

SOUTH OLDHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
MINUTES JANUARY 27, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Board was held on Monday, January 27, 2025 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, Gardner, Beard, Wakefield, Davis, Thompson, Nelson, Johnson, Holder, Marshall, Esposito, Miller, K. King, M. Stoess, German, Chapman, S. Jones, Bobby Deibel, and Turner. Also present were Chief Blakely, Merryll Loy, Firefighter A. Parker, Firefighter M. Folz, Firefighter C. Brown, and Laura Stoess.

OFFICER REPORTS:

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

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

Capital Improvement account	\$1,444,788.33
Checking account	\$ 36,021.51
Money Market account	\$2,171,686.57
Auxiliary account	\$ 3,891.51
Bill.com Money Out Clearing	\$ 637.06
Chief's account	\$ 950.74
 Total cash on hand	 \$3,657,975.72

Motion to accept the December Treasurer's report was made by Mark Gardner. Wes Chapman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Major Nelson reported the following bank balances for January:

Capital Improvement account	\$ 1,449,316.13
Checking account	\$ 33,475.94
Money Market account	\$ 2,234,673.85
Auxiliary account	\$ 3,891.51
Bill.com Money Out Clearing	\$ 637.06
Chief's account	\$ 950.74
 Total cash on hand	 \$ 3,722,945.23

Motion to accept the January Treasurer's report was made by Travis German. Tim Wakefield seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Major Nelson advised that he had consulted with accountant, Troy King, regarding the truck sold for surplus and the \$80,000 (minus the \$5600 commission) was transferred into the capital improvement account.

Major Nelson gave a recap of the expenses for 2024. He advised that, on average, the Department spends \$215,780 per month. This is right on target with the budget.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Blakely reported 76 responses for December, 628 medical responses for 2024, and a total of 1,060 responses for 2024. He reported 84 responses to date for January.

Chief Blakely gave an update on training, fire schools and conferences and staff certifications.

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

Apparatus/Equipment Repairs/Updates: A new Para Tech Deployable Shoring System (Hydrافusion Strut Kits/Longshore Struts) was installed on Unit 5438 and Unit 5435 underwent repairs to the Hydraulic Cylinder Repairs Squirt.

Facilities. Chief reported that the community room and stairwell has been updated with the replacement of flooring/painting/lighting. We have also updated the security pads on the lobby door and bay area rear entrance.

Public Relations/Community: Members of the Department attended Light Up Crestwood and partnered with the Barry Stoess Food Drive to conduct the South Oldham Fire Toy Drive to provide toys to underprivileged children in the area.

Department Incidents included a structure fire with rescue at 1208 Nightingale Lane and a structure fire 5407 Highpoint Drive.

Operations- We received a Fire Commission Grant for thermal imaging cameras in the amount of \$3,600.00. The Department will be purchasing four (4) Seek FirePro TIC. We are exploring the possibility of using Fire Recovery USA to recover costs from incident runs. Presentation will be given. Additional funds are needed to outfit the new F-250 command vehicles.

Chapter 75 update- Updates to KRS Chapter 75 have been drafted and are being reviewed by State Representative Mark Hart. Representative Hart will sponsor the bill along with co-sponsor Jennifer Decker from Shelby County. Chief Blakely and Chief Fante will be attending meetings in Frankfort in February related to Chapter 75.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Update on F-250s: Captain German reported that the first F-250 has been received and the second one is on it's way. He explained that the bids he had previously received regarding the outfitting of the F-250s, unfortunately, did not include everything that was needed. It costs approximately \$13,000 per truck to outfit it for what they need. Therefore, additional funds are needed.

Captain German has reached out to two (2) additional companies and his recommendation is that we use Fast Lane Emergency Vehicles out of Virginia. They will outfit the trucks to be set up with a computer in the back for incident command. Captain German advised that taking into account the money received from the sale of the surplus truck plus the additional amount that was previously approved by the Board, there is still a need for \$10,000 more per truck.

Captain German made a motion for the Board to approve an additional \$25,000 to be taken from the capital improvement account to finish outfitting the two F-250s. Wes Chapman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Update on KRS Chapter 75 Tax Cap: Chief Blakely advised that there are legislators currently working to increase the tax cap from .10 cents per \$100 to .20 cents per \$100 for fire only. If a district has an ambulance service, the amount could go up to .30 cents per \$100 total. The change would be effected by a .02 cent increase each year for the next five (5) years; however, the District would have to justify the increase. Chief advised that there are 127 Fire Districts that operate under KRS Chapter 75 and most of those Districts are capped at .10 per \$100. He explained that the .10 cent cap went into effect in 1944 for volunteer departments and has not been increased since that time. He will report back with any legislative action.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Cost recovery: Merryll Loy made a presentation regarding cost recovery on behalf of Fire Recovery USA, LLC. Fire Recovery USA, LLC is a company that would bill insurance companies for recovery of Fire Department costs associated with incidents regarding motor vehicles, hazardous materials, water incidents, and various others. This would just be for fire runs—not emergency runs. Chief Blakely advised that he only wants to bill insurance companies for non-residents.

Ms. Loy reported that they would track which party was at fault for an incident and then bill that party's insurance company. The recovery check would be sent to Fire Recovery first, then they would withdraw their fee, before sending the remaining balance to us. Their fee is 22%. We would receive a break-down of incidents and payments made. She stated that it usually takes an average of thirty (30) to ninety (90) days to get a check in the mail. Ms. Lloyd advised that they have a 95% recovery rate.

