

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024
2024/2025 MILLAGE RATE HEARING & 2024/2025 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET HEARING
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Date: Thursday, September 19, 2024

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

Present: Melanie Marken, Chairperson
James Grote, Secretary/Vice-Chair/Treasurer
Daniel Center, Commissioner
Jim Cena, Commissioner
Robert Bounds, Chief
Dan Anderson, Deputy Chief
Adam Perry, Deputy Chief
There were other staff also in attendance.

Call to Order

Chairperson Marken called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Invocation/Pledge

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

Public Hearing/Adoption of Resolution 2024-06 on the 2024/2025 Millage Rate

- **Verification of Public Notice**
Chairperson Marken called for verification of the Public Notice. EMA Ferguson stated that the meeting was advertised as required and the affidavit has been received.
- **Presentation of Millage Rate**
Chief Bounds stated that the Board had Resolution 2024-06 for their approval. The rate of 1.2061 mills has been the same for several years.
- **Open Public Hearing for Comment**
Chairperson Marken opened the Public Hearing for the millage rate at 5:04 p.m. There was no public comment.
- **Close the Public Hearing**
Commissioner Grote made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 5:05 pm on the millage rate. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.
- **Consideration of Resolution 2024-06**
Chairperson Marken stated the Board has Resolution 2024-06 on the 2024/2025 Millage Rate for consideration. Comm. Center asked Chief Bounds if we have received any calls regarding the new tax fees. No calls have been received. *Commissioner Grote motioned to approve the fiscal year 2024/2025 operating millage rate for the Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District at 1.2061 mills which is higher than the rolled-back rate of*

1.1104 mills by 8.62%. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

- **Adjournment of Public Hearing**

The Public Hearing on the millage rate was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Public Hearing/Adoption of Resolution 2024-07 on the 2024/2025 FYE Budget

- **Verification of Public Notice**

Chairperson Marken called for verification of the Public Notice. EMA Ferguson stated that the hearing was advertised as required and the affidavit has been received.

- **Presentation of Proposed Budget/Procedures**

Chief Bounds stated the Board has Resolution 2024-07 to adopt our 2024/2025 Budget.

- **Open Public Hearing for Comment**

Chairperson Marken opened the Public Hearing for comments at 5:08 p.m. There was no public comment.

- **Close the Public Hearing**

Commissioner Grote made a motion to close the Public Hearing on the 2024/2025 Budget at 5:10 p.m. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

- **Consideration of Resolution 2024-07**

Commissioner Center motioned to approve Resolution 2024-07 on the 2024/2025 Budget. Commissioner Grote seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Center requested for the Chief Bounds to come before the Board before any monies are spent from the contingency budget line item.

- * **Adjournment of Public Hearing**

Chairperson Marken adjourned the Public Hearing on the budget at 5:11 p.m.

Continuation of Regular Board Meeting

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was included in the Board packet. *Commissioner Grote motioned to accept the consent agenda items as presented. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Marken called for Public Comment and there was none.

OLD BUSINESS

- * **Station 4 remodel**

D/C Perry gave an update on the progress of station 4. Pictures of the current state of the remodel were displayed for the board and public.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Florida Forest Service: Cooperative Loan Agreement- High Water Vehicle

Chief Bounds presented the Board with the idea of a high-water vehicle due to the recent storms and flooding in the district. He went over the terms of the agreement that will be with Florida Forest Service. Pictures of several water vehicles were displayed to the Board and the public. D/C Perry gave details on each the water vehicles that were available. Chief Bounds will get the details and present this business at October's meeting.

Captain Bloski: Awarded a grant that will be used to purchase hazmat supplies. Recovery cost collected.

2. Interlocal Agreement SMFR & Sarasota County for Automatic Aid

Chief Bounds presented an updated agreement drafted by Sarasota County regarding aid for University Parkway. The Board agreed that they would not sign agreement without knowing specific details within the agreement and what they entail. The Board directed Chief Bounds to go back to Sarasota County with this concern.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

*** Pension Committee**

Chairperson Adam Chevalier gave a brief report of the current status of the pension.

*** Union**

Tim Keusch: Three meetings are scheduled with the Union to address the actuary study of the pension. FF Bonds joined the union.

CHIEF'S REPORT

3. Chief's Report

Chief Bounds: Commissioner Center inquired about the meeting with Manatee County Commissioner Rahn. Chief Bounds and DC Anderson met with him and the meeting went well.

Commissioner Center asked about annual physicals for the firefighters. DC Anderson informed that physicals are now done annually. FF's have the option to use life scan, their primary, or urgent care.

DFM Meola: There were two fatalities caused by smoking. Fire Prevention installed 148 smoke detectors in Sugar Creek with plans to do more within the district.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Marken called for Public Comment and there was none.

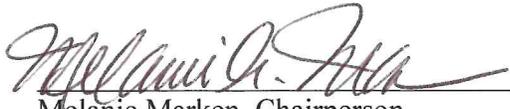
COMMISSIONER'S/ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Chairperson Marken asked for comments. Commissioner Grote thanked staff on their work with fire calls. The commissioners thanked the chief and staff for their work.

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 17, at 5:00 pm.

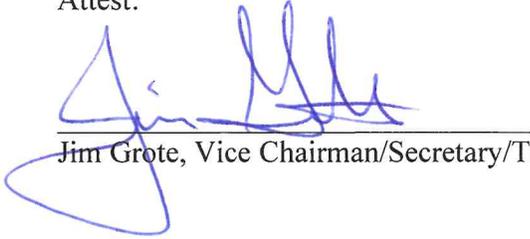
The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Melanie Marken, Chairperson

Attest:



Jim Grote, Vice Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer