

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 SENATE BILL 958

By: Coleman

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to fire protection districts;  
8 amending 19 O.S. 2011, Section 901.7, which relates  
9 to the powers and duties of the directors; providing  
10 for the possession of a certification or license to  
11 operate an emergency medical services agency;  
12 allowing contracting for a certified or licensed  
13 emergency medical services agency; requiring certain  
14 documentation for operating outside of jurisdiction;  
15 and providing an effective date.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 19 O.S. 2011, Section 901.7, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 901.7. A. The board of directors shall have the power  
20 and duty to:

- 21 1. Manage and conduct the business affairs of such district;
- 22 2. Make and execute all necessary contracts;
- 23 3. Purchase or lease-purchase and maintain all necessary and  
24 convenient engines, hoses, hose carts or other appliances and  
25 supplies for the full equipment of a fire company or department;

1           4. Appoint fire company officers and employees, sufficient to  
2 maintain and operate the equipment owned by such district;

3           5. Take by grant, purchase, condemnation, gift, devise or  
4 lease, and to dispose of, real or personal property of every kind  
5 necessary for the operation of the district;

6           6. Construct or otherwise acquire suitable firehouses and other  
7 buildings or structures suitable for the housing of equipment and  
8 supplies of the district, or for carrying on its own business and  
9 affairs;

10          7. Employ such officers and employees as may be required, fix  
11 their compensation and prescribe their duties;

12          8. Establish rules and regulations for the district and for the  
13 prevention of fires and conflagrations within the district and for  
14 the protection of property at and during any fire;

15          9. Prepare an annual budget and follow existing laws pertaining  
16 to the budget process such as public notices, public hearings,  
17 protest periods and filing requirements in the same manner as they  
18 apply to other forms of government in Oklahoma;

19          10. Determine vacancies of the board of directors, fill  
20 vacancies and conduct board elections in the event of a vacancy on  
21 the board of directors;

22          11. Develop bylaws for the due and orderly administration of  
23 the affairs of the board of directors and for its responsibilities  
24 specified pursuant to this chapter, and may compel the attendance of

1 absent members in the manner and under penalties as the board may  
2 prescribe; and

3 12. Do any and all other things necessary and proper in the  
4 management and operation of the district for the purpose of  
5 protecting property within its boundaries from fire; and

6 13. Acquire a certification or license to operate an emergency  
7 medical services agency from the Oklahoma State Department of Health  
8 or contract for services with a certified or licensed emergency  
9 medical service agency. The district's emergency medical service  
10 agency may respond outside of the district boundaries; provided,  
11 that the political subdivisions having jurisdiction over the area  
12 provide to the Department proper documentation of their support.

13 B. A fire protection district, created pursuant to this  
14 chapter, shall be deemed a political subdivision of this state. The  
15 board may submit an application to include the fire fighters of the  
16 district in the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System.  
17 The application for affiliation shall be submitted in accordance  
18 with subsection A of Section 49-105.2 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma  
19 Statutes.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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