

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

DATE: June 11, 2014

TIME: 5:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Present were Chairman Gerrity along with Commissioners Stedman and McMahon. In attendance were Chief Schuldt, Assistant Chief Sapp, Deputy Director Bishop, Division Chief Hanson, Administrative Assistant Packard, Executive Assistant Chesser, HR Specialist Schwarz, Jeff Page, Chris Tobin, and Dr. Robert Tober. Others were in attendance who did not sign in.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

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

2. Line of Duty Death Reading and Moment of Silence

Chief Schuldt stated that there were a total of 5 FF fatalities for the month of May, bringing the total for 2014 to 41 followed by a moment of silence.

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

Commissioner Stedman requested adding response time reporting to 13. New Business, A. Commissioner McMahon moved to accept the agenda as presented with the changes of 13.A. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

4. Approval of Past Minutes: 05/14/2014

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the minutes for the May 14, 2014 regular meeting. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

5. Treasurer's Report/Expenditures

Commissioner McMahon reported that if the District continues working the way it is with expenditures, the District will be alright come September with \$3,376,819.42. Also, the District is staying on plan with the consolidation so all is good.

6. Certificates and Awards

None

7. Dr. Robert Tober – CPR Assist Devices (time specific 6:00 PM)

Dr. Tober demonstrated the CPR RsQ Assist Device that assists in the CPR process to make it easier for anyone performing CPR. The inventor, Joe Hanson who makes Naples his winter home, along with Dr. Tober's support, is generously donating 30 devices to be placed on all emergency vehicles in the East Naples – Golden Gate Districts. The goal is to get these on all emergency response vehicles in the County and eventually get them distributed to public areas similar to AED's. Visit www.cprrsqassist.com for more information.

Commissioner Stedman would like to assist in getting these devices into the Sheriff's vehicles. Chairman Gerrity thanked Dr. Tober for the demonstration and donation.

8. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Schuldt highlighted on the following:

- The preliminary TRIM numbers have come in. Both districts anticipate a moderate increase in taxable revenues totaling \$1,246,211. Combined the joint

districts will see an average 6.88% increase in ad valorem revenue growth. A second preliminary set of adjusted numbers will be published in July and those numbers will be used in the FY 14-15 budget preparations. This demonstrates how closely aligned the two districts are. Commissioner Stedman had concerns that the numbers presented were painting too rosy of a picture. The District needs to keep in mind that the increase percentage will probably be more like 3.5 or 4% after the 3% cap, with a small increase in new construction. The percentage will actually be more than 3 but less than 6.

- NNFD has assumed responsibility of their fire plans review process effective June 1st. The County was anticipating a June 1st date for implementing the fire plans review process for ENFD and GGFD but is behind schedule; offers of employment have been made and unofficially it would seem likely a July 1st implementation date is probable. Two people have left the Fire Code Office and secured employment with NNFD. Ed Riley tendered his resignation May 31st. ENFD still has responsibility to keep Fire Code up and running and with that some changes have been made. Chief Hanson has assumed the management responsibilities, Deputy Fire Code Official Maggie Jani has assumed the supervisory duties and daily operations of the office and Deputy Director Bishop has assumed responsibility of all financial transactions. In addition, a contract to hire a consulting firm was executed in order to provide an employee to assist in the fire plans review process. The Fire Code office has a target of a 10 day turnaround time for plans reviews but the recent turnaround has been 2 days. Director Bishop has secured the law firm of Bond, Schoeneck & King to address the legacy costs associated with Fire Code in order to set up a trust for those funds.

A tentative date of July 10th has been suggested for a meeting of the fire districts to discuss the Fire Code Office.

- With regard to the ALS Program; Medic 20 has been placed in service at ENFD Station 20 which will provide a significant improvement to the ALS services in the area. In addition, a medic unit has been relocated to Physicians Regional Hospital for additional ALS resources to help both ENFD and GGFD. Close to initiating the ALS engine companies and the swap program in the ENFD division. The GGFD Division is preparing to initiate a similar training program to implement ALS engine services.
- The County Fire Chiefs have initiated discussion regarding the deployment of closest unit responses. This change could potentially reduce response times countywide. Fire and EMS Chiefs support the concept but understand there are many operational issues that will need further discussion as well as formal support by the political bodies affected. The fire chiefs have agreed to discuss this issue locally and provide feedback during an upcoming countywide chiefs meeting.

This will come into play with the new communications systems enhancements, identifying units in the streets in real time.

- Along with the retirement of FCO Ed Riley, Deputy FCO Jackie de la Osa and AA Linda Simmons tendered their retirement as of June 1st and are now employed with NNFD. This now leaves 4 employees left at Fire Code; two admin personnel and two plans reviewers. ENFD Lieutenant Terry Anderson tendered his retirement after 24 years to the District.
- Chief Schuldt asked Asst. Chief Sapp to update the Board on the apparatus purchases approved in the East Division. A Water Tender in the amount of

\$233,000 and a Quint in the amount of \$814,000 will be purchased to enhance the capabilities of the District.

- Work continues on the reclassification of job classifications and with that the description for the Deputy Director and the Executive Assistant to the Fire Chief have been approved, along with salary adjustments to each position after a salary market analysis was completed.
- A remodel of the training room at Station 20 was approved with a cost not to exceed \$7000.

