



## 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 21, 2014

**July 22, 2014** – Staff had a meeting with Greg Lanning from the National Fire Team Testing and Candidate Physical Abilities Testing (CPAT) about both of these programs that is becoming a standard for Fire Departments across the nation for hiring of new employees. Currently Cedar Hammock and West Manatee are using this system. At our meeting we did have representatives from both Cedar Hammock and North River attend. Cedar Hammock just joined. Personnel interested in applying for a job as a Firefighter/EMT would need to have completed CPAT (agility) and passed the National Fire Team Testing with a score of 80% or above. The National Testing Network provides candidate contact and background information, minimum qualification assessment, on-line candidate tracking, real-time scoring, reduced cost to the department (no overtime), increased candidate pool, dimensional scoring, recruiting and advertising year long, increase in diversity, and much more. Our personnel do want to proceed with this program and our next step will be to conduct a CPAT Transportability Study and licensing.

**July 24, 2014** – attended the Manatee County Fire Chief's meeting. Items of discussion were the continued work by Chief Hoyle in having Manatee County apply and collect everyone's impact fees, this year's 9-11 event, formal letter given to Southern Manatee for Haz-Mat Delegation of Authority, and the final draft of the Uniform Fire Code Ordinance. Additionally, our group reviewed and discussed a proposed change(s) to the county-wide user fee schedule. We also discussed having a common Infection Control/Exposure Protocol that all agencies would utilize as well as having the Manatee County Health Department provide these services to our employees.

**July 28, 29, 30, 2014** – I provided another hands on training over the use of the new medical equipment and supplies that we will be utilizing under the new medical treatment protocols. Effective July 31, all of this new equipment and supplies were placed in service on all Engines.

**July 31, 2014** - Staff along with a Cedar Hammock, West Manatee and Manatee County EMS had a 2nd 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.

**August 2, 2014**- I provided in-service training over the new medical treatment protocols to Duette Fire Department. I am scheduled to do North River in September and after that, the only Department left is East Manatee.

**August 5, 2014** – We had an Auditor – Stroemer & Company, stop by to introduce themselves to us and want to bid for our business. I told them that we will be going up for bid soon and we will send them a bid package when this occurs.

**August 6, 2014** – We had another meeting outstanding meeting with everyone over our rules and regulations and SOP's. Our committee is getting close to completion.

**August 7, 2014** – Southern Manatee along with East Manatee, Manatee County EMS, Manatee County Sheriff's Department, and the Manatee County School Board participated in an "Active Shooter Drill" at the Braden River High School. This was an outstanding training drill that everyone learned from it. According to the Sheriff's Department, this was the first time that they could remember every doing a multi-agency drill like this. Hopefully there will be more.

Jeff Atwater, CFO for the State of Florida, came to Southern Manatee to participate in installing smoke alarms with Fire Marshal Adent and her staff. This was a PR event for CFO Atwater for the smoke alarm program/grant that they received last year and this year again in which Southern Manatee did the most installations than anyone else. We will be feature in the State of Florida Annual Report for 2014.

**August 10, 2014** – We had a meeting with Kever & Associates over Medical Insurance plans and costs. A follow-up meeting is being scheduled within the next 2 weeks to go over medical insurance plans that they can offer. The reason for us seeking out other options, is because the District's current plan is becoming unaffordable and projected to go even higher in FY16, actually projected to be higher than Pension costs. I am working with Adam over this and we are getting as much information possible from both Nick Zec (Boyd Insurance) and others.

**August 12, 2014** – The Mobile Data Terminals / I-Mobiles went operational on all Engines. Dispatch information including the map will now be available in the apparatus at the time of the call. Any additional dispatch information will be communicated through these MDT's.

**August 13, 2014** – Staff had a meeting with Kronos-Telestaff's Implementation Team. Purpose of this meeting was identify our Team and their Team members and establish work tasks/assignments for the first stage of implementation.

**August 18, 2014** – We had our 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting at the Health Department in regards to the development of a county-wide Infection Control/Exposure Plan and utilizing the Health Department for the treatment of employees that received a significant exposure as well as other health services that they could offer all Fire and EMS agencies.

I was asked by Manatee County to participate on a program that is in its infant stage about Community Para-medicine, this will be my first meeting, however there has been a meetings going on for the past year that include all the players for community health (hospitals, health department, EMS, Doctors, Nurses, Insurance Companies, etc.). Community Medicine is the future on health and well-being of citizens and the goal is to reduce sick/injury by improving health and well-being and ensuring health care is provided at the appropriate level, meaning stop people with the common cold from going to the emergency room or calling 9-1-1. I think that there are two pilot programs running now here in Florida and one of them is down in Lee County.

**July 17 through August 20, 2014** – we continued to work on our proposed FY15 budget, both continuation and proposals, to get this ready for the August 21 Board meeting. Additionally, we finalized our work on the revenue side of the budget and now have an up to date impact analysis completed on all scenarios.