

**FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE & RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
November 19, 2020  
MINUTES**

**Call Meeting to Order**

Commissioner Detzel called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Kimball, Detzel, Ragen and Schneider. Also in attendance were Chief Dowaliby, Deputy Chief Rewis, Attorney Pringle, Chaplain Cords, Administrative Assistant Howard, Engineer/DVP Hunt, and Angie Young from Local 1826. Commissioner Apperson was out of town.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Amendments to the Agenda**

- New Business: Declare the old gym equipment surplus and authorize disposal. Treadmill and elliptical purchased in 2006 at a cost of \$14,570.
- Discussion of District's purchase of Verandah property.
- Declare old Hurst tool surplus and authorize disposal. It was purchased in 2006 for a cost of \$23,983 and was replaced last year. We would like to donate it to Glades County.
- #1 in New Business: There are 25 radios to declare surplus instead of 30.

**Presentations/Awards**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for October were presented for approval. Commissioner Ragen made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**

Bank account balances for the month of October 2020:

The operating account opened with \$1,881,241.49. There were deposits of \$32,848.86 and expenditures of \$332,771.82 for an ending balance of \$1,581,318.53.

The impact fee account opened with \$1,180,860.28. There were deposits of \$96,308.78 and no expenditures for an ending balance of \$1,277,169.06.

The 4-week C.D.A.R.S. opened with \$1,252,428.34. There were credits of \$288.23 for an ending balance of \$1,252,716.57.

The 13-week C.D.A.R.S. opened with \$2,500,000.00. There were no credits or debits and the ending balance was \$2,500,000.00.

The 26-week C.D.A.R.S. opened with \$2,000,000.00 There were no credits or debits and the ending balance was \$2,000,000.00.

Total bank balances at October 31, 2020 were \$8,611,204.16.

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

## **Chief's Report**

### **Items of Interest**

- We have a new Pete Gee in the department – Austin's son was born in October!
- Engineer Danny Hunt is the most recent recipient of the Union Member of the Year from Local 1826. Congratulations!
- I would like to congratulate Captain Clouse on obtaining his Bachelor's Degree!!!
- The RFQ process for Station 2 is progressing. We have received the information from Mr. Pringle and we have also had a company come in that works under a Public Private Partnership. The building workgroup met today and we discussed delaying the RFP/RFQ for a month and having this company come in. They would work with us on an unsolicited bid, meaning they work with us on the design and then give us a bid with a guaranteed maximum price, and at that point we would put out an RFP for bids from other companies. That process doesn't cost the District anything so we are going to at least explore the idea. He may be able to come to the meeting next month to give a presentation to the Board if we are able to get him all the information. This is a relatively new process for fire departments, but Mr. Pringle has seen it used on larger projects. It is allowed under Florida Statute and the requirements are very specific to make sure that the required bid process is followed.

- Phase 2 of the environmental audit has been reviewed. I have some questions, but the process is moving forward. I am setting up a meeting with the company so they have a chance to answer my questions.
- FPL property is still moving forward.
- We are testing December 14<sup>th</sup> and we have sent out invitations to 9 of our Volunteers to participate.
- We are planning for this year's ISO inspection.
- The framed Department pictures will be available for you to see.
- We are moving forward with the station repairs and upgrades.
  - The gym equipment has arrived.
  - The electric for the gate is completed and the gate will be installed soon.
  - The garage doors are waiting to be installed.
    - We need to run electric to the new openers.
    - A sprinkler pipe needs to be moved.
- A Shift did our first presentation at the Exceptional School under the new principal.
- Department anniversaries: Commissioner Apperson (22 years), Commissioner Kimball (12 years), Commissioner Schneider (5 years), Administrative Assistant Howard (15 years), Engineer Mann (14 years)
- Birthdays to celebrate this month: Engineer Mann's wife and daughter, Engineer Pledger's youngest son, FF Austin Gee's oldest son, and FF Peterson's fiancée.
- Wedding anniversaries to celebrate this month: Administrative Assistant Howard and her husband, and Engineer Poulton and his wife.

### **Meetings Attended**

- We had meetings with PMA Financial, Synovus Bank, and Water Walker Financial
- Website design meeting
- USAR Committee meeting
- LCFCA Medical Branch phone conference
- Monthly Officers Meeting
- The Medical Care Council Meeting will be held December 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Training Attended**

- The Captains oversee training now. There will be a Training Report attached.

