



MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
May 9, 2017

MEETING OPENED

Chairman Page called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners at 5:30 pm. on May 9, 2017 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Chairman Page, Commissioners Cottiers, Cross, Gerrity, Stedman, Hemping, Boyer, and Henning. Executive staff in attendance: Chief Schuldt, Deputy Chief Hanson, Chief McLaughlin, Deputy Directors Bishop and Martin. Staff in attendance: Suanne Woeste, Nicole Chesser, Trenton Mading, Chris Tobin, Charlie Heweker, Jarett Cotter, Scott Wilson, Alexandra Blanco, Khris Klock, Tim Sims and Brian Mading. Members of the public included: Donna Dolan, Jim Burke, Jean Kunkle, Eloy Ricardo and George Danz, others were in attendance but did not sign in.

A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Chairman Page opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the invocation by Commissioner Gerrity.

B. Line of Duty Deaths Reading and Moment of Silence

Chief Schuldt reported there were a total of 9 Firefighter fatalities for the month of April bringing the total for 2017 to 35, followed by a moment of silence.

C. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Director Bishop noted the following: Agenda Item J. was completed prior to meeting, Agenda Item K. will remain on Agenda in case Director Kerels is able to make it, and Under New Business Agenda Item E. a new handout was given to replace pages 64-69 in its entirety.

D. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Henning moved to accept the agenda as amended. Commissioner Hemping seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

E. Approval of the GNFD Special Board Minutes for March 30, 2017

Commissioner Henning moved to approve the board minutes as amended for the March 30, 2017 special BOFC meeting. Commissioner Gerrity seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

F. Approval of the GNFD Regular Board Minutes for April 11, 2017

Commissioner Gerrity moved to approve the board minutes for the April 11, 2017 regular BOFC meeting. Commissioner Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 – 0.

G. Approval of the GNFD Special Board Minutes for April 13, 2017

Commissioner Boyer moved to approve the board minutes for the April 13, 2017 special BOFC meeting. Commissioner Gerrity seconded the motion. Motion passed 8 – 0.

H. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

1. Treasurer's Report
2. Operations Section Report – Assistant Chief Sapp
3. Administration and Finance Section Report – Deputy Director Bishop
4. Planning Section Report – Deputy Chief Martin
5. Logistics Section Report
 - a. Deputy Chief Low
 - b. Deputy Chief McLaughlin
6. Investigation Section Report – Deputy Chief Hanson
7. At-A-Boys
 - a. Fort Myers Beach Fire District Thank You
8. Senator Nelson Letter
9. Disposition of Fixed Assets #2017 – 009 Misc. Equipment

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I. Awards and Recognition:

Chief Schuldt presented the following employees with Service Awards:

- Firefighter John Fickey (not in attendance) – 1 year anniversary
- DE's John Ellis (not in attendance) and Robert Walczak – 15-year service award
- Captain Jason Seller – 20 year service award

Chief Schuldt congratulated the following employee on their recent promotions:

- Lieutenants: B. Rasmussen and T. Schilling - R. Walczak and A. Asher (not in attendance).
- Driver Engineer: E. Dilyard (not in attendance)

J. Blue Zone Acknowledgment – Dr. Weiss

Blue Zone ribbon cutting and acknowledgment take care of prior to meeting

K. Director Jim Kerels, Florida Forest Service Wildfire Presentation

Director Kerels was unable to attend meeting

L. Fire Administration – Chief Schuldt

Chief Schuldt reported on the following:

- Recap of the 30th Ave. Fire: Fire began on April 21st and was an 11 day event, 7,068 acres burned, 20 structures were lost including 4 homes but 2,000 homes were saved or protected. GNFD worked hand and hand with Forestry's Green Team & over 46 different fire agencies. All local Collier County agencies assisted again and did a fantastic job. The recent State of Emergency Declaration from the Governor enabled GNFD access to extra federal resources. The financial impact on the District is significant, at least \$86,000. Through FMAG the District is eligible to receive 75% reimbursement in a year or so.
- Director Bishop is responsible for coordinating all the FMAG reimbursement County wide.
- Station 76 officially opened May 2nd with 2 GNFD personnel.
- Boat 90 is back in service and fully operational with limited night missions. Dedication of Boat 90 will be held Friday, May 26th @ 11:00am.
- Another success of our E-fleet program – we were able to sell our old vehicles for approximately \$20,000.
- At the County Auction we sold more vehicles and other items netting approximately \$15,000.
- The International Association of Fire Chiefs has chosen GNFD as one of the few Fire Rescue Agencies in the United States and Canada to be spotlighted at their annual summer conference.
- Friday May 12th, Florida Forest Service Commissioner Adam Putnam will make a special visit to GNFD to personally thank our firefighters for all their hard work and provide a pancake breakfast to all personnel.

M. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan – Chairman Arroyo

Nothing to report

N. Local 2396 Report – Trenton Mading

President Trenton Mading reported meeting with Chief Schuldt and Staff to negotiate new Station Assignment Article. And at last Union meeting with North Collier there were over 100 members in attendance. It was a positive meeting and merger is still moving forward.

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II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Emergency Services Task Force Meeting – Commissioner Hemping

Commissioner Hemping reported the focus of the ESTF is working on GNFD and NCFD relationship, potentially moving to a full merger. These mergers happen through voter referendum and the ESTF “end game goal” is to have this ready for the November 2020 general election ballot. Commissioner Hemping presented a 7 item outline that represents the “Merger Policy Framework” to work towards the end goal of a GNFD & NCFD merger.

- Chairman Page reiterated our commitment with Ochopee Fire District to bring that to referendum for the voters in 2018. After that 2 years should be plenty of time to address any work in process, I don’t support signing an Interlocal Agreement at this time. Staff needs to focus on the management challenges we currently have with Ochopee and the station on I 75. Working together with North Collier on items one at a time is a great idea. Commissioner Boyer stated he agrees with Chairman Page.
- Commissioner Cross asked why this still comes up every meeting when the Board already voted that working on limited issues and sharing with NCFD is a good idea, but we need to wait until Ochopee merger is done. He supports Chairman Page’s statement.
- Commissioner Gerrity stated the tax payers voted twice in favor of a merger – we need to say yes or no and declare our intentions. If we wait until Ochopee / Immokalee are done we will be rushing to get things done in time for November 2020.
- Commissioner Stedman stated he is against varying tax rates, we’ve done 3 mergers in 3 years and are doing what the taxpayers want. Starting to slowly mesh through cooperation is good, but we have work to finish first.
- Commissioner Cottiers agreed we need to concentrate on Ochopee, but is ready to start working on items to move towards a merger in 2020.
- Commissioner Henning stated there are a lot of legal questions that need answers, but if we do it right, he is supportive of moving forward with the ESTF’s end goal.
- Chief Schuldt stated he has had various conversations with other local Fire Chiefs and EMS on training initiatives, general efforts on how we can help each other out, staffing at Station 24 and new possible joint stations with EMS.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resource Sharing Request from North Collier Fire: Station 24/47 – Chief Schuldt

Chief Schuldt stated he has had casual conversations with Chief Cunningham about the sharing of joint resources at Station 24/47, but nothing has been followed up on.

Chairman Page stated the Agreement has to be on equal footing, fair based to both Districts.

Commissioner Gerrity suggested if each District is staffing 3 firefighters why not pull off 1 from each District and use to staff at Station 76. We could be staffing Station 76 for no additional cost over what we started with and we could use that additional funding to staff the new Engine 25.

Chairman Page added it might be beneficial to bring in the City of Naples for a 3 way split.

Commissioner Boyer stated that it would be easier to work if each District ran a specific shift.

Commissioner Henning made a motion for staff to work with North Collier on Station 24/47. Second by Commissioner Hemping. After further discussion. Commissioner Henning amended his motion to direct Chief Schuldt to work with Chief Cunningham to see where we can combine staffing (Stations 24/47 & 76), let them work it out and then Chief Schuldt come back to the Board with a recommendation. Commissioner Hemping Seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

B. AIW FDOT MM 63 ILA Assignment – Deputy Director Bishop

Director Bishop presented the FDOT MM63 Interlocal Agreement Assignment.

Commissioner Cottiers made a motion to accept staff’s recommendation and authorize the acceptance of the FDOT MM63 Interlocal Agreement Assignment. Commissioner Hemping seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

C. AIW FDOT Mile Marker 63 FY 17- 18 Budget – Deputy Director Bishop

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Director Bishop presented the proposed MM63 FY 17-18 Budget.
Commissioner Cottiers made a motion to accept staff's recommendation and move to adopt the proposed MM63 FY 17-18 budget in the amount of \$1,541,865.50. Commissioner Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

D. Ratification of Resolution 2017 -005

State of Emergency Golden Gate Estates Brush Fire – Deputy Director Bishop

Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to ratify Resolution 2017-005 as presented by staff.

Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passes 8-0.

E. AIW – Amended GNFD FY 16-17 Budget – Deputy Director Bishop

Commissioner Cross made a motion to accept staff's recommendation and approve the Amended FY 16-17 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$35,208,585. Commissioner Boyer seconded the motion. Discussion was called.

Commissioner Gerrity requested clarification on FLSA OT going up 50%. Director Bishop responded there is the addition of Ochopee and any OT associated with their salaries and running those stations and the 2 wildfires. Commissioner Boyer questioned the use of reserves. Commissioner Stedman asked why bargaining unit salaries went from 8.6 to 9.6. Director Bishop stated all the expenses that went up significantly went up because of adding Ochopee budget figures both expenses and revenues. The Board requested an accounting of the Ochopee budget in summary format.

