

**FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE & RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**  
**May 18, 2023**  
**MINUTES**

**Call Meeting to Order**

Commissioner Detzel called the meeting to order at 7:30p.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.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Amendments to the Agenda**

New Business: Approval for the FASD request for support.

There will be a short Executive Session after the meeting to discuss Union Negotiations.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for April 2023 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 April 30, 2023 :

Operating Account: \$6,348,514.50 ; Impact Fee Account: \$1,677,290.16 ; C.D.A.R.S. Accounts: \$5,769,955.42 ; Synovus Construction Account: \$0, Account was closed per Board action at April meeting and funds moved to First Bank were used in full toward the May construction draw; Synovus Loan Payment Account: \$135,368.27

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

**Chief/Prevention Report**

**Chief's Report**

- We have reviewed the preliminary performance audit report with Special District Services. The final report will be ready to be presented at next month's meeting. We are happy with the progress on the report.
- Station 2 is projected to be finished and handed over to the district towards the end of June or beginning of July. We have some work to do after we have the building and items to order to prepare the station to open for service sometime in August or September.
- We held promotional exams last week to prepare for the opening of Station 2. I would like to congratulate all of our members that successfully passed.
- We are meeting tomorrow morning with District 18 / 20 to negotiate Article 11 (minimum manning) to make adjustments for the opening of Station 2.
- The bay floors at Station 1 have developed a problem – existing cracks in the concrete have started to buckle and crumble creating a trip hazard. We have had several companies out to evaluate the problem and are waiting for quotes and more information for either repairing or replacing the floor. When we get that we will evaluate the current year budget to see if we can move forward this year or if we need to budget for it next year. We will keep the Board updated as we get more information.

### **Fire Prevention Division Report**

**Current Construction:** Multi-family units in Portico, the last building in under construction now; Multi-family units in Pebblebrook in Verandah; Oakview community on Buckingham Rd – 51 single-family homes; Hemmingway Pointe community; Circle K at Palm Beach Blvd. and Buckingham Rd.

**New Construction:** None to report

**Projects Completed:** Two multi-family units in Pebblebrook in Verandah; Los Primos Tires; PDK Roofing

**Revenues:** The division billed \$1,888.32 for the month of April.

**Meetings Attended:** Rotary meetings (weekly); Lee County Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association; Lee County Fire Chiefs; Lee County Co-op / Operations; River Hall CDD

**Education:** Arson Task Force vehicle burns

**Inspections:** The division completed 38 inspections for the month of April including 15 reinspections.

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

**Attorney's Report** – No report – it's a pleasure to be here!

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

### **Operations Division Report**

There has been a lot of good feedback on the District from other Fire Chiefs. With our new station going up, new trucks, all the training we have been doing, promotions, hiring new personnel, we are the talk of the County in a good way!

### **Items of Interest**

- Vector Solutions Scheduling build-out is in progress. So far, so good.
- Bunker Boot evaluations continue, we are closer to selecting a vendor.
- Engineer / Captain promotions testing is complete. Happy with the process.
- Sonshine Christian Academy show and tell (A-Shift, Acting Captain Washburn).
- New engine training with manufacturer rep scheduled for June.
- Evaluating new nozzles for booster lines.
- East Lee County Co-op (joint training with Alva, Bayshore, NFM, Shores and Tice FDs) is set up for three days next week with coverage for the districts will be provided by departments from south Lee County so we can all get some important facilities training together.
- Structure fire (B-Shift) – great job keeping the fire contained to the back bedroom and minimizing property damage!
- Call data: April 1-30=199 calls for service generating 271 vehicle responses. Zone 81 – 44.7%, Zone 82 51.3%, out of district 4%
- Call data: YTD, Jan.1 to April 30=842 calls for service generating 1,099 vehicle responses. Zone 81 – 43.5%, Zone 81 – 50.2%, out of district 5.1%

**Meetings Attended:** Officers meeting; Lee County Fire Chiefs; Lee County Fire Training group; Lee County Fire Chiefs Ops group; several meetings and site visits at Station 82; Vector Solutions Scheduling; East Lee Chiefs; promotional testing

**Training:** Daily functional fitness with crews; F.D.I.C. (Fire Department Instructors Conference); district familiarization; Engineer test prep – friction loss and hydraulics; District MVV (Mission, Vision and Values); Dr. Atiyeh – EMS discussion on enhancing our level of service

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

### **Training Report**

- Daily Training: Functional training and circuit style workouts; truck checks; SCBA and gear checks; Target Solutions

- Monthly Training: Ladder inspection and proper use; one pre-incident plan per shift; R.I.T. drills; Fire Ground drills; Hydraulics/Apparatus; EMT
- Upcoming Training: East Lee Co-op Training in May; Air Consumption drill
- A-Shift: Mimbs, Salyers, Glenn took the Engineers promotional test; Mimbs taking Inspector II classes; hydrant maintenance; various in-house training; multiple Pre-Fire Plans around the district completed
- B-Shift: A. Gee and Janey took the Engineers promotional test; hydrant maintenance; Pre-Fire Plans in the district; Schumacher completed VMR Tech class
- C-Shift: Peterson and Taylor took the Engineers promotional test; Poulton took the Captains promotional test; hydrant maintenance; Pre-Fire Plans completed in district

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

**Public Input on Agenda Items** – None, no public present.

**Old Business** - None

### **New Business**

1. Discussion of renewal of Tuscan engagement for financial audit of fiscal years 2024, 2025 and 2026. Upon review of the contract provided, the costs are not included so they will need to be negotiated before the contract is approved.  
Commissioner Detzel made a motion to authorize Mr. Pringle to negotiate the contract terms and fees and bring the completed version back to the Board for approval. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed.
2. Approval for capital expenditures:
  - i. Gear dryer for station 2 budgeted at \$5,000. The updated quote is \$7,867.91.  
Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve the purchase of the gear dryer at a cost not to exceed \$8,000. Commissioner Schneider seconded and the motion passed.
  - ii. Brush 82 replacement bed budgeted at \$15,000. The total quote is just under the budgeted amount but requires Board approval because it is above the Chief's authorization threshold.  
Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve the purchase at a cost not to exceed \$15,000. Commissioner Schneider seconded and the motion passed.
  - iii. Flow Testing Equipment budgeted at \$2,500. The current quote is \$5,740.  
Commissioner Schneider made a motion to approve the purchase. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed.

3. Approval to hire five new personnel. These positions are budgeted in personnel expenditures in the current budget year.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to approve hiring the new employees. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed.

4. FASD (Florida Association of Special Districts) is requesting support for the Forest Protection and Wildland Firefighter Safety Act of 2023. If passed this bill would codify the ability of fire agencies to use fire retardant in fighting wildland fires without seeking specific exemptions.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to approve supporting the bill. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed.

**Public Input on Non-Agenda Items:** None, no public present.

**Comments from Commissioners:** Thanks to everyone – be safe!

### **Adjourn**

Commissioner Shewmaker made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ragen seconded and the motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.