Ms. Loy explained that Fire Recovery has "suggested rates" of what to charge for various incidents. We can use their "suggested rates" or we can adopt our own. She advised that they have increased their rates each of the last three (3) years; however, we can choose to use the same rate each year if we adopt a generic rate sheet.

The Board asked questions and gave positive feedback. The consensus was that this service is needed, but more inquiry should be made. Counsel will review the proposed contract and further discussion will be held at the next meeting. No action was taken. If the Board decides to move forward, we will need to pass a Resolution and adopt a rate sheet for use of their services.

2. Thermal imaging cameras: Chief Blakely reported that we received a grant for the purchase of thermal imaging cameras in the amount of \$3600. This will be put on the truck. The difference in the cost of the equipment and the grant is \$2200, which was accounted for in the budget. Chief will make the purchase and the State will reimburse the Department.

3. Fire inspector position: Chief advised that he had created a job description for the new fire inspector position and that the description has been reviewed by the Personnel Committee and by counsel. He would like to move forward with posting the job. He would like to fill it internally, if possible. A question was raised regarding whether or not the person chosen to fill the position would fall into the current pay scale. Patrick Stoess expressed that the person hired should not lose their current rank and requested that the Chief and the Personnel Committee clarify that detail. Patrick Stoess made a motion to approve the creation of the position of Fire Inspector subject to clarification by the Personnel Committee regarding rank and pay scale. Richard Beard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

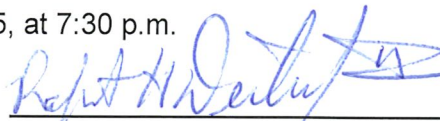
OTHER BUSINESS:

The Awards banquet was a complete success. Thank you to those who attended.

There was no other business to come before the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on February 24, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.



ROBERT DEIBEL III, SECRETARY

SOUTH OLDHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

MINUTES

February 24, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Board was held on Monday, February 24, 2025 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, Gardner, Beard, Wakefield, Davis, Nelson, Johnson, Marshall, Esposito, M. Stoess, German, Rawert, Hoskins, Robert Deibel, Thompson, and Turner. Also present were Chief Blakely and Laura Stoess (counsel).

OFFICER REPORTS:

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

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

Capital Improvement account	\$1,453,556.67
Checking account	\$ 43,689.08
Money Market account	\$2,081,100.42
Auxiliary account	\$ 3,891.51
Chief's account	\$ 1,074.74
 Total cash on hand	 \$3,583,312.42

Motion to accept the January Treasurer's report was made by Rawert. Hoskins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Major Nelson also reported that updates are being made to the PNC credit card and that the check from the Louisville Water Co. for hydrants has been received.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Blakely reported 102 responses for January, 70 responses for February, for a total of 172 responses for 2025.

Chief Blakely reported various trainings for February as well as various fire schools, conferences, and certifications. School Fire Drills were conducted at Camden Station Elementary.

Unit 5458 is scheduled to check the work performed on the turbo back in November. Unit 5435 is scheduled to have repairs made to the waterway on the squirt.

New security touch pads have been installed at lobby door and bay area rear entrance. The thermal imaging cameras paid for by the Fire Commission grant have been delivered.

Chief reported that the Department responded to a structure fire at 7116 Autumn Bent Way with Anchorage/Middletown, a structure fire 4621 Sycamore Valley with LaGrange Fire, and a vehicle accident with extraction at 3101 W. Hwy 22.

House Bill 604 regarding amendments to Chapter 75 was filed on February 18th. Chief will attend the KFA/Fire Commission/KY Fire Chief's Meeting in Owensboro and will provide an update on the Bill at the next meeting.

Chief will attend an upcoming TRC meeting regarding Pine Grove subdivision.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2 Ford F-250s: President Thompson advised the Board there had been some confusion surrounding the purchase of the two (2) Ford F-250s. Last month, the Board voted to allocate an additional \$25,000 to outfit the trucks. Considering that no action had yet been taken to carry out that action, President Thompson called for a motion to remand that decision and allow the Board to re-visit the issue. Said motion was made by Mark Hoskins and seconded by Patrick Stoess. Discussion was held and the motion passed unanimously.

Captain German provided the Board with a complete list of requested funds to purchase and outfit two (2) Ford F-250s. The figures are as follows: \$123,172 for the purchase of both vehicles, \$85,782 to Fastlane Emergency to outfit the trucks, \$11,718.80 to ERS Communications to pay for equipment needed on the truck for a total of \$220,672.80. Captain German made a motion to allocate funds not to exceed \$240,000 for the purchase and outfitting of these vehicles, which was seconded by Eddie Turner. Discussion was held and the motion passed unanimously. Note: the funds acquired by the sale of Unit 5433 in the amount of \$74,400 will help to offset this expenditure.

2. Fire Recovery: Chief Blakely presented a Resolution to contract with Fire Recovery to pursue reimbursement from insurance companies of at-fault drivers who are not residents of Oldham County. Mark Gardner made a motion to adopt the Resolution, which was seconded by Tim Wakefield. Discussion was held and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Revised Pay Schedule: Patrick Stoess reported that the Personnel Committee had met with Chief Blakely and others to revise the pay schedule to accommodate the new Fire Inspector position. The revision was necessary in order to allow for ranks to be maintained. The attached revised pay schedule was circulated. Patrick Stoess made a motion to approve said schedule, which was seconded by Mark Gardner. Discussion was held and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Chief Blakely announced that Eric Norris took the position of Fire Inspector, which left an opening for a Sergeant position. Firefighter Brandon Just has been promoted to Sgt. These changes will take effect on March 3, 2025.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Board members were given information regarding use of the new door touch pads.

