

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
GOLDEN GATE FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE DISTRICT
14575 COLLIER BLVD. NAPLES, FLORIDA
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

DATE: March 12, 2014

TIME: 5:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

In attendance: Chairman Gerrity, Commissioners Stedman and McMahan, Chief Schuldt, AC Sapp, DC Biondo, Director Bishop, Admin. Asst. Packard, HR Specialist Debbie Schwarz, Jeff Page, Dave MacGregor, Michael Ramsey, Walter Kopka, Susan Morris and Pat Meulenberg. Others were in attendance but did not sign in.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Commissioner Stedman opened the meeting at 5:35 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the invocation.

2. Line of Duty Death Reading and Moment of Silence

Chief Schuldt stated that there were a total of 14 FF fatalities for the month of February, bringing the total for 2014 to 21 followed by a moment of silence.

3. Agenda Approval – Changes, Additions and/or Deletions

Director Bishop requested that under New Business, 12.F, Brush Truck 73 be added.

Director Bishop also requested to add under New Business, 12.H, EMS/GGFD Draft Lease Agreement, EMS Station 75.

Commissioner McMahan moved to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

4. Approval of Past Minutes: 02/12/2014 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the minutes of the 2/12/2014 regular meeting. Commissioner McMahan seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

5. Treasurer's Report/Expenditure

Director Bishop explained some items that might look askew in the financials but will be fixed and answered some questions posed by Commissioner Stedman.

Commissioner McMahan reported that after reviewing the financials he found everything to be in order.

Commissioner Stedman moved to accept the Treasurer's Report/Expenditure. Commissioner McMahan seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

6. Certificates and Awards

A. Firefighter of the Year Award
Not in attendance.

B. Civilian Employee of the Year Award
Chief Schuldt presented the Civilian Employee of the Year Award to HR Specialist Debbie Schwarz.

7. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Schuldt highlighted the following:

a. ALS Program – The EMS and training groups have initiated programs to prepare for program implementation in the East Naples Division. Golden Gate personnel are

- participating in training in preparation for implementation in their Division. Chief Kopka and AC Sapp are working together to get the program up and running.
- b. Staff has been busy preparing for and attending numerous civic, public and political events relating to the merger. Over 1,000 citizens have been addressed during more than 30 presentations. Dr. Pat Lynch with Business Alignment Strategies in Long Beach, CA has been spotlighting our merger efforts in her Public Safety Insights newsletter.
 - c. The 2014 Legislative Session began in March and there will be several proposed bills that may have an effect on the fire service in Florida and Collier County. Staff will be monitoring several legislative issues including commercial fireworks and tent sales and EMS practitioner programs as well as our merger and annexation bills.
 - d. AC Sapp and BC Davenport have been making initial response zone changes to facilitate dispatching the closest unit regardless of division.
 - e. The Golden Gate Division has received their ISO rating of 4/10 which indicates areas in excess of 5 miles of water supply. This rating is relatively the same as the previous 4/9 ISO rating.
 - f. The District has not yet received the second legal opinion requested by the Board In regard to the retiree benefits. Staff anticipates negotiations with Local 2396 to be initiated in the near future.

8. Citizen's Advisory Committee: March 31, 2014

Chief Schuldt informed the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for March 31st. There is nothing new to report.

9. Other Reports

- A. Operations Report- Assistant Chief Sapp
As submitted by AC Sapp.
There was discussion with AC Sapp and the Commissioners on where the worst response times came from and possible station locations in the future.
- B. Fire and Life Safety Report - Division Chief Hanson
As submitted by DC Hanson.
- C. Administration and Finance - Director Bishop
As submitted by Director Bishop.
Director Bishop reported that all previous audit comments have been removed.

10. Local 2396 Labor Report

President Tobin reported that he applauds and appreciates all employees from both Districts for the cooperation shown in working together and getting the job done. He also stated that the relationship between Labor and Management have never been better, a big change from the past. Acting positions have been put in place which reduces overtime costs. ALS program moving forward with both divisions. Work has begun to get a GGFD engine into EMS station 75 on Santa Barbara.

