

**FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE & RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
March 21, 2019
MINUTES**

Call Meeting to Order

Commissioner Apperson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Ragen, Detzel, Schneider, Kimball and Apperson. Also in attendance were Chief Dowaliby, Attorney Pringle, Deputy Chief Rewis, Chaplain Cords, Administrative Assistant Howard, DVP Washburn, Captain Clouse and other members of the department. Alva Fire Department Commissioners Mike Thompson and Adam Crittenden were also in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Prayer Offered by Chaplain Cords

Amendments to the Agenda

None

Presentations/Awards

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for February 2019 were presented for approval. Commissioner Detzel made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

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Opening Balance	February 1, 2018		\$2,793,365.01
Credits		\$100,558.20	
Debits		\$212,521.25	
Ending Balance	February 28, 2018		\$2,681,401.96
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Opening Balance	February 1, 2018		\$746,584.41
Credits		\$429.54	
Debits		\$0	
Ending Balance	February 28, 2018		\$747,013.95

First Bank - CDARS			
4 Week Public Funds CD			\$2,000,000.00
13 Week Public Funds CD			\$2,000,000.00
26 Week Public Funds CD			\$2,000,000.00
Total CDARS			\$6,000,000.00
Total			
			\$9,428,415.91

Commissioner Detzel made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner Schneider seconded and the motion passed.

Chief’s Report

I hope everyone had a good month. We have been busy around the station. The remodel upstairs is going along great and it looks good too. Training is a big focus this month with an extrication and stabilization class, followed by a rope and hoisting class.

Items of Interest

- FMSFD and Alva FD are the Strike Team leaders this week.
- I discussed the possibility of getting some land from FPL for a training facility with Jeff Moyer last week. He was receptive and talked with his boss. I talked to Mr. Pringle and he gave me input to share. I relayed what Mr. Pringle told me to Jeff Moyer. The end product is the FPL Real Estate Division will petition the County to vacate their interest in Joppa Lane. If all goes according to plan it will give us 3.1 acres that they will lease us for \$1/year. The details will need to be worked out, but they do the same lease agreement with Lee County for Manatee Park. This could be a tremendous advantage for the District and its personnel. Under New Business I will ask for permission to move forward with discussions.
- We received the variance from the Verandah.
 - We ordered the forcible entry door.
- Under Old Business I am going to discuss the EMT MOU.
- FS 19 proposed amendment is dead. Mr. Pringle should have the information and we will ask him about our contribution.
- Alligator Towing hosted us for a day long extrication and stabilization class. I have sent them a thank you letter.
 - Tice FD covered our second runs while we trained.
- I attended the funeral of FHP Lt. Dan Hinton along with DC Rewis and Chaplain Cords.

- The Rotary Club Project moved a little slowly this month, but we have almost raised \$2,000. The goal is \$4,050!!
 - I parked cars at the fair for Rotary on two evenings.
- Captain Burrell and his crew hosted the special needs students from Riverdale High School at Station 1.
- The first part of the physicals is completed.
- The men did the boot drive for MDA this month. You may have seen them at the intersection of SR 80 and SR 31.
- We have some birthdays to celebrate this month: Administrative Assistant Debbie Howard; FF Austin Gee and his wife Amanda; Engineer Swindle's wife Stacey; Engineer Poulton's wife Andrea and their son Brixton; Captain Clouse's daughter Harlow; Engineer Simmons' daughter Brynn; Volunteer Brad Muchler; Volunteer Nico Pavone; Volunteer Jordan Gilewski.
 - Engineer Michael Pledger and his wife Jessica have a wedding anniversary this month.

Meetings Attended

- I attended the Lee County Fire Chiefs Association (LCFCA) monthly meeting.
- I attended the Lee Control Matrix meeting for the new CAD system.

Training Attended

- Captain Clouse, Engineer Swindle and FF Hunt attended the USCG Boating Emergency Operator Class.
- FF Mimbs continues to attend Paramedic School.
- The men continue to train. We have several men working on their Bachelor and Associate degrees.
- MES conducted a 4-hour extrication and stabilization class.

