

An Act

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 958

By: Coleman of the Senate

and

Burns of the House

An Act relating to fire protection districts; amending 19 O.S. 2011, Section 901.7, which relates to the powers and duties of the directors; authorizing the acquisition of certain certification or license; providing for certain contract; authorizing response outside certain boundaries with certain documentation; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Fire protection districts

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

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

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

1. Manage and conduct the business affairs of such district;
2. Make and execute all necessary contracts;
3. Purchase or lease-purchase and maintain all necessary and convenient engines, hoses, hose carts or other appliances and 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;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

B. A fire protection district, created pursuant to this chapter, shall be deemed a political subdivision of this state. The board may submit an application to include the fire fighters of the district in the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System. The application for affiliation shall be submitted in accordance

with subsection A of Section 49-105.2 of Title 11 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

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

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

Passed the Senate the 9th day of March, 2021.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 15th day of April, 2021.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____