11. Old Business:

A. Consolidation Issues – Commissioner Gerrity

Director Bishop updated the Board on the changes to the merger bill that incorporate the

language the Districts and the Supervisor of Elections office would like to see. The wording will be changed to a majority of the voters in GGFD and a majority of the voters in ENFD in referendum wording.

Also changed was the Isles vote now going to the primary election and the GGFD/ENFD merger being placed on the General Election ballot in November. It looks as though the Bills may be going to Committee as early as next week.

1. Cost Savings Worksheet

The Joint District has realized a net savings of \$430,000.

B. AIW - Fire Chief Performance Review - Chief Schuldt

Chairman Gerrity requested the Board members to complete the evaluation form provided and return to the Fire Chief by the April Meeting.

C. Fire Code Office Operational Modifications - Chief Schuldt

Chief Schuldt explained that he went to a couple of Fire District Board Meetings over the past month to present some ideas on keeping Fire Code running as is.

Unfortunately, the districts did not seem very receptive to the idea. So an alternate plan to move Fire Code under the County is proposed.

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve directing the Fire Chief, with the assistance of a Fire Commissioner to meet with Collier County staff to draft an MOU that will place all ENFD/GGFD plan review responsibilities under the management of Collier County Growth Management. The MOU will be brought back to the GGFD board for approval and will (at a minimum) include the following provisions: 1. The East Naples-Golden Gate Fire Chief will retain the authority having jurisdiction as provided under Florida Statute 633. 2. The ENFD-GGFD Fire Marshal, through the authority of the Fire Chief shall be appointed jurisdictional authority and responsibility for all fire plan review and inspection services within the areas agreed upon in Collier County, by Collier County and ENFD-GGFD (or subsequent entity resulting from a merger between the ENFD and GGFD). 3. Collier County shall agree to hire a number of existing Fire Code employees, yet to be determined, for the purpose of maintaining a compliant, effective and dedicated fire plans review process within the Collier County Growth Management Division. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-1, with Commissioner McMahon dissenting. Commissioner Stedman agreed to be the Commissioner from GGFD to aid on this project

Commissioner Henning did state that the County is working on an MOU to include ENFD/GGFD Fire Marshal jurisdiction over Isles of Capri and Ochopee along with District One. He also stated that if any current FCO employees that are hired and don't meet the performance standard, they will be treated as any other County employee and subject to termination. The employees could be cross trained to learn to do new reviews depending on workload (with the approval of the Fire Chief and Fire Marshal). Commissioner Henning also did state that discussions with County were going to begin on ENFD taking over Ochopee Fire District.

Chief Stolts from North addressed the Board and is concerned with who will administer Big Corkscrew and Immokalee. We need to get with those Districts to get their thoughts and plans. With the way it looks now with ENFD, GGFD and NNFD leaving Fire Code Big Corkscrew and Immokalee may be the only ones left and we need to work together to make this a smooth transition for all concerned.

Chairman Gerrity asked for a commitment from Chief Stolts that in the spirit of cooperation if he would work alongside the other fire districts to help find jobs for

those displaced. He agreed that he would give strong consideration to that.

12. New Business:

A. Check Signing Policy - Commissioner McMahon

Commissioner McMahon stated that he was under the impression that two Commissioners signed the checks but as of late, he noticed that the Chief and one Commissioner has been signing them. There does not seem to be an effort being made to reach out to all the Commissioners before the Chief signs them. He would like to see an effort be made to get two Commissioners signatures and then have the Chief as a last signature.

Chairman Gerrity did state that having the Chief sign them is stating that he verified that all information is valid. It is a permanent record.

Director Bishop stated that the Auditor has a strong opinion on these changes and would like to see the Chief sign off on all checks.

The system that is in place currently will continue.

B. Golden Gate Station 74 - Commissioner McMahon

There was discussion regarding the future needs of a fire station in the eastern portion of the Golden Gate District.

Chief Schuldt reported that he and EMS Chief Kopka have discussed the possibilities of a joint facility in the future. Commissioner McMahon was previously designated as the Commission Lead on this project and will be seeking community funding sources.

C. GGFD Station 73 Ballard Lighting for Walkway- Commissioner McMahon

Commissioner McMahon discussed the need for additional lighting along the walkways.