- I am in a Master's in Public Administration program.

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

### **Training Report**

#### **Daily Training**

- All shifts continue to participate in various functional training and circuit style workouts
- Truck checks
- SCBA & Gear checks
- Target Solutions

#### **Monthly Training**

- Ladder Inspections and proper use
- 1 pre-incident plan per shift
- R.I.T. drills
- Fireground skills
- Hydraulics/Apparatus
- EMT

#### **Upcoming Training**

- Hurst Tool and Vetter Lift Bag training with MES depending on junk car availability

#### **Shift Training**

- **A Shift**
  - Completed the ladder inspections this month
  - Night training at Portico on an unfinished new construction building (V.E.S., Ladders, R.I.T. operations)
  - Probational firefighter training with FF Pavone and FF Salyers
  - Various training with volunteers on task book signoffs
  - We picked out paint for stairwell and will paint next week.
- **B Shift**
  - Volunteer truck and task book training
  - Elevator Emergency Operations training

- S.K.E.D. (Rescue stretcher rigging and patient packaging)
- Rescue 42 training
- Rope Rescue
  - Arizona Vortex
  - Rope Systems
- Captain Swindle and Engineer Hunt are enrolled at Columbia Southern University and taking classes toward degrees.
- **C Shift**
  - We have been working with the volunteers on general knowledge and training listed in task books.
  - Engineer Poulton should finish his last class needed for his A.S. Degree in Fire Science this month.
  - Engineer Simmons is enrolled at Columbia Southern University and is taking his first class for his A.S. Degree.
  - Firefighter Peterson will finish Building Construction class through Ricky Rescue this month.
  - Firefighter Casey Gee is 99% done with his probationary task book and will take his final test this month.
  - Captain Clouse finished his last class for his B.S. Degree in Fire Science through Columbia Southern University.
  - Rope Rescue: 3:1 Z-rig, 4:1 block and tackle and anchor systems
  - Various hands-on fire training including hose loads, pumping, troubleshooting apparatus issues and hydrant connections

### **Attorney's Report**

The Chief and I have been working on several things that he covered in his report. I will save my comments on business items until we get to them.

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

## **Fire Prevention Division Report**

- Current Construction: Three Multi-Family in Portico, (two 8-plex units and one 6-plex)
- New Construction: None to report
- Projects Completed: LaBella Pizza and Pasta; Lennar model homes (two models); Hansen Pumpkins
- Revenues: The Division billed \$135 for the month.
- Meetings Attended: Lee County Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association remote meeting, Lee County Fire Chiefs Association
- Prevention Education: None to report
- Inspections: The division completed 6 various fire inspections for the month.
- General Information: We are preparing to hold a test for the eligible volunteers before our next meeting in December for the two positions we will be filling after the first of the year.

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to accept the Prevention Report. Commissioner Schneider seconded and the motion passed.

## **Public Input on Agenda Items**

None

## **Old Business**

1. Roof: We have bids from Colonial Roofing - \$43,987, Target Roofing - \$44,214, and Crown Roofing and Waterproofing - \$44,038

The three bids are very close in price and they are all for the same type of roof system. We are going to recommend Colonial Roofing. I went with D/C Rewis, Captain Clouse, and Engineer Poulton and looked at a roof they had done and we had them update their bid so all three are using the same materials. Our main concern is to upgrade the insulation of the roof so we can try to keep the A/C going and make the living quarters more comfortable for the guys. We can't add insulation under the roof because there isn't any space above the ceiling. After looking at the example, we all were impressed with Colonial.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to approve having the roof done by Colonial Roofing. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed.

2. Additional work needed prior to installing new garage doors:

- a. Electrical work: Bids from Acra Electric - \$1,530, and Semmer Electric - \$1,850

After some discussion about which company we should use since Semmer has done most of our electrical work for several years, the decision was made to try Acra for this job and see which company we like better. Acra also gave us a lower bid for a smaller scope of work that would still take care of our needs. We would like to get approval for the \$1,530 bid in case we feel like that is the better way to go. Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve the bid from Acra at a cost not-to-exceed \$1,530.

Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

- b. Relocation of sprinkler lines: Bids from Gold Coast Fire Protection - \$1,750, Naples Fire Protection - \$2,000, Florida Fire Systems - \$1,990

Commissioner Kimball made a motion to approve the bid from Gold Coast Fire Protection. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed.