There was no other business to come before the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on March 24, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.



ROBERT DEIBEL III, SECRETARY

South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Pay Schedule

Step Years	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	\$37,814	\$38,948	\$40,117	\$41,320	\$42,560	\$43,836	\$45,152	\$46,506	\$47,901	\$49,338	\$50,818	\$52,343
2	\$40,083	\$41,285	\$42,524	\$43,799	\$45,113	\$46,467	\$47,861	\$49,296	\$50,775	\$52,299	\$53,868	\$55,484
3	\$42,487	\$43,762	\$45,075	\$46,427	\$47,820	\$49,255	\$50,732	\$52,254	\$53,822	\$55,437	\$57,100	\$58,813
4	\$45,037	\$46,388	\$47,779	\$49,213	\$50,689	\$52,210	\$53,776	\$55,390	\$57,051	\$58,763	\$60,526	\$62,341
5	\$47,739	\$49,171	\$50,646	\$52,166	\$53,731	\$55,343	\$57,003	\$58,713	\$60,474	\$62,288	\$64,157	\$66,082
6	\$50,603	\$52,121	\$53,685	\$55,296	\$56,954	\$58,663	\$60,423	\$62,236	\$64,103	\$66,026	\$68,007	\$70,047
7	\$53,639	\$55,249	\$56,906	\$58,613	\$60,372	\$62,183	\$64,048	\$65,970	\$67,949	\$69,987	\$72,087	\$74,250
8	\$56,858	\$58,564	\$60,320	\$62,130	\$63,994	\$65,914	\$67,891	\$69,928	\$72,026	\$74,187	\$76,412	\$78,705
9	\$60,269	\$62,077	\$63,940	\$65,858	\$67,834	\$69,869	\$71,965	\$74,124	\$76,347	\$78,638	\$80,997	\$83,427
10	\$63,885	\$65,802	\$67,776	\$69,809	\$71,904	\$74,061	\$76,283	\$78,571	\$80,928	\$83,356	\$85,857	\$88,432
11	\$67,719	\$69,750	\$71,843	\$73,998	\$76,218	\$78,504	\$80,860	\$83,285	\$85,784	\$88,357	\$91,008	\$93,738
12	\$71,782	\$73,935	\$76,153	\$78,438	\$80,791	\$83,215	\$85,711	\$88,282	\$90,931	\$93,659	\$96,469	\$99,363
13	\$76,089	\$78,371	\$80,722	\$83,144	\$85,638	\$88,208	\$90,854	\$93,579	\$96,387	\$99,278	\$102,257	\$105,324
14	\$80,654	\$83,074	\$85,566	\$88,133	\$90,777	\$93,500	\$96,305	\$99,194	\$102,170	\$105,235	\$108,392	\$111,644
15	\$85,493	\$88,058	\$90,700	\$93,421	\$96,223	\$99,110	\$102,083	\$105,146	\$108,300	\$111,549	\$114,896	\$118,343
16	\$90,623	\$93,341	\$96,142	\$99,026	\$101,997	\$105,057	\$108,208	\$111,455	\$114,798	\$118,242	\$121,789	\$125,443
17	\$96,060	\$98,942	\$101,910	\$104,967	\$108,117	\$111,360	\$114,701	\$118,142	\$121,686	\$125,337	\$129,097	\$132,970
18	\$101,824	\$104,878	\$108,025	\$111,266	\$114,604	\$118,042	\$121,583	\$125,230	\$128,987	\$132,857	\$136,843	\$140,948
19	\$107,933	\$111,171	\$114,506	\$117,941	\$121,480	\$125,124	\$128,878	\$132,744	\$136,726	\$140,828	\$145,053	\$149,405
20	\$114,409	\$117,841	\$121,377	\$125,018	\$128,769	\$132,632	\$136,611	\$140,709	\$144,930	\$149,278	\$153,756	\$158,369
21	\$121,274	\$124,912	\$128,659	\$132,519	\$136,495	\$140,589	\$144,807	\$149,151	\$153,626	\$158,235	\$162,982	\$167,871

COLA : 3.4% 7/1/2024

pay scale increase will occur on the first full pay period after the trigger date

Notes:

Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) are considered annually by the Board of Directors (BOD) of SOFDi. The BOD reviews the COLA amount used by Oldham County Fiscal Court as a benchmark. The BOD reserves the right to adopt Oldham County Fiscal Court rate in whole, in part, exceed the amount, or deny any increase. COLA adjustments are subject to the current financial position of SOFDi. Allowances for any other geographic area will not be made.

Step increases are based upon the time an employee has served in their rank. Any rank date anniversary (triggering a step increase) will be reflected in the following pay period.

Two-Step Promotion Rule will be followed for all promotions to a higher grade. The promoted employee will move to a base pay rate in the higher grade that is at least two steps higher than their equivalent current rate.

