

**FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE & RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**  
**August 17, 2023**  
**MINUTES**

**Call Meeting to Order**

Commissioner Detzel called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Detzel, Ragen, Schneider, Shewmaker and Kressel. Also in attendance were Chief Rewis, Deputy Chief Lamb, Attorney Pringle and Administrative Assistant Howard. No members of the public were in attendance.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Amendments to the Agenda** - None

**Presentations/Awards** - None

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for July 2023 were presented for approval. Commissioner Schneider made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**

Account balances at July 31, 2023 :

Operating Account: \$5,150,581.00 ; Impact Fee Account: \$756,047.44 ; C.D.A.R.S. Accounts:  
\$4,500,000.00 ; Synovus Loan Payment Account: \$54,165.02

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

**Chief/Prevention Report**

**Chief's Report**

- The new hires started this week. They are in the middle of a 2-week orientation.
- We are planning to hold the grand opening for Station 82 on August 30<sup>th</sup> and want to see what time is good so all the commissioners can attend – 6:30 works for everyone.

- We will be doing a wash down/push in of the new apparatus for Station 82 with a blessing from Chaplain Cords.
- The costs for the concrete and drains for the bay floors in Station 81 have been moved to next year's budget due to the timeline of getting the material and starting the project.

### **Fire Prevention Division Report**

**Current Construction:** Multi-family units in Pebblebrook in Verandah; Oakview community on Buckingham Rd.; Hemmingway Pointe community; Circle K at Palm Beach and Buckingham Rd.

**New Construction:** None to report

**Projects Completed:** Publix at the Shoppes of Verandah remodel; Fort Myers Shores Fire Station 82 – inspections were completed by Chief Underwood from Bayshore Fire Dept.

**Revenues:** The division billed \$650 for the month of July: 1 Commercial Exhaust System, 1 Commercial Hood inspection and 10 Fire Alarm Acceptance Tests

**Meetings Attended:** Weekly Rotary meetings; Lee County Fire Chiefs; Lee County Fire Marshals & Inspectors Association; River Hall CDD

**Public Education:** Multiple CPR/AED/First Aid classes for local teachers and coaches for the start of the new school year.

**Inspections:** The division completed 61 various inspections for the month of July including 14 re-inspections.

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

### **Attorney's Report**

- Will review Tuscan Engagement letter renewal in Old Business

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

### **Operations Division Report**

#### **Items of Interest**

- New bunker gear is in service
- Five new firefighters started orientation – one paramedic and four EMT's
- Water Day at Olga Community Center

- New engines are coming along nicely
- Strike team leader
- Iona McGregor promotional assessment
- Slow down for school
- Probable arson fire – truck on Buckingham Rd.
- Call data July 1-31, 2023: 196 calls for service generating 248 vehicle responses
- Call data YTD Jan. 1 – July 31: 1451 calls for service generating 1803 vehicle responses

**Meetings attended** - Lee County Fire Chiefs; Lee County Fire Chiefs Ops group; several meetings and site visits at Station 82; budget planning; hiring workgroup

**Training** – Daily functional fitness with crews; district familiarization; new engine orientation; new hire on-boarding; Dr. Atiyeh in service (pit-crew CPR)

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to accept the Operations Division Report. Commissioner Shewmaker seconded and the motion passed.

### **Training Report**

- Daily Training: functional training and circuit style workouts; truck checks; SCBA and gear checks; Vector Solutions
- Monthly Training: ladder inspection and proper use; one pre-incident plan per shift; R.I.T. drills; Fire Ground skills; Hydraulics/Apparatus; EMT
- A-Shift: various classes; building familiarization; hose loads and pulls; workouts
- B-Shift: various classes and training; Vector Solutions; USAR training and MOBEX drill
- C-Shift: working on new engines; Station 82 liaisons; vehicle maintenance; workouts; PR Event at Olga Community Center for Summer Camp

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

**Public Input on Agenda Items** - None

### **Old Business**

1. Tuscan engagement letter renewal for fiscal years 2024, 2025 and 2026: Mr. Pringle reviewed the agreements which he negotiated with Mr. Tuscan. The guaranteed maximum cost for the

three years are: FY 2024 - \$19,500; FY 2025 - \$20,500; FY 2026 - \$21,500. There may be additional fees for the separate work for the Investment/Banking procedures which is capped at \$9,000.00 for each year. If the additional fees exceed that we will bring it back to the Board for approval. There are two parts to the engagement letter renewal, the agreement for the regular audit and the agreement for the additional work required to audit the District's investment and banking procedures. Mr. Pringle asked the Board to approve the two items separately.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to approve the additional work necessary for the audit of the District's investment and banking procedures and to authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Shewmaker seconded and the motion passed.

Commissioner Schneider made another motion to approve the Audit Engagement letter for the regular audit and to authorize the Chair to sign. Commissioner Shewmaker seconded and the motion passed.

2. Commissioner Ragen asked if the other commissioners would agree to getting some type of Class A uniform for the commissioners to wear to special events like the station grand opening or promotional ceremonies. He specifically would like to have dress shirts and black pants. After some discussion Commissioner Schneider said he would consider it and asked the Chief to get pricing. Once prices are gathered the item will be brought back to a future meeting for consideration and approval.

### **New Business**

1. Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget Review: Chief Rewis reviewed the budget draft and there was some discussion and Chief Rewis answered several questions and the commissioners also had several suggestions. No action is needed for this item.

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

None

### **Comments from Commissioners:**

Commissioner Ragen: I am very happy with the progress on the new station and happy to live in this community and be part of the fire district.

Commissioner Detzel: Also took a tour of the new station and it is impressive. I look forward to getting is opened.

### **Adjourn**

Commissioner Shewmaker made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Detzel seconded and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.