**New Business**

1. Declare surplus and authorize disposal of 25 old radios, gym equipment, and Hurst Tool under Florida Statute #274.06. All of the items have depreciated completely and none of them have a remaining value over \$5,000.

Inventory numbers and original cost:

Radios: #2001-008-3.1, 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 Cost \$2,849 each; #2001-009-3 Cost \$4758; #2003-038-3 Cost \$3,500; #2005-077-3 Cost \$3,092; #2005-089-3 Cost \$2,738; #2005-146-3 Cost \$3,092; #2007-138-3 Cost \$3,385; #2008-143-3 Cost \$3,055; #2008-149-3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 Cost \$1,600 each; #2009-155-3 Cost \$1,650; #2009-159-3 Cost \$2,677; #2013-178-3, 179-3, 180-3, 181-3 Cost \$3,100 each; #2013-182-3, 183-3, 184-3, 185-3 Cost \$3,400 each.

Gym Equipment: Treadmill and Elliptical #2006-097-3 Cost \$14,570

Hurst Tool: #2007-120-3 Cost \$23,983. We would like to donate this to Glades County.

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to declare the listed capital items as surplus, remove them from the inventory list, and authorize their disposal under Florida Statute #274-06.

Commissioner Schneider seconded and the motion passed.

2. Contract for purchase of Lehigh Acres lots. We have received an offer of \$7,500 (\$2,500 each) for the three Lehigh Acres lots that belong to the volunteer organization. The value of the lots is

probably closer to \$3,500, but they will require some clearing and tree removal so the offer takes that into consideration.

Commissioner Detzel asked about the prior issue we had with either taxes or a lien on the properties. Chief Dowaliby said that he also wants to recommend that we speak to the buyer about including the Alva lot in the offer and see if they will pay \$10,000 for all four. We can take that offer back to them if the Board would like to do that, and we will research the lien and bring that information back next month.

After discussion the Board directed the Chief to continue negotiations and voted to table a decision until next month. Commissioner Kimball made a motion to table, Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed.

3. Approve purchase of new air packs at a total cost of \$159,870.04. This was budgeted at \$160,000.00.

The air packs are at the end of their life expectancy and there have been a lot of improvements for firefighter safety on the newer air packs. Deputy Chief Rewis answered some questions from the Commissioners. The current air packs are 17 or 18 years old and they are expected to last between 15 and 20 years. Each of the new packs has a built-in thermal imaging camera for quick rescue to scan a room for heat signatures. These are not meant to replace the main TIC on each truck but they are an added safety measure to aid in rescue or help a firefighter escape if necessary.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to purchase the new air packs at a total not to exceed \$160,000.00. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

4. Update on Verandah property purchase and authorization to extend inspection period. Mr. Pringle gave an update on the Verandah purchase which continues to work it's way through the process. The plat has been completed and signed by Mr. Detzel. We have resolved most of the issues we had and now that the amendment of the subdivision plat has been approved they can divide off and sell the parcel that we want. Comcast has said that they will discontinue use of their structure on the property in 2021. We will need to get something in writing to make sure that is taken care of so we don't need to have a separate agreement with them for access to the structure long term. It is possible that Comcast could walk away and leave the structure at which time we will make a decision about whether we want to utilize the structure or remove it. Verandah has agreed to continue maintaining the wall and landscaping on Palm Beach Blvd.



They have also agreed to allow us to tie into their sanitary sewer but I have not received the paperwork on that yet. The Chief and I are going to speak with the environmental testing company to clear up our questions. All of these items are supposed to be completed before the end of the inspection period so I would like to extend both the inspection period and the closing date. Verandah still would like to close prior to the end of the year so I propose extending the inspection period to closer to the closing date to give us time to complete everything. There was further discussion of the exact dates.

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve the second amendment to the agreement and extend the inspection period to December 18, 2020 and the closing date to no later than December 21, 2020. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

**Public Input on Non-Agenda Items:**

None

**Union Report:**

DVP Hunt: The two new hires are joining the Union.

**Comments from Commissioners:**

The Commissioners and Pastor Cords all said thanks to everyone for doing such a great job! Stay safe!

**Adjourn**

Commissioner Kimball made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.