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to accept the Chief's Report. Commissioner Detzel seconded and the motion passed

Attorney's Report

- The proposed amendment to Chapter 191 has been withdrawn for this legislative session. There could be another attempt in the next session. Attorney Pringle will update us on whether we will still need to pay all or part of the \$3,500 contribution the board previously approved.
- The deed for the Station 1 property is revised and ready to be sent to Retired Chief Baucom for his signature or comments.

Commissioner Kimball made a motion to accept the Attorney's Report. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed

Fire Prevention Division Report

- Current Construction: King Storage (Route 80 Storage) second building; Sonshine Christian Academy School building
- New Construction: None to report
- Projects Completed: None to report
- Revenues: The Division billed \$150.00 for the month of February.
- Meetings Attended: Lee County Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association; Lee County Fire Chiefs Association; Lee County Fire Arson Task Force; CAD dispatch protocol.
- Prevention Education: None to report
- Inspections: The division completed 6 various fire inspections for the month.
- General Information: We held CPR/AED training for Verandah residents. I assisted with promotional testing on March 11th for Tice FD. The Lee County Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association gave their appreciation for the replacement of the refrigerator for the fire safety trailer.

Commissioner Kimball made a motion to accept the Prevention Report. Commissioner Detzel seconded and the motion passed.

Public Input on Agenda Items

None

Old Business

1. Contract with Sweetwater Landing for Boat Slip.

Attorney Pringle reviewed the revised contract he has written which includes provisions that address the District's unique needs as a fire/rescue service. These include specifying that the District will be making improvements to the slip (the lift which will be partially built using grant proceeds) and cannot be moved to another slip; the agreement is for an initial 10 year term with two five year renewals at the District's option; the rent will be set for the first 10 years and if we extend the lease for an additional five year term we will make a fair market adjustment to be

negotiated at that time; there is no rental charge in the agreement but it will be added after we negotiate it; there are a couple of provisions from their original contract that I used – one of them is that they make no guarantees about the security of the marina, which is fine because of our insurance; we will be responsible for all of our property; we agree not to sell, rent or assign our slip without permission; their agreement said that only the owner will have access to the slip and I changed that to a provision allowing the District’s employees and other emergency first responders working with the District access at all times; we will have the ability to have the ambulance come to the slip to off-load patients; we won’t leave any trash and solid waste around and that we are not going to cause any damage to the marina property or create any unnecessary disturbance; that if we default by not paying rent over 30 days after the due date, the marina can terminate the agreement and require us to remove all of our equipment within 60 days of the written notice and they won’t have any lien against the district’s property; if they have a claim it will be for monetary damages through the date of removal and for the cost of removal and any damages to the marina; if they don’t cure a default within 30 days, we can terminate the agreement and remove our improvements and bring a legal claim against them for your damages; their language said that we would indemnify them but I wrote that neither of us would be liable unless their act caused our damages then we would have a claim; we reserve our sovereign immunity; there is a notice provision saying that any claim will be sent to mediation first; and the District may at any time terminate the agreement with a 30 day notice and the District will pay an early termination fee of the lesser of 12 months or the remaining term of the lease term; we agree to abide by the marina’s rules to whatever extent possible; the agreement will be governed by the laws of Florida and Lee County; and emailed copy of a signature is as valid as the original. The Board was asked for authorization for him to continue negotiations with Sweetwater Landing and bring the contract back to the Board for approval when the terms are finalized.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to authorize him to move forward and Commissioner Kimball seconded. The motion passed.

2. Update on the MOU with the County: We haven’t had any movement on the MOU with Lee County EMS so we have written a letter requesting permission to carry Narcan to utilize if one of our employees is exposed. There is no action necessary at this time and we will keep the Board updated.