Commissioner Henning made a motion to approve the Amended FY16-17 General Fund Budget

Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

F. AIW – Compensation Study Agreement with FGCU – Deputy Director Bishop

Commissioner Cottiers moved to accept staff's recommendation and accept North Collier Fire as co-sponsor of the FGCU Salary and Compensation study. Commissioner Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

G. AIW – Station 20 Phase One Fund Request – Deputy Chief McLaughlin

Commissioner Henning made a motion to accept staff's recommendation to award the additional \$19,000.00 in reserves for completion of the phase one Station 20 re-model project. Commissioner Boyer seconded the motion. Motion pass 8-0.

H. AIW Station 20 Window Replacement Bid Award –Chief McLaughlin

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to accept staff's recommendation to award the bid to J & L Glass for the amount of \$31,500. Commissioner Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

I. AIW Station 73 Water Chiller Replacement – Deputy Chief McLaughlin

Commissioner Cottiers made a motion to accept staff's recommendation to release funds from reserves for the replacement of the water chiller in the amount of \$70,000. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

J. AIW – Resolution 2017-006 Fire and Life Safety Fee Schedule – Deputy Chief Hanson

Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-006; Fire and Life Safety Fees schedule effective May 9, 2017. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

K. AIW – 2017 FEMA FP&S Grant Application – Deputy Chief Hanson

Commissioner Cottiers moved to accept staff's recommendation and make a motion to submit an application for a FY 2016 FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant application to enhance the District's Community Risk Reduction efforts. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

L. Topics Initiated by the Board of Fire Commissioners

- Commissioner Boyer asked Chief Schuldt where we are at with building additional stations. Chief Schuldt stated the Director Martin is meeting with County staff tomorrow to get current growth projections, so we can make an educated decision on whether to recommend the Lake Park or Sabal Palm land.
- Commissioner Boyer suggested if the firefighters had a 7:00 am start instead of 8:00 am there would be less traffic and easier to get to work.

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- Commissioner Cross spoke to both the Union's lawyer and GNFD's lawyer about ongoing legal issues and feels we need to go to mediator. Going to get the names of a few public mediators and hopefully get something scheduled in the next 30-45 days.
- Chairman Page: Thursday there is a Board Workshop with the City of Marco and the County Commissioners to discuss ALS transport. Chairman Page wants to confirm with the Board that GNFD does not want to take on EMS as an agency. Commissioner Stedman agreed.
Commissioner Boyer made a motion that GNFD is not interested in taking over EMS ambulance services. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-1 (Henning).
- Commissioner Stedman mentioned the letters from North Collier and stated he feels operational issues shouldn't be Commissioner to Commissioner but Chief to Chief.
North Collier's Assistant Chief Eloy Ricardo responded the letter was stated that way because Chief Schuldt told Chief Cunningham he needed direction from the Board to move forward on certain issues.
Chief Schuldt: Provided clarification of the Chiefs discussion, specifically that he was not authorized to discuss and develop a full merger plan without the direction of the Board.

M. Public Comments

IV. SIGNATURE OF BOARD APPROVED ITEMS

1. Special Board Minutes March 30, 2017
2. Regular Board Minutes April 11, 2017
3. Special Board Minutes April 13, 2017
4. Disposition of Fixed Assets 17-009 Misc. Equipment
5. FDOT MM 63 ILA Assignment
6. FDOT Mile Marker 63 FY 17-18 Budget
7. Resolution 2017-006 Fire and Life Fee Schedule

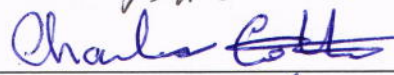
V. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cross moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 P.M. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.


Duly passed with a vote of 8 to 0 and adopted in session on the 9th day of May.



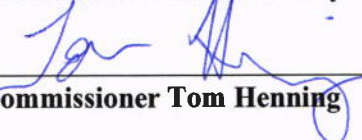
Chairman **Jeff Page**



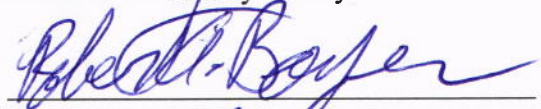
Commissioner **Charles Cottiers**



Commissioner **Kevin Gerrity**



Commissioner **Tom Henning**



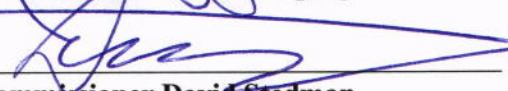
Commissioner **Rob Boyer**



Commissioner **Brian Cross**



Commissioner **Steve Henning**



Commissioner **David Stedman**