Ex: Firefighter/EMT currently step 6 is promoted to Sergeant. Applying the Two-Step Promotion rule:

Step A:

The employee is currently earning \$55,343

Step B:

The lowest Sergeant rate that exceeds the current rate is \$56,906

Step C:

Applying two step increases makes the promoted employee's base rate \$60,372

H9

E11

G11

Approved: 1/25/2021

Revised: 7/26/2021

Revised: 10/25/2021

Effective: 7/1/2022

SOUTH OLDHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

MINUTES

March 24, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Board was held on Monday, March 24, 2025 at the Firehouse.

The meeting was called to order by Board President, David Thompson, at 7:33 p.m. with the following Board Members present: Patrick Stoess, Beard, Davis, Nelson, Marshall, Esposito, Marvin Stoess, German, Rawert, Robert Deibel, Thompson, Jones, Hughes, Holder, Chapman, and Turner. Also present were Chief Blakely and Laura Stoess (counsel).

OFFICER REPORTS:

SECRETARY: The Minutes of the February 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	\$1,315,846.92
Checking account	\$ 114,675.05
Money Market account	\$1,956,696.50
Auxiliary account	\$ 3,891.51
Chief's account	\$ 682.74
 Total cash on hand	 \$3,391,792.72

Motion to accept the February Treasurer's report was made by Richard Beard. Patrick Stoess seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Major Nelson also reported that the new PNC credit card was received. It has a \$10,000 spending limit.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Blakely reported 88 responses for March and a total of 260 responses for 2025. There have been 137 EMS responses for 2025.

Chief Blakely reported the following Firefighter trainings during the month of March: Drivers Training, Pumps Maintenance and Operations, Vehicle Extrication (Para Tech Struts) Stabilization, Auto Extrication, and RTF Training, Aerial Operations, and Apparatus Certifications.

Chief advised the Board of fire schools and conferences attended by firefighters. The following staff members received the following certifications: Apparatus Certification 5478 – Firefighter Foust; Apparatus Certification 5434 – 5438 – 5469 – Firefighter Patterson; IFSAC Basic

Firefighter 1 Certification – Firefighter Buchmaier – Firefighter Roth; IFSAC Hazardous Materials Awareness Certification – Firefighter Elliott.

School Fire Drills were conducted at Camden Station Elementary School and at South Oldham High School.

Repairs have been completed to the waterway on the Squirt system on Unit 5435. The 2025 F-250 Trucks have been delivered to Fast Lane to have the command equipment installed. New tires have been installed on Unit 5438. The roof leak at Station #2 has been repaired.

The Department responded to a rail car fire Old LaGrange Road and North Camden. Firefighters resuscitated a cardiac arrest at Edgeland Drive. The Department responded to a vehicle accident with a rescue (fatality) at Hwy 146 with LaGrange Fire. Firefighters utilized the Lucas device for a cardiac arrest at Cantrell Drive. The Department responded to a vehicle accident with a rescue on Ash Ave. with Pewee Valley Fire.

Chief Blakely gave an update on the hiring of new firefighter. He reported that the contract with Fire Recovery USA has been signed. With regard to the legislation for an update to Chapter 75, he advised that House Bill 604 made it to appropriations and revenue, but did not go any further, presumably because it is not a budget year. They will try again next year. EMT classes began at South Oldham on March 4th. Chief will attend a meeting with Mike Morgan regarding the formation of a regional Water Tender Strike Team. The team is expected to include South Oldham, North Oldham, Ballardsville, LaGrange, Shelby County, and Spencer County and will service 10-12 surrounding Counties.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Captain German provided renderings of the F-250 trucks for Board Members to view.
2. Merrill Loy from Fire Recovery USA will be teaching staff how to use the new system.

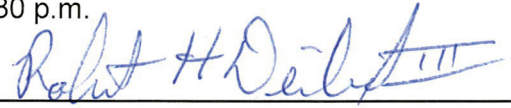
NEW BUSINESS:

1. President Thompson and counsel presented the Board with a proposed written investment policy to be reviewed and voted upon at the next meeting. Major Nelson discussed the current state of the Department finances and advised that Board Member Hughes had suggested we look into investment opportunities to grow our funds. The Board held discussion regarding the comfort level of investing public funds. The consensus was that if we can grow funds safely with minimal risk, investment is appropriate. Members suggested a level of comfort with CDs and government bonds, but nothing beyond. President Thompson advised that our goal is to make the best use of tax payer funds.

There was no other business to come before the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on April 28, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.



ROBERT DEIBEL III, SECRETARY

SOUTH OLDHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

MINUTES

April 28, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Board was held on Monday, April 28, 2025 at the Firehouse.

The meeting was called to order by Board President, David Thompson, at 7:33 p.m. with the following Board Members present: Patrick Stoess, Beard, Davis, Nelson, Marshall, Esposito, Mike Miller, Marvin Stoess, Rawert, Robert Deibel, Thompson, Jones, Hughes, Haupt, D. Deibel, Hoskins, Gardner, Johnson, and Turner. Also present were Chief Blakely and Laura Stoess (counsel).

Major Nelson administered the oath of office to Firefighters Zane Thomas and Brandon Just. Assistant Chief Kevin Parker addressed the Board and expressed thanks for their service and for the purchase of the new command vehicles.

