

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 25, 2021

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL NO. 958

6 By: Coleman

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;
10 authorizing the acquisition of certain certification
11 or license; providing for certain contract;
12 authorizing response outside certain boundaries with
13 certain documentation; and providing an effective
14 date.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 11. Develop bylaws for the due and orderly administration of
21 the affairs of the board of directors and for its responsibilities
22 specified pursuant to this chapter, and may compel the attendance of
23 absent members in the manner and under penalties as the board may
24 prescribe; and

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

4 B. A fire protection district, created pursuant to this
5 chapter, shall be deemed a political subdivision of this state. The
6 board may submit an application to include the fire fighters of the
7 district in the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System.
8 The application for affiliation shall be submitted in accordance
9 with subsection A of Section 49-105.2 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma
10 Statutes.

11 C. The Board of Directors may acquire a certification or
12 license to operate an emergency medical services agency from the
13 State Department of Health or contract for services with a certified
14 or licensed emergency medical service agency. The district's
15 emergency medical service agency may respond outside of the district
16 boundaries; provided, that the political subdivisions having
17 jurisdiction over the area provide to the Department proper
18 documentation of their support.

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

20 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT
21 February 25, 2021 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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