

BY-LAWS FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AS AMENDED ON 03/26/2014

SECTION ONE

Officers

Article 1 – Officers: The officers of this Board of Commissioners shall be Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. These Officers will perform the duties prescribed by the Village Fire Department Interlocal Cooperation Agreement (the “Interlocal Agreement”), these By-Laws, Board Rules of Procedure, and such other duties prescribed by the Board of Commissioners.

Article 2 – Rotation of Officers: The positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary will be rotated among the Commissioners of the contracting cities at the end of the April board meeting of each calendar year. The Vice Chair will move to Chair and the Treasurer will be next in rotation to be the Vice Chair. The position of Secretary will be the next in rotation to be the Treasurer. The sequence of rotation for officers will be City of Spring Valley Village, City of Hunters Creek Village, City of Hilshire Village, City of Hedwig Village, City of Bunker Hill Village and City of Piney Point Village.

Article 3 – Vacancies: The Vice Chair will call and preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair. In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, the Treasurer will preside over the meetings.

Article 4 – Duties of Officers: The Chair of the Board shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and appoint all committees.

The Vice Chair of the Board shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the Chair and will perform the Chair’s duties in case of the Chair’s inability to serve as Chair.

The Treasurer shall preside at any meeting of the Board where the Chair and Vice Chair are not present. The Treasurer will report on the financial status of the department at the monthly meeting of the Board.

The Secretary shall review and sign all meeting minutes after approval by the Board and reasonably assure that all board records, personnel records and accounting papers are maintained at the VFD facility or offsite storage facility of the department.

SECTION TWO

Board of Commissioners

Article 1 – Duties: The duties of the Board are as prescribed in the Village Fire Department Interlocal Agreement.

Article 2 – Voting: A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of regular business. Annual budget approval requires a majority of the pro-rata vote as described in the Interlocal Agreement.

Article 3 – Meetings: Regular Meetings shall be held on the fourth Wednesday of a month unless cancelled or changed by approval of the Board. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or a majority of the members of the Board. Notice of all meetings will be posted in the manner required by state law and distributed to the members.

Article 4 – Compensation Review Committee: A Compensation Committee is established consisting of the following members: Commissioner Chair, Vice Chair and the Fire Chief.

Each year, prior to the preparation of the budget, the Compensation Committee will review compensation practices of the Houston Fire Department and at least three (3) other Metro Area Fire Departments. The committee will recommend to the board any changes in the salary schedules in sufficient time for the changes to be included in the following year's budget.

Article 5 – Budget Preparation and Workshop: The Fire Chief shall prepare a proposed Budget for presentation and review by the Board in Budget Workshops. Budget Workshops shall be called by the Chair, or a majority of the members of the Board in a sufficient number to allow participation and input from all Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners before the final Budget is formally voted on in a Regular Meeting. Working with the Fire Chief and his staff, the Chair shall cause to be prepared an agenda to be posted in the manner required by state law, and to distribute beforehand information and documentation concerning the Fire Chief's proposed Budget for the Commissioner's consideration in the workshops.

Article 6 – Vacancies: Alternate Commissioners shall serve in the event of the absence of a City's Commissioner, but shall not preside as Chair.

SECTION THREE

Finances

Article 1 – Annual Budget: The fiscal year of the corporation shall be from January 1st through December 31st of each year. The budget will be approved no later than the 30th day of June for submission to the Contracting City Councils for final approval. As appropriate the Board may also hold meetings for the benefit of the Contracting City Mayors and Councils regarding the proposed budget before final approval and submission to the Cities.

SECTION FOUR

Procedural Guidelines

Article 1 – Open Records Compliance: The Department will follow the rules and guidelines of state laws regarding open meetings and open records.

Article 2 - Roberts Rules of Order: The rules contained in Robert’s Rules of Order Revised shall govern the conduct of all meetings of Commissioners if they are not inconsistent with the By-Laws, Village Fire Department Interlocal Cooperation Agreement, or the laws of the State of Texas.

SECTION FIVE

Amendments of the By-Laws

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Board of Commissioners provided that the proposed amendment is not inconsistent with the Interlocal Agreement or Laws of the State of Texas. A written copy of proposed amendment changes shall be mailed to all Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners at their Cities address at least ten days prior to the meeting. Amendments to these By-Laws shall require a two-thirds majority of the Commissioners present and all six Contracting Cities must be represented. Notwithstanding, if a City absences itself from a meeting to prevent the By-Laws from being voted on and amended, then the Chair shall call and notice another meeting and the Amendment shall be approved by a majority of the quorum vote present. If approved, the Amendment shall replace all prior by-laws and amendments.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT on this 26th day of March, 2014.

Chair _____
Zebulun Nash, Chair

Date March 26, 2014