

**MARCH 21, 2013
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT**

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2013

Location: Administrative Offices, Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District, 2451 Trailmate Drive, Sarasota, Florida, 34243

Present: Charles A. Durant, Chairman; Daniel Center, Vice Chairman; Melanie Marken, Secretary; and Commissioner James Cena. Anthony Evans, Treasurer was absent. Also in attendance were Chief Brian Gorski, Fire Marshal Leslie Adent, and Administrative Assistant Debbie Tuckerman. The attached guest list contains signatures of members of the public.

Call to Order

Chairman Durant called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Moment of Silence/Pledge

A moment of silence was observed. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was included in the Board packet. *Commissioner Center motioned to accept the consent agenda items as presented. Commissioner Marken seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Durant called for any Public Comment and there was none.

OLD BUSINESS

* **Fund Balance Policy**

Chief Gorski distributed an updated Fund Balance Policy. There were some slight changes to the distribution of the Fund Balance, which he explained. The Chief went over the policy and reported that he will be ready for a final version, to be approved by the Board at April's meeting.

* **Vehicle Replacement Program**

Chief Gorski reported that on April 10, B/C Blanco, Chairman Durant and he will be touring Sarasota County Fleet Services. Commissioner Cena told the Board that he was familiar with Sarasota County Fleet Services while he was with Longboat Key Fire Department. Commissioner Cena said that they do excellent work. Chief Gorski also distributed the updated Fuel Usage spreadsheet and reviewed it with the board members.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Station #5 Easement

Chief Gorski gave the Board an update on some issues with the property owner behind Station #5. Chief Gorski made the Board aware that there could be some costs to re-plant, according to the Easement Agreement made previously.

2. Mission, Vision, Values

Chief Gorski reported that the second Strategic Planning meeting had taken place March 4. The department employees have created a new Mission, Vision and Values Statement for the district.

3. SWOT Analysis

Chief Gorski reported that during the second Strategic Planning Session, a SWOT analysis was created. Again this was created by the employees.

4. Budget Revision

Chief Gorski noted that in the board packet was a revised Budget along with a memo outlining the changes and a Resolution adopting them. Chief Gorski went through the changes in the budget with the board members. *Commissioner Cena motioned to accept Resolution 2013-01 as presented. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.* Commissioner Center commended Chief Gorski and staff for the great work on the budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

* **Pension Committee**

Chief Gorski reported that the next meeting of the Trustees will be on April 9th. The auditor, Randy Dillingham, will present the audit to the Board. Chief Gorski has several concerns on legislation that is being presented in Tallahassee. Chief Gorski wants to know how it will affect the retirement plans.

* **Union Report**

Adam Chevalier reported that he and Chief Gorski have continued to meet. He hopes to have dates in April to begin negotiations.

VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION

5. Minutes from March 4, 2013 Meeting

The minutes were for the Board's information only.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Gorski reported that he and the committee for the new website have met. They will be showing the proposed website later this evening.

Chief Gorski went over his meetings attended for the month as they were listed on this Chief's Report.

Chief Gorski distributed copies of Customer Service Satisfaction Survey's received since the March meeting. All responses were "outstanding".

An update of the current Retirement Legislation was discussed.

Chief Gorski is working on a district map that show what type of calls and where in the district they occur. This will assist the District to create specific programs to educate our citizens.

Chief Gorski reported that we did not get approved for the .gov website. We are moving ahead with smfr.com. There was a preview of the new website for the Board.

Chief Gorski reported that Mark Crawford will call our commissioners to find out what type of badge they would like.

Chief Gorski also reported that as we are looking at where the costs are, we have identified that we are paying \$5,500 for fees with Bank of America. We spoke with Bank of America representatives and there is really nothing they can do to reduce our fees. We have had another bank come in and compared fees. The other bank said that the type of account we have currently can be changed to reduce costs. We will be looking at other options to save some of this money.

Chief Gorski reported to the Board that he could like to use Karen Morinelli for the department labor attorney, as was discussed in January. He has utilized her in the past and she resides in our district. ***Commissioner Center made a motion to approve Karen Morinelli as the Labor Attorney for the Department. Commissioner Cena seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.***

Chief Gorski is still working on the Medical Director issue. Chief Gorski also reported that there is an online EMT training becoming available by mid April. Chief Gorski did get to go through a couple of sections of the online EMT training and reported it is a great tool for EMT recertifications.

COMMISSIONER'S/ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Chairman Durant asked for Commissioner's and Administration's comments.

Commissioner Cena said that he would be attending the Manatee County Fire Commissioners Meeting on April 1st at West Manatee Fire & Rescue. He also noted that the presentation was phenomenal. We need to get this out when it is ready. Commissioner Cena had several ideas on how to roll out the new website. Commissioner Cena also spoke about his reservations about when the Shade Meeting was held and who attends. There was some discussion.

Commissioner Marken liked the website, looks good. It will be good to get a "fresh" .com.

Commissioner Center spoke about the transformation that the organization has gone through has been tremendous. Chief Gorski is using the team energy. The website is awesome. He also gave the Board an update on what is happening in Tallahassee as he just returned from there.

Chairman Durant noted that the website is excellent. We need to put it on the vehicles, get it out there for the public to see. He also noted to be careful with the video, as far as public records etc.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 18, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.



Charles A. Durant, Chairman

Attest:



Melanie A. Marken, Secretary