



## SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

### Interoffice Memorandum

**TO:** The Southern Manatee Board of Fire Commissioners  
**FROM:** Brian Gorski, Fire Chief (BG)  
**RE:** **Chief's Report**  
**DATE:** July 17, 2014

**May 19, 2014** – Staff had a meeting and demo with Motorola over the next generation 800 mhz radio equipment that has been released. By the end of June both Manatee County and Sarasota County, together, will be going out for bid for the replacement of their 800 mhz infrastructure.

**May 28, 2014** – I had a meeting with some residents of the University Park Country Club over their CERT Team. For the past few years our Fire District has been actively involved with this CERT Team training and they have expressed sincere appreciation over this. They asked for my assistance in trying to establish a communication link or meeting with the Manatee County Emergency Management Department. Ever since their initial training by the County there has been no communication and this CERT Team has tried numerous times by calling and/or email. I told them that I would get a meeting established.

**May 28, 29, 30, 2014** – The District held a Meth Lab awareness class for all of our personnel. The District recently had an early morning house fire and during the mop phase our personnel discovered a Meth Lab in which probably was the cause of the fire.

**May 28, 2014** – The District participated in a blood drive with the Suncoast Communities Blood Bank.

**May 29, 2014** – Myself and Leslie Adent were invited to meet Governor Scott that was in our District at Marine Concepts (1651 Whitefield Avenue). The purpose of his visit was to rally for small businesses and for votes.

**June 3, 2014** – We had a meeting at West Manatee Fire Rescue District over the proposed Uniform Fire Ordinance. A lot of discussion occurred over road widths and standpipe/sprinkler requirements.

**June 3, 2014** – I had a meeting with Don Hermei, Emergency Management Chief of Manatee County. The reason for the meeting was to explain to Don what was passed onto me by the CERT Team of University Park Country Club. According to Don, Steve Simpson is over the CERT Teams. Don agreed to a meeting with the CERT Teams if I would set it up.

**June 9, 2014** – Myself, Battalion Chief Chris Gould and FF/EMT Mike Bloski had a meeting with Chief Johnson at Parrish over a request that was made by FPL to have Parrish and us become their primary hazardous materials responder. I guess this comes up every year during budget time at FPL and every year they are giving the answer no, due to the lengthy response of both Parrish and the Manatee County Hazardous Materials Team. We believe that FPL is still required to have on-site a first responder team.

After this meeting, we then attended a meeting at FPL and the purpose of this meeting was for us to become their Team so they could eliminate their first response team. We told them no because of the lengthy response and we would continue to work with them in their training needs.

**June 12, 2014** – I attended a meeting at the Manatee County Technical Institute over the replacement of Larry Swartz. The School Board updated everyone over the proposed job description, replacement process and the time table and asked the Advisory Board to conduct the interviews.

**June 17, 2014** – All of our staff including the Battalion Chiefs attended a meeting at Sarasota County Fire Department over a scheduling / payroll program called Tele-Staff. This was a great meeting and demo over this software that does staffing as well as payroll. It is a paperless system that Clerk of Courts did approve for use in Sarasota County along with their Krono's payroll program that the Clerk of Court uses. Based on this meeting we decided to go further and contact Krono's / Tele-staff for a future meeting.

**June 17, 2014** – I had a meeting with Don Hermei, Steve Simpson, and the CERT Teams at the Emergency Operation Center. This was a great meeting and all of the Teams were satisfied with the outcome of this meeting. There was a

breakdown in communication between the County and these Teams and Don did an outstanding job in re-establishing it.

**June 19, 2014** – We had another meeting outstanding meeting with everyone over our rules and regulations and SOP's. Our committee is getting close to completion.

**June 19, 2014** – We had a meeting with VFIS Insurance Representatives over FY15 proposed rates.

**June 25, 2014** – Myself and Robert Bounds attended a TRIM Workshop in St. Petersburg that was held by the Florida Department of Revenue. This was an excellent class that we both learned a lot and well as meeting the people that we actually talk to on the phone when we have questions.

**June 26, 2014** – I attended the Manatee County Fire Chief's meeting which was held at Parrish Fire Department. The main item of discussion was over the proposed Uniform Fire Prevention Ordinance. The Fire Marshal's group did an outstanding job in updating this ordinance. This ordinance does include the language from the LDR in the event that this language would be dropped from the LDR, which mainly pertained to road widths, access, and lengths of cul-de-sacs. After a lengthy discussion, it was approved by all Fire Districts to be submitted to their individual Boards for advertisement and adoption. There was also discussion over the appeal process in which I will explain at the Board meeting.

The Manatee Fire Chief's group also reviewed a letter that will be sent to me that acknowledges their approval of the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District taking the lead over Hazardous Materials. This letter also acknowledged the transfer of the Manatee County Hazardous Materials assets over to us and the purchasing of equipment/supplies. The County Administrator is waiting for this letter to make this official and then the current Haz-Mat Resolution is going to be revised and it will be between Southern Manatee and Manatee County Government.

**June 26, 2014** - Myself and Battalion Chief Chris Gould attended a luncheon at the Sarasota Hyatt House that was being sponsored by the Dori Slosberg Foundation that was for all Law, Fire and EMS responders. Senator Nancy Detert, Representative Doug Holder, Greg Steube, Mark Danish and Shawn Harrison were present at this luncheon. Southern Manatee, Cedar Hammock and Sarasota County Fire Department were the only three Departments that



attended, however on the law enforcement side there were personnel from Manatee, Sarasota, Longboat, City of Sarasota, North Port, Charlotte County and Florida Highway Patrol.

**June 26, 2014** – I had a meeting with our medical insurance representatives for our FY15 budget. We should have FY15's cost within the next week or so.

**June 30, 2014** – Received 95% of our new medical equipment and supplies for the new BLS Treatment Protocols. Myself and Firefighter/EMT Todd Pierce will begin working on getting this equipment identified, registered, and issued to all Engines/Stations. Prior to this I plan on providing another hands-on in service training to our personnel over the suction and airway equipment.

**July 1 & 16, 2014** – Staff including the Battalion Chief's had a meeting with Krono's/Telestaff over their scheduling / payroll software. This meeting lasted about 2 hours. Everyone was amazed about what this program does and how it will cut everyone's time down in the processing of payroll and it will eliminate the tons of paper that is used in scheduling, taking time off, and in the payroll process. We are still working with this company in getting more information including the cost. Manatee County EMS, Manatee Memorial, Sarasota County Fire, Charlotte County Fire uses Tele-staff for their scheduling and payroll processes. If the Clerk's Office in three Counties allows the use of Tele-staff for payroll, you know that it has to be good!

**July 1, 2, 3, 2014** – All Stations conducted a walk-thru of the new University Town Center Mall. This mall will open in October as planned.

**July 8, 2014** – Staff along with a Cedar Hammock, West Manatee and Manatee County EMS had a meeting with the Manatee County Health Department over Infection Control Services (significant exposures) and immunizations and post exposure testing. This was a great meeting and our goal is to get everyone (all Fire Districts and EMS) on the same page for significant exposures and immunizations and the required tracking and documentation.

**July 9, 2014** - We had another meeting outstanding meeting with everyone over our rules and regulations and SOP's. Our committee is getting close to completion.

After our SOP/Rule and Regulations meeting, we had a meeting over the proposed FY15 budget. We reviewed continuation, proposals, and revenue. We

also reviewed some revenue scenarios. Our FY15 Budget is about 98% completed at this time.