

## Fire Board Meeting - August 18 @1700

### Meeting Purpose

Review operations, finances, and decide on major vehicle and legal contracts.

### Key Takeaways

- Seagrave Refurbishment Paused: A ~\$450k per-truck refurbishment, including a new engine and suspension, is on hold. The board will decide in October, pending the sale of the 2017 Pierce pumper.
- Tanker Engine Repair Tabled: A decision on the 2005 tanker's engine is tabled. The choice is between a \$6k diagnostic fee for a potential \$15k+ repair or a full engine replacement for ~\$30k.
- New Legal Counsel Hired: Parker Poe was retained as the district's legal counsel to support future strategic initiatives like bonds and referendums.
- Rescue Truck On Track for Nov. Delivery: The rescue truck refurbishment is progressing, with graphics finalized and painting scheduled for next week.

### Topics

#### Finances

- Operating Fund: \$28,099.07
- LGIP Fund: \$504,336.21
- Tax Revenue: \$60,556.31 YTD, tracking 3% below last year.
  - Rationale: Likely due to a lower collection rate
- LGIP Interest: \$2,710.36 YTD.
  - Context: Last fiscal year's total interest was \$17,381.45.
- Cost Savings:
  - Fuel: Reduced from \$4672 to \$2683 by staggering responses.
  - Tires: Corrected a Goodyear overcharge, saving \$432.77.
  - Blades: Testing a \$90 Harbor Freight K-12 blade to replace the \$400 specialty blade, enabling a "fresh blade for every emergency"

#### Vehicles & Equipment

- Seagrave Pumper: Back in service with AC and gearbox fixed. A minor air horn issue remains.
- Engine 136 (Duncan Truck): Fully equipped and in service.
- Squad 36: Remains unsold despite a \$50k price drop.
  - Rationale: Poor specs (small motor/pump, long body) and an unpopular white/green color scheme.
- Extrication Tools: A loaned Holmatro e-hydraulic set is on Engine 36, increasing reach beyond 50-foot hose reels. The Hurst tools were returned to Squad 36.
- AFG Grants:
  - FY24 (NAFCO): Closed out.
  - Hose & Nozzle: Funds received July 31.

#### Stations & Facilities

- Main Station:
  - Condensate Issue: Replaced failed AC pumps with gravity-fed lines, resolving cooling problems.
  - Termite Damage: A small storage building with termite damage collapsed and will be demolished.
- Holston Creek Training Area:
  - Fencing: Seeking quotes for a 680-foot, 6-foot chain-link fence with a 20-foot gate.
  - Purpose: An insurance requirement to secure equipment (e.g., extrication cars) stored on-site for more than 24 hours.
  - Status: One quote received (\$13k); awaiting three more.

#### Training & Operations

- Hazmat Tech: All techs recertified. The county now uses regionalized dispatch to avoid full-team callouts for minor incidents.
- Confined Space Rescue: Five more full-time staff are now tech-level certified.
- High-Angle Rope Rescue: Seeking county funding for the November class to reduce the financial burden on the district.

- Unit Dispatch: County implementation delayed.
  - Impact: Fire dispatch will be reduced to ECHO-level medical calls plus a county default list (e.g., gunshot wounds, overdoses).

#### Public Relations

- Holston Creek Park (July): Weekly "touch-a-truck" events were the county's most popular summer activity.
  - Future: Confirmed for July 2027, with plans to add a vendor like Kona Ice.
- Upcoming Events:
  - 9/12: 9/11 Stair Climb at Fluor Field (7 staff participating).
  - 9/25: Community Connect at Holly Springs Baptist (Tyler attending).
  - 9/26: Harvest Day in Inman (planning a unique handout).

#### Next Steps

- Tyler:
  - Get final quotes for the 2005 tanker engine replacement.
  - Secure three more quotes for the Holston Creek training area fence.
  - Finalize the engagement letter with Parker Poe.
  - Sign the 3-year audit contract with Love-Bailey CPAs.
- Board:
  - Decide on the Seagrave refurbishment contract in October.
  - Decide on the 2005 tanker engine repair/replacement at the next meeting.