



## SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

### Interoffice Memorandum

**TO:** The Southern Manatee Board of Fire Commissioners  
**FROM:** Brian Gorski, Fire Chief <sup>BG</sup>  
**RE:** **Chief's Report**  
**DATE:** August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013** – we had a meeting with VFIS Insurance Provider about FY14 projected cost as it relates to our insurance on our stations, vehicles, equipment, liability insurance and Workers Compensation. For FY14 our Workers Compensation will go down in cost due to the numerous safety programs and policies implemented by the District over the past year.

**July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013** – We had another apparatus committee meeting with our personnel and had representatives from Sutphen Apparatus present to provide information about their products and also to view an Engine that they brought that was going to the City of Orlando.

**July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013** - We held the Manatee County Fire Chief's meeting at our Administration Center. Items of discussion were over the County Haz-Mat Team, software for incident reporting tied to the mobile data terminals, radio procedure changes that were to effect August 5<sup>th</sup> (Cedar Hammock and Trailer Estates going to a different Tac Channel then Southern Manatee).

**July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013** – We held another negotiation session with the IAFF. We are now down to about 5 remaining articles to work on.

**July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013** – Myself and staff visited the Blue Cross Facility at University Park Way and I-75. Staff from the Blue Cross facility described their services that they offer to their participants and their families. Services that ranged from Wellness Physicals, exercise classes, learning about foods, problems with

claims, and classes to stop smoking and many more services and discounts that they offer to Blue Cross participants.

**July 29, 30, 31, 2013** – Myself and Debbie Tuckerman had a meeting each day with all of our firefighters and staff to discuss getting our employees onto a dental and vision plan offered through Principal. At these meeting I first explained our findings at the Blue Cross facility of the many services offered that we are not taking advantage of and then I explained to everyone why we (the District) needed to get everyone on a dental and vision plan. I explained and showed everyone the current liability to the District on the way we are currently handling dental and vision claims.

**July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013** - We conducted our second strategic planning session with the District's Haz-Mat Team members. We developed a mission and vision statement, conducted a SWOT analysis and started to developed strategic goals. An additional meeting will need to be held in order to continue building the frame work for the five (5) year plan.

**July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013** – Response Technologies produced a film that utilized our personnel and equipment and Haz-Mat personnel behind our Station 4 that pertained to Chemical Suicides. By allowing the use of our facilities and personnel, they will provide a not cost to our personnel this training for our personnel. Chemical Suicides are on the increase and if you are not properly prepared and equipped, first responders could also be killed.

**August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013** - Our Pension Board had a meeting to review and approve the Plan Summary and to review and approve a revised page of the actuarial valuation.

We held numerous meetings with staff over the preparation of the FY14 Budget. Budget will be presented in a new format that will identify cost by Cost Centers.