

MINUTES

Lawton Fire Department
Vehicle Accident Review Board
May 4, 2021
Public Meeting Room #2
Lawton City Hall
9:00 am

1. Roll call – meeting called to order at : 8:58 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patrick Sprague, Corporal
J.T. Beauchamp, Sergeant
Cobey Warren, Sergeant
Candy Brown, Safety and Risk Officer
David Miller, Equipment Maintenance
Brent Baggett, Chairman

GUEST MEMBER:

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brad Milam, Captain

OTHERS PRESENT: Chad Abraham

2. Minutes

A. Approval of minutes from April 6, 2021.

Motion by Beauchamp Second by Warren

Roll Call: Sprague- aye
Beauchamp-aye
Warren-aye
Brown-aye
Miller-aye

AYES: 5 NAYS: Motion carried.

3. New Business:

1. C. Abraham – Engine 4 (3/15/2021)

Discussion: Abraham was present. Baggett asked if anyone had questions for Abraham. Beauchamp asked Abraham to walk him through the events of the incident. Abraham said that he was driving that day because Langford wanted to move up to Officer. Abraham explained that he was Driver, Langford was Officer, Red Elk was Firefighter

and riding in the back. They received an EMS call for a sick person. They were driving down Sheridan. Abraham said he was going to go down Lake Ave, but saw that the light was green and he knew he'd have a clear path on Sheridan, so he proceeded straight down Sheridan. While proceeding, a car moved out of his lane. He stated he was using sirens, electric sirens, and the horn. He said as he entered the intersection, the light turned red. He said there was a white pickup coming out of the business exit during the signage for Ross Dress For Less. He said the rest of the intersection was shut down and he never saw the pickup, until he pulled out in front of the apparatus. Abraham mentioned that "you could tell I tried to stop; there were a lot of skid marks. The guy pulled right out in front of me. He threw his hands up in the air. If he'd have kept going, we'd have missed each other. He just threw his hands in the air." Abraham said he veered left so as not to make impact with the driver's door, but didn't veer too much to avoid flipping the apparatus. He said he tried to avoid hurting everybody at once. He struck the vehicle's left front panel of his truck, knocking the vehicle into the center median. Baggett asked if there were any other questions for Abraham or anything else that Abraham would like to add. Abraham said that he cleared the intersection, but never saw the truck. He did admit that his light was red and he was upfront about that. He said that when the car crossed lanes to get out of his way, he proceeded to speed back up to get through the intersection, never seeing the white pickup. Abraham mentioned that the driver of the white pickup told him that he never saw the Fire Engine, never heard it. Abraham stated he didn't know how you don't see and hear an Engine the way he goes through an intersection. Abraham stated he was glad no one was hurt. Baggett asked Abraham to step out of the room so the committee could discuss. Baggett read the Chief's recommendation and Beauchamp said he personally agrees with the Class D, but not necessarily "the punishment". Beauchamp said, "when you read the language, the D fits the best, but.." Baggett asked if there was a way to deviate from the point total. Beauchamp said he didn't think there was because the policy says a Class D is 4 points. Warren said that he also thinks the four points is a little harsh, but the classification of a Class D is accurate. Baggett suggested they discuss what a Class D is because Corporal Sprague is new to the VARB. It was determined that if it was a Class D, it would have to be 4 points by policy.

Motion by Brown to go with Chief's recommendation, Class D, 4 points,
second by Miller.

Roll Call: Sprague- aye
Beauchamp-aye
Warren-aye
Brown-aye
Miller-aye

AYES: 5 NAYS: Motion carried.

Discussion: Baggett stated there was no damage to the vehicle itself. The damage occurred to an electrical cord unit. Baggett asked for discussion; there was none.

Motion by Beauchamp to go with Class A, zero points, second by Warren

.

Roll Call: Sprague-aye
Beauchamp-aye
Warren-aye
Brown-aye
Miller-aye

AYES: 5 NAYS: Motion carried

4. **Communication/Discussion:** None.

5. **Adjournment:**

Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Brown , second by Miller.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.