



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 16, 2015

June 22, 2015 – Staff had a meeting with Phill Baker from Boyd Insurance over our FY16 Liability Insurances, Life Insurance, Vehicle Insurance and Workers Compensation. We completed the renewal applications and Phill was able to provide some proposed costs for FY16, which indicates an increase in all areas with a huge increase in our Workers Compensation. The increase in Workers Compensation was due to some heart-lung cases.

June 23, 2015 – Our Insurance Committee (Staff & Labor) had another meeting with Nick Zec over our current medical insurance plan and the proposed increase of 34%. Nick went over about 10 other HSA plans (Blue Options and HMO's) for the group to consider. Additionally Nick was asked to provide other plans from Companies (Aetna, UHC, Humana) as well as traditional PPO's/HMO's to look at.

Staff went over to Ten-8 for a demo on a new 107' Ladder Truck (Ascendant), single axle, 1250 GPM, 500 gallon water tank, normal hose bed and compartment space. Currently 4 have been made and according to the sales rep., they have 119 proposals out on this new Ladder Truck, however none are in service at this time.

We had a conference call with our Labor Attorney over VA points for our upcoming promotional process. We had 5 applicants submit DD214's requesting to use VA points for the promotional process. Our Labor Attorney called the VA Office and followed it up with an email on each person for the purposes of having the VA office review each applicant to see if they qualify. According to the VA

Office, none of our applicants qualified. However, a week later, the VA Office contacted our Labor Attorney and told her that she changed her mind about one of the applicants and now says that he qualifies.

June 24, 2015 – Matt Garcia, Ronnie Washington and myself attended the annual luncheon/meeting for Safe Kids that was at All Children’s Hospital in St. Petersburg.

June 25, 2015 - Our Insurance Committee had a meeting with Kevin Keever over medical insurance. Kevin reviewed a plan from Cigna that was an HSA plan with basically the same benefits that would be cheaper than our current Florida Blue Plan. Kevin and the Cigna Rep. will be working on some other plan options for the group to look at and should have these to us by the week of July 8.

I took some of our employees to SMH to attend their monthly Trauma Rounds, which was over Abdominal Trauma.

Chief Blanco and I had a meeting with Cindy Schneider, Manatee Co. Information Technology, over a Service Level Agreement that we are working on for our I-Mobiles.

June 30, 2015 – Debbie Tuckerman, Robert Bounds and myself attended a Webinar over the implementation of SB 172(Police/Fire Pension Law). We will need to bring our plan into compliance by October 1, 2015.

July 1, 2015 – I assisted in proctoring our promotional exam. We had 24 take the written exam.

July 2, 2015 – Our Insurance Committee had another meeting with Nick Zec and Jason from Florida Blue. Jason told everyone that Florida Blue will NOT lower the increase (34%) on their current plan and if you stay on this plan, you will need to pay for it. Jason and Nick reviewed once again some other Blue Options HSA and HMO HSA plans. Additionally Nick provided a spreadsheet that he prepared that compared our current plan to traditional PPO’s Plans but with the same benefit levels, thus showing these plans to cost more, like \$2 million dollars. We told Nick once again, we just want to see some traditional PPO’s, give the committee some examples of the benefits they can offer, he said he would.

July 8, 2015 – We had a meeting at the Public Safety Building with all Fire and EMS agencies, local hospitals and the Health Department for the purposes of finalizing our Exposure Control Plans.

July 9, 2015 - Our SOP/Rules and Regulations Committee had their meeting to finish up on some clean-up of a few SOP's and one new one. All new SOP's, Rules and Regulations are on the share drive for all employees and they were just recently used for the promotional process written exam and also being assigned through Target Solutions as assignments.

Our District participated in the annual State Hurricane Drill at the Public Safety Building EOC.

July 13, 2015 - Leslie, Robert and I attended a meeting at the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport. The Airport Administration wanted to bring us up to speed on the outcomes of the Bill that was recently adopted. The Airport Fire Department (Airport Authority) revised their enabling act that would grant them the power and authority for Fire Code Enforcement and Plans review for Fire safety. The Airport will be adopting the Manatee County Fire Prevention Code.

July 14, 2015 - Attended the District's quarterly Pension meeting and reviewed our new Auditor Engagement Letter that was prepared for the signature of the Pension Chair.

June 22 through July 16, 2015 – Worked on the proposed FY16 Budget and Revenues.