

**FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE & RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
January 21, 2021
MINUTES**

Call Meeting to Order

Commissioner Apperson called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Apperson, Kimball, Detzel, Ragen and Schneider. Also in attendance were Deputy Chief Rewis, Attorney Pringle, Administrative Assistant Howard, John O'Grady, and Jacob Lamb. Chief Dowaliby attended by phone.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Prayer – Chaplain Cords

Amendments to the Agenda

None

Presentations/Awards

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for December 2020 were presented for approval. Commissioner Detzel 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 December 2020:

The operating account opened with \$1,807,221.49. There were deposits of \$4,302,058.01 and expenditures of \$582,605.69 for an ending balance of \$5,526,673.81.

The impact fee account opened with \$1,277,483.98. There were deposits of \$283.50 and no expenditures for an ending balance of \$1,277,767.48.

The 4-week C.D.A.R.S. opened with \$.1,253,004.87 There were credits of \$288.37 for an ending balance of \$1,253,293.24.

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 December 30, 2020 were \$12,557,734.53.

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

Chief's Report

Items of Interest

- The Deputy Chief and I went on a field trip to look at a couple of stations that Summit Construction built. The trip was informative. We will discuss their proposal under Old Business.
- We officially own the Verandah property.
- There is a question for Mr. Pringle on the sale of the lots. He will review the email I received and give us an opinion in Old Business.
- Mr. Pringle will give us an update on the Local Government Efficiency Taskforce.
- We will approve Dr. Rodi's contract under New Business. We approved the amount but not the contract.
- I would like to approve the Fire Board of Commissioners Handbook in New Business.
- Our ISO inspection is February 9th.
- We are in Union Negotiations about Minimum Manning and Sick Time on January 29th.
- We have two new babies! Congratulations to the Salyers and the (Casey) Gees.
 - Paul Salyers has a new son. Young Mr. Salyers was born January 1st. He weighed 7lbs 12 oz
 - Casey Gee also has a new son. Young Mr. Gee was born January 15th. He weighed 7lbs 9oz
- Department anniversaries: Captain Clouse – 17 years

- Birthdays to celebrate this month: Engineer Poulton. Next year we will have two January kids' birthdays.
- Wedding anniversaries: Captain Clouse and his wife – 13 years

Meetings Attended

- Nothing major to report

Training Attended

- Captain Jones will give the Training Report

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

Attorney's Report

- Sale of lots owned by the dissolved volunteer non-profit: We are able to sell the lots without reinstating the non-profit. Review of last month's decision to accept the offer of \$9,000 for the four lots and the question of the lien on the property. The Board voted in January to pay the lien out of the proceeds of the sale if it comes up in the title search. The buyer is aware of the existence of the lien. It is not listed in the title search at this time, but it may still be found in the final search. If the lien does have to be satisfied before closing it will come out of the proceeds as the Board previously decided.
- The Local Government Efficiency Taskforce: The taskforce was appointed by the Governor and will report to the Legislature. Property Appraiser Matt Caldwell is on the taskforce and one of the items he is focusing on is the consolidation of Fire Districts. Mr. Caldwell has some political power because of his dual roles in Lee County and on this State taskforce, and this is something we will need to pay attention to. Currently the law requires that consolidation of fire districts would need to go to the voters of each district for approval, but it is possible for the Legislature to change the law and remove that requirement. The Districts may want to consider pooling their money and hire a lobbyist to look out for their interests in Tallahassee and keep everyone informed of the process as well as making sure the Districts' opinions are heard.

Further discussion: The Fire Districts in Lee County are generally pretty well run, but other districts around the state may not be so Lee County could be simply caught in the push to make fire districts statewide more efficient. There is a lot of concern that if Lee County fire districts

were to consolidate our area and others in East Lee County would lose the new equipment we have purchased and the reserves we have built up while receiving a much lower level of service in return. There is a good argument to make about home rule as it relates to the Fire Districts because they are truly some of the very last local governments. Chief Dowaliby said the Florida Association of Special Districts and the Florida Fire Chiefs Association are watching closely. He recommends waiting until next month to see if there is any other information by then. Mr. Pringle said they will give another update in February.

