

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT**

**Date:** Thursday, June 20,2024

**Location:** Administrative Offices, Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District, 2451 Trailmate Drive, Sarasota, Florida, 34243.

**Present:** Jim Grote, Secretary/Vice-Chair/Treasurer  
James Cena, Commissioner  
Daniel Center, Commissioner  
Robert Bounds, Chief  
Rick Blanco, Assistant Chief  
Dan Anderson, Training Chief  
There were other staff also in attendance. Chairperson Melanie Marken arrived 6:10 PM.

**Call to Order**

Secretary/Vice-Chair/Treasurer Grote called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

**Invocation/Pledge**

A moment of silence was observed. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**SPECIAL BUSINESS**

- None

**Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda was included in the Board packet.

*Commissioner Center motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Cena seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Secretary/Vice-Chair/Treasurer Grote called for Public Comment and there was none.

**OLD BUSINESS**

\* Station 4 remodel

Chief Bounds met with the superintendent from Magnum Builders. Demolition is set for June 27<sup>th</sup>.

1. Sale of E12

Captain Chevalier: We received an offer of \$120,000 for E12 with the contingency that it passed the pump test. It did not pass the pump test. Board approved to counteroffer with a sale of \$150,000 with the repair of the pump test, to meet the requirements, as long as the repair is less than \$5,000.

**New Business**

\* Ordering vehicles for Fire & EMS Officers

Training Chief Anderson inquired with the Board to purchase the new vehicles for the Fire Training Officer and EMS Officer. There was discussion about what type of vehicles to purchase for each position.

2. Manatee County Estimated Taxable Value

Chief Bounds presented the estimated taxable value to Board from Manatee County.

### 3. FY 25 Draft Budgets

Board was presented with two versions of the draft budget for FY 25. Center complemented Chiefs Bounds and Anderson on creating two draft budgets reflecting different revenues. The Board agrees to proceed with the draft budget that projects revenue at 1.2061 mils.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **\* Pension Committee**

Trustee Chairperson Chevalier updated the board on the pension plan status. Next meeting will be July 11, 2024

### **\* Union Report**

FF. Keusch: HB 775 was signed by Governor DeSantis.

## **CHIEF'S REPORT**

Deputy Fire Marshal Meola: Working with Manatee County to have plans to be submitted electronically. Grant for the smoke alarms has been submitted.

Assistant Chief Blanco: Informed the board of the lighting strike to station 3.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairperson Marken called for Public Comment and there was none.

## **COMMISSIONER'S/ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

Commissioners congratulated AC Blanco on his upcoming retirement.

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.**

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Melanie A. Marken, Chairperson

Attest:

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James Grote, Vice Chairperson/Secretary/Treasurer