OFFICER REPORTS:

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

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

Capital Improvement account	\$1,319,717.01
Checking account	\$ 105,874.23
Money Market account	\$1,787,572.59
Auxiliary account	\$ 1,312.46
Chief's account	\$ 512.74
 Total cash on hand	 \$3,214,989.03

Richard Beard made a motion to accept the April Treasurer's report and William Marshall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Major Nelson advised that there had been fraudulent charges made on the Department credit card. This occurred after staff stayed at a hotel while taking the new trucks for outfitting. The necessary paperwork was filed to dispute the charges and the credit card was cancelled. Major Nelson announced that the Department will host an Open House on June 28, 2025 from 10 am to 2 pm to celebrate the Department's 75th Anniversary. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Blakely reported 98 responses for March, 122 responses for April and a total of 405 responses for 2025. There have been 234 EMS responses for 2025.

Chief Blakely reported on various trainings, fire schools, and conferences during the month of April. The following staff members received certifications this month: Firefighter Folz received IFSAC Fire Instructor 2 Certification, and Firefighter Norris received his Fire Investigations Prerequisite CFI Training (35) to attend the National Fire Academy. School fire drills were conducted at Camden Station, South Oldham High School, and Kenwood Station. Staff attended the Oldham County Firefighter Recruitment Open House at the training facility on April 26, 2025.

Chief Blakely explained that a commercial water heater was replaced at Station #1. In addition, Unit 5434 received repairs to scene lighting. New brakes were installed on Unit 5469. Unit 5458 underwent an annual DOT inspection, received new tires, and is currently undergoing engine work involving cylinder replacement.

The Department responded to the following incidents: a structure fire at 6310 Hwy 329, a structure fire at 206 N. Walnut with LaGrange Fire, the full arrest of an infant on Mt. Zion Road, and a water tender/tanker strike team deployment in Frankfort.

With regard to operations, Chief Blakely indicated that Firefighter Alex Parker has accepted a position with Okolona Fire. His last day was April 24, 2025. The Department has hired Damien Maddux as Firefighter/EMT. He will start on May 3, 2025 and he is assigned to the First Platoon. There is also the possibility of an upcoming retirement. Fire Recovery USA has conducted a class with staff regarding the process to submit documentation for payment. The South Oldham EMT class has reached the halfway point and things are going well. There have been no dropouts and all are passing.

OLD BUSINESS:

President Thompson presented the investment policy for consideration by the Board. Laura Stoess explained revisions that had been made since last month based on input from Board Members. She explained that the general consensus was that the Board is only comfortable with investing in low-risk products like CDs or interest-bearing accounts. All other options were removed from the document. The policy also calls for the formation of a Finance Committee to advise Board, with the Board retaining final decision-making power. A designated official will oversee the investment program and have authority to sign documents. We will only invest with banks located within the District. Mark Gardner made a motion to adopt a Resolution to approve the investment policy as presented. The motion was seconded by Gary Haupt. Discussion was held. The motion passed unanimously.

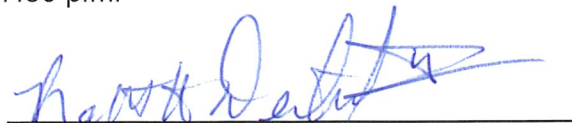
NEW BUSINESS:

1. Finance Committee: Based on the adoption of the investment policy, Dennis Deibel made a motion to create a Finance Committee and nominated William Marshall, Adam Hughes, and Matt Nelson to serve. The motion was seconded by Esposito. Discussion was held. The motion passed unanimously.

2. PVA error: Chief Blakely and Major Nelson advised the Board that there had been an error in the certified tax rolls from PVA that included a \$79 million deletion. They explained that PVA realized the error after the certification, but did not notify the Department. This resulted in a \$70,000 budget issue; however, what we are getting this year is what we should have previously received, so the issue has been rectified..
3. Budget: Chief distributed a rough draft of the 2025-2026 budget. He explained that health insurance has increased by 7%. He has included a 3.4% salary increase for staff and he would like to see a 4% increase each year for next two (2) years. He will be meeting with the Personnel Committee in the coming weeks. Chief requested approval to sign a contract with KLC for health insurance in the amount of \$225,750. Patrick Stoess made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Mark Hoskins. Discussion was held. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Fire-Based EMS: Chief Blakely explained that EMS run volume has gone up and he believes the Department needs to consider having fire-based EMS to adequately take care of the citizens of our District. He reported that they are experiencing thirty (30) minute wait times for ambulances, which is not acceptable. The current system through Oldham County EMS experiences significant delays due to hospital transfers and extra support provided to Henry County, which does not have EMS. If EMS became fire-based, it would only cover 911 calls (not hospital transfers) and medical runs in our District. Chief Blakely advised that if the decision was made to create an EMS District, the tax rate would be the same as Oldham County EMS. He would like to see it go into operation in January of 2027, which would give the Department one (1) year to put things in place. He would recommend one (1) medical unit with two (2) ambulances. Dennis Deibel suggested that Chief take his concerns to Oldham County EMS. Some members voiced concerns that there would be promises of improvement in the short-term that would not be sustained in the long term. The consensus of the Board was to allow Chief Blakely to gather further information and report back at the next meeting for further consideration. If the Board chose to pursue this as an option, an Exploratory Committee may be created.
5. Laura Stoess reminded the Board that the Property Owner Election for the District will take place at the Firehouse on June 28, 2025. Richard Beard is seeking re-election. If anyone else is interested in running, they need to notify Chairman Deibel in writing by May 14, 2025 to allow sufficient time for publication of proper legal notices.

There was no other business to come before the Board. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on June 23, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.