New Business

1. Boat Lift – We have two quotes and have requested revision to them. We would like authorization to send the quotes to the county when they are complete for Lee County’s approval. The original quote completed at the beginning of the grant process was \$37,730 and the grant will pay 50% of that for a total reimbursement of \$18,865. We have updated that quote and requested additional quotes for a lift that will be better suited to our current and future needs, but the new quotes range from \$46,830 to \$57,900 for the upgraded lift. The district will be responsible for all expenditures and the grant will reimburse us for the original \$18,865. The terms of the grant require us to get three quotes and give them to the county for review and approval. We recommend sending them with a letter requesting the one we feel would best meet our needs, which at this time is the lowest quote we have received. We are still waiting for the third quote, but we would like authorization to send the quotes to Lee County for their review as soon as we receive the third one. After the county approves one of the quotes, the Board will make a final decision on whether to accept the grant and build the lift. There was some discussion of the process and Commissioner Schneider made a motion to move forward with sending the quotes to the county with a request that they approve the less expensive option. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.
2. Boat – Bonita Springs Fire Department will have their new boat in April, and they will ask for bids for their current boat sometime after that. We would like authorization for the Chief to begin negotiating with them and bring that information back to the Board. The original cost of the boat was \$29,990 and the twin engine package was \$23,801. The additional equipment brought the total original cost in 2012 to \$104,246.26. They will put it out for bid but we don’t think any other special districts in Lee County have a need for it, and because of the way it’s configured, it may not be attractive to sport boaters or fishermen. We would like to get authorization to participate in the bidding and negotiations when they begin the process. Chief Dowaliby may be asked to attend one of their board meetings to make a case for our purchase of the boat. Florida Statute gives them the ability, if they choose, to donate some portion of the value, which would allow us to purchase the boat at a discounted cost. The blue book value of the boat is currently \$44,000. Commissioner Detzel made a motion to allow the Chief to begin negotiating with Bonita Springs Fire Department for the purchase of their boat. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Detzel amended the motion to include a price not-to-exceed \$30,000. Commissioner Schneider seconded and the amended motion passed.
3. FPL Property – FPL is interested in leasing us property to build a training tower/training facility. We would like authorization to move forward with discussions with them. The property is located on Joppa Lane and is 3.1 acres, which would allow us to count the training we do there to count as

facility training towards our annual requirements for ISO. FPL owns the Manatee Park property and leases it to Lee County for \$1.00 per year and they are proposing the same type of lease for us. This would allow us to plan for the training facility as a stand-alone project over several years, instead of building it as a part of the River Hall station. We would save money on the River Hall project and on the training facility because it would not need to look as good as a facility at the entrance to River Hall.

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to authorize Chief Dowaliby and Attorney Pringle to move forward with the discussion with FPL regarding the proposed lease. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

4. Body Armor – Budgeted - \$23,000.

We have received quotes from two companies and they both fall under the budgeted cost. We have had the opportunity to look at samples from both companies and the men prefer the Survival Armor vests but they also like the option to add upgraded plates to the vests if the situation calls for extra protection. They like the plates from Black Cloud Ops that are \$599 for each set and are designed for use with rifles. The plates are removeable and they will fit in the Survival Armor vests. We have put together a proposal for 17 Survival Armor vests and helmets so each employee will have a custom fit vest and helmet and we have added 7 sets of the Black Cloud Ops plates. That will give us enough plates for the on-duty shift plus Chief Dowaliby and Deputy Chief Rewis, while keeping the total under the budgeted cost of \$23,000. We think the total of \$22,383 is correct, but just in case there is some shipping cost we are unaware of, we would like to get approval for up to \$23,000.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to approve up to \$23,000 for the body armor.

Commissioner Apperson seconded and the motion passed.

5. Leather Helmets – Budgeted - \$10,500.

The highest quote we received for the helmets is \$9,978. We would like to get approval for up to the budgeted cost in case there are any extra charges.

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve the purchase of leather helmets at a cost not-to-exceed \$10,500. Commissioner Apperson seconded and the motion passed.

6. Wildland Gear – Budgeted - \$14,000.

The quotes we have received are slightly above the budget, but we would like to get approval for up to \$14,000. We are confident that we can work with the equipment company to get the price down under the budget.

Commissioner made a motion to approve up to \$14,000 for the wildland gear. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

Public Input on Non-Agenda Items:

None

Union Report:

DVP Washburn: We've gotten positive feedback from the guys on the extrication training.

The District collected over \$9,000 and the total for Lee County was over \$250,000!

I hope the Commissioners all received their St. Patrick's Day shirts from the Union and that he got the sizes right!

Comments from Commissioners:

The Commissioners thanked the Union for the shirts and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Adjourn

Commissioner Detzel made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.