



SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

Interoffice Memorandum

TO: The Southern Manatee Board of Fire Commissioners
FROM: Brian Gorski, ^{EG} Fire Chief
RE: **Chief's Report**
DATE: October 16, 2014

September 18 – 2014 – I had a meeting with Henry Sheffield. Henry was hired as the new Manatee County Technical Fire Program Director, he replaced Larry Swartz. Basically Henry was meeting all of the Fire Districts to determine their training needs for 2015 as well as discussing the use of their facilities for hands-on fire training drills.

September 22, 23, 25, 29, 30 and October 1, 2 & 8, 2014 - Staff had numerous meetings with Krono's-Telestaff personnel over the building of our scheduling and payroll software. This software does the shift scheduling as well as payroll. During this time period a lot has been accomplished including the actual program. Additionally we developed the payroll codes that links to the current program that the District uses for all of their accounting. We also went developed and added the dynamic issues that cover things like how many FF's can be off at one time on vacation, exchange of duties, who can act as Lieutenants and Battalion Chiefs in their absence and a lot of other dynamic issues. We also establish authority levels for approving time off and how to fill vacancies.

September 22, 2014 – We had a meeting with Sarasota County Fire, Sarasota Dispatch, and our Dispatch in regards to setting up our automatic aid between both of our agencies.

September 24, 2014 – I attended the monthly Manatee County Fire Chief's meeting. At this meeting we spent a lot of time over the revised Fire Code Ordinance. We updated the Florida Statute numbers with current ones. After

this, we all agreed with this final version. At this time, we have sent it to our attorney as well as the Ordinance for her review. Our goal is to get this to you all for its first reading in November and the second reading will be December with implementation/adoption in January 2015. Another discussion occurred over the Fire Prevention User Fee's, we still have some work on this before we bring this forward to you all.

September 30, 2014 – I attended the quarterly Council of Government meeting. A lot of people attended this meeting. At this meeting there was a summary provided to all City/County Commissioners and School Board Commissioners over the recent active shooter drill that we did back in August. This summary was provided by both Law and Fire. Governmental officials that did attend this drill were very impressed and wanted this type of cooperation among agencies to continue with further drills.

Another big topic on the agenda that probably was the real reason why everyone was there was given by Paul Alexander, Information Technology Director from Manatee County Government. He spoke about Next Generation 9-1-1. Mr. Alexander did a great job describing Manatee County 9-1-1 system, its age and limitations and the multiple PSAP here in this County, which further causes issues. I was shocked about the multiple PSAP's and the delays that this can cause in dispatching. Mr. Alexander went over a few scenario's to replace the 9-1-1 system and cost and the last scenario was total consolidation of PSAP/9-1-1 and one dispatch.

A few days after this meeting, the County Administrator sent everyone an invite to provide a representative to be on the new 9-1-1 system ad hoc committee, which is great to have a voice in this very important part of Public Safety.

October 3, 2014 – Staff attended the final meeting at the Manatee County Public Safety Building over the selection of the new vendor for the new regional radio system. This was a multi-county bid and all representatives on this selection Board that including County Commissioners selected Air-Bus as the new vendor. This project will begin January 2015 with full implementation by November 2016. This new system will link to the next generation 9-1-1 hardware/software and it supports our current radios and Motorola radio products.

October 6, 2014 – I had a meeting with all of our Staff and gave them their FY2015 Approved Budget Books and went over the approved budget in detail.

October 9, 2014 - I was asked to arrange a meeting with all of the Fire Districts that was held at the Manatee County EOC by the Manatee County Health Department over Ebola and the Enterovirus D68. We have been keeping our personnel updated with the latest CDC guidelines, however last week Thursday the CDC came out with more guidelines for EMS providers and PSAP's (9-1-1 centers) for call screening. A lot of hospitals as well as 9-1-1 centers already implemented screening procedures right after CDC issued this recommendation. Our meeting focused on prevention, personal protective equipment and PSAP protocols. CDC predicts that by January 2015 there will be 1.5 million Ebola cases. Enterovirus D68 was recently identified in United States and effects the respiratory system and can easily be transmitted. This new virus has does have a high mortality rate. As of October 1, 2014 there were at least 500 cases in the United States.

October 14, 2014 – Staffing had a meeting and demonstration over the new Scott self-contained breathing apparatus. The purpose of this meeting was allow everyone to see the new equipment that will be purchase in the replacement of our existing self-contained breathing apparatus, the new accountability systems (pak traker and SEMS2) as well as getting a better quote.

Staff along with many other Fire Districts attended a meeting at the Property Appraisers Office (POA) to revisit the changes made by the POA over the DOR Codes and common areas.

October 16, 2014 – We had another meeting over our SOP's and Rules and Regulations. Our Committee has finished more than half of these and now have them being reviewed by all employees. We also started the review of all of position descriptions.