ROBERT DEIBEL III, SECRETARY

SOUTH OLDHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

MINUTES

June 23, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Board was held on Monday, June 23, 2025 at the Firehouse.

The meeting was called to order by Board President, David Thompson, at 7:33 p.m. with the following Board Members present: Beard, Davis, Nelson, German, Marshall, Esposito, Mike Miller, Marvin Stoess, Robert Deibel, Thompson, Jones, Haupt, D. Deibel, Hoskins, Gardner, Johnson, and Turner. Also present were Chief Blakely and Laura Stoess (counsel).

Firefighter Damien Maddox recited the oath of office and was sworn in by Major Matt Nelson.

The Minutes from the April meeting were read and approved. No meeting was held in May due to Memorial Day.

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

Capital Improvement account	\$1,311,735.00
Checking account	\$ 43,346.53
Money Market account	\$1,647,083.27
Auxiliary account	\$ 470.11
Chief's account	\$ 1,027.94
 Total cash on hand	 \$3,003,662.85

Dennis Deibel made a motion to accept the May Treasurer's report and Travis German seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Capital Improvement account	\$1,315,454.72
Checking account	\$ 29,052.52
Money Market account	\$1,481,822.03
Auxiliary account	\$ 818.11
Chief's account	\$ 1,087.94
 Total cash on hand	 \$2,828,235.32

Dennis Deibel made a motion to accept the June Treasurer's report and Mark Hoskins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Derek Martack, representative for Mirazon IT advised the Board that our contract with them was up for renewal. They have served the Department for the last five (5) years as technical support. Currently, the Department pays Mirazon \$1,700.00 per month for their services. They are in the process of moving our information to the Cloud, which should result in a monthly savings of \$200.

Concerns were raised regarding spam e-mails sent to various Board Members. Mirazon suggested that the Board provide an e-mail address to each Board member through the Department's system to reduce the risk of members being targeted.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Blakely reported 134 responses for May, 88 responses for June and a total of 638 responses for 2025. There have been 386 EMS responses for 2025.

Chief Blakely reported on various training, fire schools, and conferences during the months of May/June. The Department conducted school Fire Drills at Camden Station, SOHS, and Kenwood Station Elementary. Chief reported that the Department collected \$66,471 for the Crusade for Children.

With regard to apparatus and equipment, repair work has been completed on Unit 5458 and it is back in service. Door repairs are being scheduled for Unit 5402 after a deer struck the passenger door. Annual maintenance is being done to the Hurst Extrication Equipment and F-250 Trucks are expected to be delivered in July.

Department Incidents include structure fires at 7600 W. Hwy. 146, 10720 Worthington Lane, and 6424 W. Hwy. 146 at the Glenn Auto Dealership. In addition, there was a drive by shooting on Pearce Way.

Chief reported that Firefighter Steve Netherton has retired as of May 31st. The SOFD EMT Course has been completed with (3) Personnel either passing or scheduling their National Registry Exams. The Department has hired Aidan Brown as a Firefighter with the 3rd Platoon. Chief has attended a meeting with KY State Representatives regarding amendments to Chapter 75 and additional meetings are scheduled. Claims have been submitted to Fire Recovery USA for May in the amount of \$7,192. The Department has received Notice of Proposed Acquisition from KY Transportation Cabinet regarding the sidewalks on Old Lagrange Road.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Fire based EMS: Chief Blakely reported that he is still gathering information about the potential for fire based EMS services in the future. He will report back to the Board when appropriate.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New pay scale: On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Mark Hoskins presented proposed revisions to the Department's pay scale. The changes include revising the pay scale to account for all years of service to SOFD and with uniform 1.5% annual increases, a cost of living increase of 3.4%, adopt lateral program accepting up to five (5) years of full-time/career service credit, and increase sick leave accruals by 0.5 hours earned per pay period. The changes constitute a payroll increase in the budget of just under \$12,000. Richard Beard made a motion to adopt the new pay scale and Mark Gardener seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Budget: Chief Blakely presented a hand-out containing his proposed budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Discussion was held. Motion to approve the proposed budget was made by Mark Hoskins and seconded by Rusty Davis. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Upgrade fire alarm system: Chief Blakely advised that the fire alarm system is outdated and needs to be upgraded. He estimates the cost will be \$28,000 after a \$10,000 credit for our existing system. The funds for this project will be taken from the capital improvement account. Board Member Haupt requested that Chief obtain two (2) additional quotes for comparison, so no vote was taken on this project.
4. Kitchen upgrades: Chief Blakely advised that he has obtained three (3) quotes for an update to the kitchen. Board Member Esposito has reviewed the quotes and advised that the lowest quote is acceptable. This will be a complete tear out and includes new appliances. This project will not include dorm space. The lowest quote is \$146,000 + 20% for a total of \$175,200. Gary Haupt made a motion to approve \$175,200 for the kitchen upgrades and Mark Hoskins seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Investments: The Finance Committee recommended to the Board that we transfer \$800,000 from the capital improvement account into a four (4) month CD at PNC Bank with a 4.12% APR. This will allow us to grow our funds by receiving interest. William Marshall made a motion to transfer funds as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Mike Miller. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Terms: President Thompson reminded Board Members that some terms will expire next month, so he is talking to members to confirm whether or not they will continue to serve.
7. Election: Reminder that the election for the Property Owner Trustee for the District will be held at Firehouse on June 28, 2025 from 11am to 2pm. This is the same day of the Open House for the Anniversary of the Department. All are invited and encouraged to attend.
8. Dennis Deibel announced that Richard and Ruth Ann Beard have been selected as Oldham County Historians of the Year by the Oldham County Historical Society.

