March pay him for Jefferson
21 Parish Fire Services, so we'll be done with him.

22 **MR. RUIZ:**

23 That makes it easier.

24 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

25 Okay.

1 **MR. RUIZ:**

2 You understand that, Rich?

3 **MR. PARKER:**

4 So he'll get a check March 1st for East Bank for up to February, and the next
5 check that will come for the Fire Services for the rest of it.

6 **MS. OBY:**

7 Yeah. He'll get a payment at the end of this month through -- from
8 September to December, and then Jefferson Parish Fire Services's warrant, he'll
9 get a payment from January 28 to March.

10 **MR. RUIZ:**

11 Right. February 28th, he'll get a check for \$1,750 -- well, he'll get a deposit
12 for \$1,750. Then March 31st, he would get the other \$1,500.

13 **MR. PARKER:**

14 Ten-four.

15 **MR. RUIZ:**

16 Correct?

17 **MS. OBY:**

18 Correct.

19 **NEW APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL - 105**

20 **MR. RUIZ:**

21 All right. We got 105 new applications.

22 **MR. CAMPBELL:**

23 Yes, sir.

24 **MS. OBY:**

25 Any questions about anyone on there?

1 **MR. RUIZ:**

2 Williams, you made a motion to accept the applications?

3 **MR. WILLIAMS:**

4 Yes.

5 **MR. RUIZ:**

6 Can I have a second?

7 **MR. THEVIS:**

8 I'll second. Dwayne Thevis.

9 **MR. RUIZ:**

10 Any discussion?

11 (No response.)

12 **MR. RUIZ:**

13 Hearing none all in favor of the 105 new applications, signify by saying
14 "aye."

15 (All aye.)

16 **MR. RUIZ:**

17 Motion passed.

18 **SET TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

19 **MR. RUIZ:**

20 Set the meeting for the next quarter is May 19th, 2021. Is that a good day
21 for everybody?

22 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

23 Good for me.

24 **ADJOURN**

25 **MR. SCHILLACE:**

1 Okay. I'll make a motion to adjourn.

2 **MR. RUIZ:**

3 Do I have a second?

4 **MR. THEVIS:**

5 Second.

6 **MR. RUIZ:**

7 All in favor to adjourn signify by saying "aye".

8 (All aye.)

9 **MR. RUIZ:**

10 I thank you all, gentlemen, for tuning in.

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CERTIFICATE

I, MICHELLE S. ABADIE, Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, as the officer before whom this hearing was reported, certify that on February 24, 2021, a meeting for the Firemens' State Supplemental Board was held, that this testimony and matters were reported by me, was prepared and transcribed by me, and that the foregoing pages, numbered 1 through 35, inclusive, is a true and correct transcript to the best of my ability and understanding; that I am not related to counsel or to the parties herein, nor am I otherwise interested in the outcome of this proceeding.

MICHELLE S. ABADIE, CCR #24032
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

BRIEN RUIZ, CHAIRMAN

DWAYNE THEVIS, VICE-CHAIRMAN

MICHELLE S. ABADIE, CCR
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER