

**FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE & RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
February 17, 2022  
MINUTES**

**Call Meeting to Order**

Commissioner Detzel called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Detzel, Schneider, Ragen, and Shewmaker. Commissioner Apperson was not in attendance due to illness. Also in attendance were Chief Dowaliby, Assistant Chief Rewis, Deputy Chief Lamb, Attorney Pringle, Administrative Assistant Howard, Chaplain Cords, and members of the department and public.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Prayer – Chaplain Cords**

**Amendments to the Agenda**

New Business: Authorize DC Lamb's credit card with same limit as Chief and AC.

**Presentations/Awards**

Deputy Chief Lamb was sworn in by Chief Dowaliby.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for January 2022 were presented for approval. Commissioner Ragen made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Schneider seconded and the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**

Account balances at January 31, 2022:

Operating Account: \$ 6,347,577.24; Impact Fee Account: \$1,217,295.28; C.D.A.R.S. Accounts:  
\$5,756,759.03

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

## **Chief's Report**

### **Items of Interest**

- Mr. Pringle will have updates on the Station 2 contract, Station 2 financing and the HealthInvest HRA agreement
- The Millennium Physicians Group contract is in effect
- The Building Workgroup has received the Permit Plans and associated renderings and met with Mr. Kitchens from Studio AD, our construction advisor, on February 14<sup>th</sup>. We will meet with Fortress and Kaplan Architects on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and we expect to be able to bring a final set of Permit Plans to the March Board meeting for approval.
- The Building Workgroup also had meetings with Fortress to discuss a final draft of the Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment worksheet.
- Deputy Chief Lamb started on the 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Commissioner Shewmaker gave me contact information for a potential Medical Director, Dr. O'Leary, who is unable to work with us due to his upcoming military deployment. However Dr. O'Leary introduced me to one of his protégés, Dr. Atiyah and I have met with him. I believe he will be an excellent replacement for Dr. Rodi but I will update you next month.
- Six personnel will attend the National Strength and Conditioning Association class on firefighter fitness at Cape Coral FD during the week of March 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Department anniversaries: AC Rewis (17 years), Captain Jones (19 years), FF Casey Gee (2 years)
- Birthdays: Commissioner Shewmaker, DC Lamb's wife and youngest son, Captain Jones' wife, Engineer Washburn's wife and daughter, Engineer Simmons's wife, Captain Swindle's youngest son, Engineer Hunt's daughter
- Wedding anniversaries: Captain Jones and his wife (17 years), Engineer Simmons and his wife (13 years)

### **Meetings Attended**

- Fortress Secure architect renderings meeting
- Fortress Secure Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (FF&E) meeting
- AC Rewis, Administrative Assist. Howard, and I attended an FLSA class.
- Lee County Fire Chiefs Association

### **Training**

- Captain Clouse will give the Training Report

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

### **Attorney's Report**

Attorney Pringle reserved comment until Old Business

### **Fire Prevention Division Report**

- Current Construction: Multi-Family units in Portico and in Pebblebrook at Verandah
- Revenues: The Division billed \$849.05 for the month.
- Publix Education: CPR training for Cascades at River Hall and Orange Harbor MHP
- Inspections: The division completed 18 various fire inspections for the month and a total of 496 for the year.

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

### **Training Report**

- Daily Training: 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: Peer Fitness Trainer Class March 15-18 (Jones, Mann, Clouse, Peterson, Swindle, and Hunt); BOSAR March 28-April 1 (Simmons, Taylor, and Glenn)
- A-Shift: Engineer Task Book; FF Mimbs is finishing Inspector classes and prepping for the state test; Pump training; Hydrant maintenance
- B-Shift: FF Schumacher starting Fire Officer 1 classes; Engineer Hunt and Captain Swindle are continuing classes for the Bachelors Degrees; Captain Swindle achieved USAR Rescue Specialist; Engineer Hunt is working on Officer Task Book; Hydrant maintenance

- C-Shift: Hydrant maintenance; working on getting new brush truck in service; Boat operations; pump training; FF Taylor has his probation final test at the end of March; Engineer Poulton and Captain Clouse have been working with the Station 2 Workgroup

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

### **Public Input on Agenda Items** - None

### **Old Business**

1. Station 2 financing discussion: Mr. Pringle presented the two options we have received from Webster Bank and from Synovus Bank. He also spoke to First Bank and they are interested but were not able to prepare a proposal in time for the meeting. The original proposal from Fortress included a financing option but not a specific lender which allows the District to work with Fortress and various lenders to give the Board every available option. Fortress was able to get a proposal from Webster Bank and Mr. Pringle spoke to Synovus Bank and received a proposal from them. The current Webster Bank proposal has a five-year “no-call”, meaning we are unable to pay off the loan in the first five years. It also has a 1% fee to pay it off in years 6-9. The Board would prefer terms that allow pre-payment without penalty and the ability to pay off the loan at any point, or as close to that as possible.

The Board discussed both options but decided they to continue the discussion until Mr. Pringle is able to request updated proposals from Webster and Synovus to see if they are able to offer any better terms, and an additional proposal from First Bank. He also welcomed any other banks that Fortress is able to recommend.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to continue the meeting on this item until Wednesday, February 23, 2022 if we are able to get updated quotes by then. If we cannot get quotes by February 23, 2022 the item will be taken up in the scheduled meeting on March 3, 2022.

Commissioner Shewmaker seconded. Motion passed.

### **New Business**

1. Credit Card Limits: After discussion the Board agreed to increase the credit card limits for the Administrative Visa card to \$30,000, the Chief and AC to \$5,000 each, and the Travel card to \$5,000.

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve the increased credit card limits. Commissioner S seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval to purchase new conference room chairs for Crossroads Baptist Church to replace the chairs we currently use for the Board of Commissioners at our meetings.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to approve the purchase at a cost not-to-exceed \$4,000. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Approve credit card for Deputy Chief with a limit of \$5,000.

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve the credit card. Commissioner Schneider seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Public Input on Non-Agenda Items:** None

**Union Report:** None

**Comments from Commissioners:**

Commissioner Schneider thanked Engineer Simmons for helping his neighbor's son when he locked his keys in his car.

Commissioner Shewmaker said he hopes the new Medical Director works out since Dr. O'Leary was unavailable.

Commissioner Detzel thanked everyone and welcomed the new Deputy Chief.

**Continue**

Commissioner Detzel made a motion to continue the meeting until Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 7:30 pm at the Fire Station for the purpose of discussing proposals for financing of Station 2.

Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed at 8:56 pm.

In the event there is not sufficient time to receive bids by the 23<sup>rd</sup> the Board will meet at the Fire Station on Thursday, March 3, 2022 for a previously noticed regular meeting and will continue the discussion of Station 2 financing at that time.