There was no other business to come before the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. The next meeting will be held on July 28, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.



ROBERT DEIBEL III, SECRETARY

2025-2026 BUDGET
SOUTH OLDHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT INC.

ALL FUNDS

ANTICIPATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026
Estimated Cash Balance on June 30th	\$ 1,100,000.00	\$ 1,271,000.00
ANTICIPATED RECEIPTS		
Property Tax Receipt OC/SC	\$ 2,486,160.00	\$ 2,575,600.00
Vehicle Tax Receipts	\$ 220,000.00	\$ 240,000.00
Interest	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
Grant/State Aid Receipts	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Other	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Incentive Paid KCTCS	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 66,000.00
TOTAL ANTICIPATED RECEIPTS	\$ 2,874,160.00	\$ 2,989,600.00
 Total Cash Balance July 1, 2025 and Anticipated Receipts	 \$ 3,974,160.00	 \$ 4,260,600.00
 Anticipated Disbursements for Fiscal Year	 \$ 2,874,160.00	 \$ 2,989,600.00
 Anticipated Cash Balance on June 30, 2026	 \$ 1,100,000.00	 \$ 1,271,000.00

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

School, Classes, Seminars	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Textbooks	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Training Materials	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Training Misc.	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00

DUES

Oldham County Fire Instructor's Association	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
Oldham County Fire Marshal's Office	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Oldham County Task Force	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Oldham County Storm Water	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Oldham County Chief's Association	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00

COMPUTER MAINTENANCE

Mirazon	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
FirstDue RMS	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 14,500.00
Twin Springs Website Development & Management	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00

Central Square - Computer Aided Dispatch	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
Meals & Entertainment	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
Annual Awards Dinner	\$	7,000.00	\$	8,000.00
Postage	\$	800.00	\$	800.00
Misc. Expense	\$	8,000.00	\$	8,000.00
Misc. Tax & Fees	\$	400.00	\$	400.00
Legal & Accounting	\$	33,000.00	\$	33,000.00
Bank Charges	\$	2,700.00	\$	2,700.00
Fire Prevention	\$	500.00	\$	500.00
Subscriptions	\$	2,500.00	\$	2,500.00

TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	\$	137,550.00	\$	145,050.00
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FIRE EQUIPMENT & OPERATING EXPENSE

Vehicle Maintenance	\$	60,000.00	\$	60,000.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$	15,000.00	\$	15,000.00
Small Tools & Equipment	\$	33,860.00	\$	15,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance Other	\$	7,000.00	\$	7,000.00
Radio Maintenance	\$	3,000.00	\$	8,000.00
Gas/Diesel & Oil	\$	30,000.00	\$	30,000.00
Uniforms, Apparel, Firefighter PPE	\$	92,750.00	\$	96,100.00
Operationsl Supplies	\$	5,500.00	\$	7,000.00
Special Operations	\$	4,500.00	\$	7,200.00

TOTAL FIRE EQUIPMENT & OPERATING EXPENSE	\$	251,610.00	\$	245,300.00
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FACILITIES EXPENSE

Office Supplies	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
Operational Supplies	\$	7,000.00	\$	7,000.00
Building Maintenance	\$	71,500.00	\$	60,000.00
Gas & Electric/LG&E	\$	40,000.00	\$	40,000.00
Water/Louisville Water Company	\$	4,000.00	\$	4,000.00
Sanitation	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00
Security	\$	3,000.00	\$	3,000.00

VOICE, CABLE & INTERNET

AT&T First Net - Cell Phones & Air Cards	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
AT&T Voice Station 1	\$	4,000.00	\$	6,500.00
Spectrum Internet Station 1	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00
Spectrum Internet/TV/Voice Station 3	\$	4,000.00	\$	4,000.00

TOTAL FACILITIES EXPENSE	\$	147,500.00	\$	138,500.00
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SALARY/PAYROLL & BENEFITS EXPENSE

Employee Payroll	\$ 1,051,000.00	\$ 1,110,000.00
Unscheduled Overtime/Hourly 2	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 135,000.00
Payroll Tax Expense	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Pension Matching	\$ 470,000.00	\$ 480,000.00
Volunteer Reimbursement	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
Health Insurance	\$ 199,500.00	\$ 225,750.00
Physicals	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00

TOTAL SALARY/PAYROLL & BENEFITS	\$ 1,992,500.00	\$ 2,110,750.00
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INSURANCE EXPENSE

Workers Compensation/Disability Insurance	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
Vehicle & Property Insurance	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 55,000.00

TOTAL INSURANCE EXPENSE	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
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CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Ladder Truck/Capital Improvements Contribution	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
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TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
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TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$ 2,874,160.00	\$ 2,989,600.00
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SOUTH OLDHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

MINUTES

July 28, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the South Oldham Fire Department, Inc. Board was held on Monday, July 28, 2025 at the Firehouse.

The meeting was called to order by Board President, David Thompson, at 7:38 p.m. (immediately after the annual meeting) with the following Board Members present: Haupt, Hughes, German, D. Deibel, Gardner, P. Stoess, Rawert, Wakefield, Davis, Thompson, Nelson, Holder, M. Stoess, R. Deibel, Marshall, Esposito, Chapman, Miller, and Turner. Also present were Chief Blakely and Laura Stoess (counsel).