AC Sapp reported that the Logistics Division is assessing options. Commissioner McMahon will assist in getting pricing.

D. AIW - Adoption of New Policies

1. Weapons Free Workplace

Chief Schuldt presented the Weapons Free Workplace Policy.

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the policy as written into the District's Governing Documents. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion for discussion.

Chief Schuldt did point out that East did not approve the policy due to the wording in the first paragraph, second sentence stating that "A license to carry a weapon does not supersede District policy". The ENFD Board requested a refining of the policy which the Chief seems to think will be the striking of the sentence in question.

Commissioner Stedman amended his motion to approve the policy with the striking of the sentence in question. Chairman Gerrity seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0, with Commissioner McMahon dissenting.

E. AIW - 2013 FP & S Grant- Division Chief Hanson

DC Hanson explained that this FEMA Grant would be used for the purpose of securing an updated fire inspection software platform similar to the East Naples Division. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$27,000 with a District cost

share of 5% or \$1335.

Commissioner McMahon moved to approve staff's recommendation to apply for this grant with costs estimated at \$27,000 and a District cost share of \$1335. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion, Motion passed 3-0.

F. Brush Truck 73- Assistant Chief Sapp

AC Sapp informed the Board that the broken truck is actually Brush 73.

The truck suffered a catastrophic failure of the pump. This is an emergency

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the purchase of the Hale Fire Pump as proposed by MES for Brush 72 at a cost of \$5814. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion for discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

G. AIW - ALS Program Agreement Draft - Chief Schuldt

Director Bishop presented a draft ALS Agreement with the County and GGFD.

Chief Kopka stated that this was a very similar contract as ENFD, with no significant changes between the two.

There was a significant amount of discussion on costs and whether this is actually necessary move to make.

Commissioners were requested to review the document and contact the Chief to discuss any issues or concerns during the next month. Staff advised that equipment and personnel costs will be finalized prior to the final draft being brought back to the Board. Labor negotiations will also be required prior to a final cost analysis being completed.

H. AIW – Station 75 Lease Agreement Draft - Chief Schuldt

Director Bishop presented the lease agreement between GGFD and the County to move a piece of fire equipment into EMS Station 75. This will improve response times within this response zone and support the future ALS program. The only expense to GGFD would be for the utilities cost share of 40%. This agreement is similar to one that was presented to ENFD last night to put an EMS unit into Station 20 for similar reasons. The document will brought back for final approval next month after it goes to the County's legal for review.

Commissioner McMahon moved to approve staff's recommendation to enter into a lease agreement with the County, after legal review by the County to move a piece of GGFD fire equipment into EMS Station 75. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

13. Comments from Public and Commissioners

Chief Schuldt informed the Board that an offer has been made on the ENFD property on Outer Drive in the amount of approximately \$1.1 million. An appraisal is going to be done and if the appraisal comes in higher, a counter offer of that amount will be made and if it comes in lower then East will accept the 1.1 million offer.

Chief Schuldt also informed the Board that Commissioner Cross is working on a possible deal for the Sable property.

Chief Schuldt told the Board that East is applying for Grant for a fire safety program and hopes to hire a public education specialist to oversee the program.

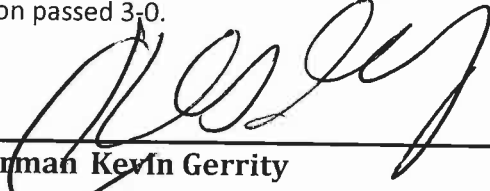
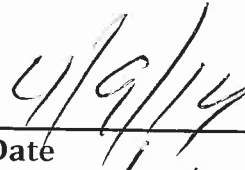



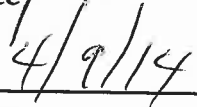
Commissioner Stedman informed everyone that he has signed up for reelection.

Commissioner McMahon appreciated everyone's hard work.

14. Items for Next BOFC Meeting Agenda (April 9, 2014)
None

Adjourn

Commissioner Stedman moved to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

 Chairman Kevin Gerrity	 Date
 Commissioner David Stedman	 Date
 Commissioner Chuck McMahon	 Date