- Update on Verandah: The purchase is complete after quite a bit of negotiations on the post-closing items. They agreed to hold \$10,000 in escrow to clean up the contamination that was found in the environmental testing. I have a proposal for the work and since the Board already approved getting the work done so we will be moving forward to get it done withing the 90-day timeline.

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

Fire Prevention Division Report

- Current Construction: Two 8-plex units in Portico
- New Construction: None to report
- Projects Completed: 6-plex unit in Portico; Adam Hansen Fireworks Tent
- Revenues: The Division billed \$225 for the month.
- Meetings Attended: Lee County Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association remote meeting; Lee County Fire Chiefs Association meeting
- Prevention Education: None to report
- Inspections: The division completed 0 various fire inspections for the month.
- We have started using the new reporting and inspections program and I am still working out the bugs and learning how to use it. I will have inspection numbers for you once I am able to figure out the system completely. We ended 2020 with 350 various types of inspections completed, making Fort Myers Shores a safer place to live and work.

Commissioner Detzel made a motion to accept the Prevention Report. Commissioner Kimball 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 Inspection and proper use
- One pre-incident plan per shift
- R.I.T. drills
- Fire ground skills
- Hydraulics/Apparatus
- EMT

Upcoming Training

- C-Shift Facility Training in February
- A-Shift Confined Space refresher
- Janey Structure Collapse

A-Shift

- Assisted with promotional testing with Volunteer FF's
- Trained with E-draulic tools in the back lot with a couple of cars
- Finishing up Target Solutions Training for the year
- Each shift and our Chaplain went out the three days before Christmas and handed out candy and gifts to our residents
- Worked on a pre-fire plan of the Storage King

B-Shift

- Conducted additional extrication on provided vehicles
- Engineer training: Conducted hydraulic calculations using Flow Meters
- Multiple line deployment and flows

- Hose Management
- Various Medical Training
- Pre-fire plans on Hickey Creek
- Continued working on Probationary Firefighter Task Sheet
- College courses

C-Shift

- Extrication Training with MES
 - Dash Lift Techniques
 - Tool Operation
 - Lift Bag Techniques
 - Vehicle Stabilization
- Daily Training
 - Task book sign-offs for Probationary Firefighters

Public Input on Agenda Items

None

Old Business

1. Discussion of Fortress Secured/Summit Construction unsolicited proposal for Station 2. Attorney Pringle reviewed the strict confidentiality rules involved in the receipt of an unsolicited bid. He also reviewed the process of accepting the unsolicited bid and initiating the Public Private Partnership program. The Public Private Partnership process is described in Florida Statute 265.065 as an alternative selection process for a work to be performed on behalf of a government agency. This process has been used by Fire Districts and there are steps the government agency must perform if they choose to go through the process. The first step in the process is to establish whether there is a need for the project and we know there is a need for a second station . The next step would be to hire a Construction Advisor, either an architect or engineer certified in the state of Florida. The District would then issue a Request for Proposals for design and construction services and the Construction Advisor would review all the proposals and advise the Board on the various proposals.

Mr. Pringle recommended that the Board take the next few weeks to review the bid before deciding whether or not to accept it and start the process. There was some further discussion about the construction advisor and the Board decided to go ahead and issue an RFP for a Construction Advisor. The District's intention is to employ a Construction Advisor to aid and advise the Board even if the Public Private Partnership process is not chosen.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to issue an RFP for a Construction Advisor.

Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

2. Tropical Fence – Additional \$250 for installation of seven-day timer

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve the additional \$250. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

New Business

1. Approve fence for Verandah –waiting for bids

Commissioner Detzel made a motion to table until bids are received. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed.

2. Approve moving up to \$3,000,000 into CDARS if the interest rate is higher than we are receiving in our checking accounts prior to next month's meeting

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve moving the funds if CDARS interest is better before February's meeting. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

3. Medical Director contract

Commissioner Detzel made a motion to approve the Medical Director's contract with Dr. Rodi. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

4. Fire Commissioners Handbook

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to adopt the Fire Commissioners Handbook.

Commissioner Schneider seconded and the motion passed.

Public Input on Non-Agenda Items:

None

Union Report:

None

Comments from Commissioners:

Thanks to everyone and stay safe.

Adjourn

Commissioner Detzel made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.