Firefighter Aidan Brown took the oath of office and was sworn in by Major Matt Nelson.

The Minutes from the June meeting were read and approved with one correction regarding the CD rate. William Marshall made a motion to approve and Dennis Deibel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Capital Improvement account	\$ 494,404.96
Checking account	\$ 64,564.30
Money Market account	\$1,310,939.38
Auxiliary account	\$ 735.44
Chief's account	\$ 610.64
Total bank accounts	\$1,871,254.72

Certificate of Deposit	\$ 800,000.00
Total assets	\$2,671,254.72

We Chapman made a motion to accept the July Treasurer's report and Eddie Turner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Blakely reported 112 responses for June, 103 responses for July and a total of 765 responses for 2025. There have been 451 EMS responses for 2025.

Chief Blakely reported various on trainings, fire schools, and conferences attended by members of the Department. He indicated that the recruits class is beginning Firefighter 2 course work.

With respect to apparatus and equipment, Unit 5438 is undergoing preventative maintenance and the 2016 Ford Explorer is undergoing body shop repair work to the passenger door.

Regarding facilities, Chief Blakely reported that the cabinets and hood system have been ordered for the kitchen and are being built.

The South Oldham Fire Department 75th Anniversary event was well attended and was a success.

The following Department incidents occurred in June: a vehicle accident involving an extraction at 8201 Old Hanna Road with Ballardsville Fire; a barn fire at 1401 Robertson Drive also with Ballardsville; a vehicle accident involving an extrication at 7200 Highway 329; and a shooting incident at Clare Cove.

Chief Blakely attended meetings with state representatives and KACO and KLC relating to KRS Chapter 75 amendments. Chief indicated that the Department is applying for a Safer Grant, which provides funds for adequate staffing for fire and emergency responses.

Chief attended a TRC meeting regarding a three (3) story residential care facility with Pillar, which is expected to have 72 units and be located at 7408 Highway 329.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Chief Blakely reported that the new F-250 trucks are expected to be ready the first week of September. We were waiting on the caps, but they are now in.
2. Chief Blakely explained that he reached out for more bids on the fire alarm system. He received a quote from Johnson Control for \$58,000. This was significantly higher than the first bid he received for \$28,000 (after a \$10,000 credit for our existing system). Gary Haupt made a motion to accept the first bid for \$28,000, which was presented at the June meeting and Mark Gardner seconded. Discussion was held. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

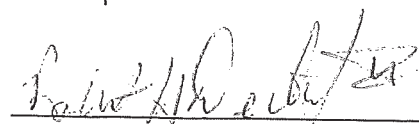
1. Deborah Berry from Oldham County EMS attended the meeting and provided information about their services in response to the Minutes from the April Board meeting. Also in attendance with her were Dr. Thomas Clark, Keith Blair, Chad Buchel, Lisa Reinhart, and Lane Morris. She explained that Baptist Health manages the employees and the taxing district manages the equipment. She denied that the Department is experiencing thirty (30) minute wait times on a regular basis. She indicated that no one had come to her with concerns. She explained that patient care and patient outcomes are their top priority and argued that how well they are trained is more important than how fast they get there. Ms. Berry explained that they are one (1) of only two (2) agencies in the state that are CAS accredited and have been since 2016.

She indicated that 911 service is a priority and that non-emergency transports and transports for Baptist LaGrange are only performed when they have adequate coverage. She reported that they used to have two (2) trucks stationed in LaGrange, but have moved one (1) of those trucks to Buckner as of July 1, 2025 to try to provide better coverage.

Board Members asked questions about adequate coverage, mutual aid, transports, and the recent incident in Clare Cove. Ms. Berry and her team provided information regarding same. She advised that they do not perform transports from 12am to 6am. She also indicated that their mutual aid responses had not increased. Ms. Berry relayed to the Board that if a Certificate of Need were pursued, her agency would oppose it.

2. President Thompson indicated that Chief Blakely would like to form a committee to research and explore the issue of fire based EMS. Captain German made a motion to form an EMS Committee with the initial members being Sarah Jones, Rusty Davis, Ellery Esposito, and Patrick Stoess. The motion was seconded by Ellery Esposito. Discussion was held. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Present Thompson opened the floor for officer elections for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Mark Gardner made a motion to maintain the current slate of officers, including David Thompson as President, Patrick Stoess as Vice-President, Matt Nelson as Treasurer, and Robert Deibel, III as Secretary. No additional nominations were made. Dennis Deibel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Major Nelson requested that the Board pass a Resolution to apply for a SAFER grant and, should the Department receive such a grant, that the funds be used for their intended purpose. Counsel presented such a Resolution to the Board. Members asked questions regarding the cost of same. Chief advised that the grant would provide \$1.4 million for six (6) firefighters for three (3) years. After three (3) years, their salaries would become the responsibility of the Department and would amount to approximately \$400,000 annually. Chief indicated that he believes the expected growth in our District would cover that cost. He also advised that KIPTA is guiding us through this process and has advised that they may be other Department matching and state grants available. Ellery Esposito made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented and Norb Rawert seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Major Nelso advised the Board that the Finance Committee has obtained a Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$800,000 for four (4) months at the rate of 4.12%.

There was no other business to come before the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m. The next meeting will be held on August 25, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.



ROBERT DEIBEL III, SECRETARY