Chairman Gerrity, on the topic of the closest unit response, recommended that Chief Schuldt try to get the other chiefs to sign a letter or agree to sign a letter, stating that this is part of the cost of doing business; there should not be bickering on charging back and forth depending on how many runs are picked up. The Chief agreed that he will bring this up at the next discussion. Chairman Gerrity went on to say that most of the chiefs he knows support this concept.

9. Citizen's Advisory Committee

The next meeting is scheduled for June 30th at 4:00 PM

10. Other Reports

A. Operations Report – Assistant Chief Sapp A/C Sapp reported on the following:

- The joint district responded to 1402 calls; 523 were fire calls and other reports and 879 were medical calls. GGFD Station 70 was the busiest station with 267 responses. The busiest engine was Engine 21 with 213 responses.
- The ENFD ALS Engine Program is moving forward and currently GGFD is getting a list of people together who want to participate in the GGFD ALS Engine Program.
- Fleet has been busy with lots of projects; getting the final touches done on BR22 and SQ72. SQ72 will be utilized to allow T72 to remain in a ready state for fire emergencies and second out for medical calls.
- The most significant events for May were an ENFD 2 alarm fire while at the same time battling a 200 acre wild fire near 1-75 which closed the interstate. That same day there were 14 interface wild fires, with the majority being in the joint district.
- The joint district is running 62% medical calls, with an average of 45.2 responses per day. Numbers have been dropping since February with the end of "season".
- A report has been created and added to the packet which lays out mutual aid calls (anything the joint district requests assistance for) vs. automatic aid calls (units already built into the run card). From the report, it can be seen that the joint district gives more mutual aid and automatic aid than the joint district receives from NNFD.

Chairman Gerrity inquired as to the color of the new trucks that ENFD is purchasing. Chief Sapp replied that all new trucks moving forward will be North Charleston Red.

Chief Sapp added that he will be coming to the Board with a recommendation to purchase an engine next budget year since the payment of Engine 73 will be coming off of the books.

Chairman Gerrity commended Chief Sapp for doing a great job on his report.

B. Logistics Report – Deputy Chief Biondo
As submitted.

1. Fire and Life Safety Report – Division Chief Hanson
As submitted.

C. Administration and Finance – Director Bishop
Director Bishop reported on the following:

- The FY 12-13 ENFD and FCO audits were presented to the ENFD BOFC. There were no surprises and everything looks great. Copies will be emailed out to the GGFD Commissioners.
- Both referendum questions have been submitted to the Supervisor of Elections Office including the Spanish translations for review and approval.
There was some discussion from the ENFD BOFC on the wording on the Isles Referendum concerning the millage rate. The ENFD Commissioners would like it stated, if possible for the language to expressively state the change in the millage rate from 2.0 to 1.5 if passed. This really needs to be addressed in the education piece since the language was submitted through the Bill.
- The ENFD Village Falls unit sale is complete. The Outer Drive property is still under the due diligence period and the Commissioners voted to move ahead with a swap of the Sable Palm property; swapping the 5.9 acres for 1.3 acres.
Commissioner McMahon inquired why the swap was not of equal size. Director Bishop explained that the ENFD property is land locked and the District cannot get to the piece of property. A bridge to access the property would cost in the neighborhood of \$1 million dollars.

Chief Sapp added that the request through the Land Trust Committee in the amount of \$150,000 has been approved by the Collier County Commissioners to outfit the military trucks for next brush fire season.

Chief Schuldt also added that the list of deviation requests/review meetings as shown on page 45 of the packet have been resolved by Chief Hanson. These efforts by her in the retooling of the Fire & Life Safety Division and in working with the County are impressive, especially with the complaints and concerns heard in the past.

11. Local 2396 Report

Union President Tobin reported on the following:

- A draft MOU for interchange of personnel has been completed. This would provide for additional apparatus to be put on the street using personnel from ENFD, GGFD and including Collier County EMS. Extra manpower would mean adding additional response units, not taking away from the primary units.
- The Recognition Agreement paperwork is being worked on with the Chief. This will allow for the Union to be the bargaining agent for new merged district. Hopefully the paperwork will be ready for the joint meeting in July.

- Everyone has been working hard and the endorsements for the East Commissioners will be out soon. The endorsements for GGFD Commissioners Gerrity and Stedman have already been provided. Commissioner Stedman shared his appreciation and felt it an honor to receive an endorsement for a third time.

12. Old Business:

A. Consolidation Issues – Commissioner Gerrity

Chief Schuldt reported that staff is really trying to pull this merger together in the final push. A draft 5 year financial projection will be presented at the Merger Team meeting tomorrow and should be expected to come before the Board very soon. Once that is complete, the deployment analysis and organizational chart for the next 5 years will need to be addressed. The Chief continues to attend area civic association meetings for any questions that might arise. Specifically noted was the last East Naples Civic Association Meeting where the Board voted to take a formal position on the merger. Their position is to remain neutral and not sway the voters one way or another on the vote.

Chairman Gerrity requested an update on the Pension in regard to the merger and whether there has been a meeting with the Union on this topic. It seems the Districts are not leaning in any direction on this. Director Bishop stated there was not much useful information provided at the first meeting in Tallahassee with the FRS and 175 Pension staff. More answers are needed before meeting with the Local and she would reach out again to the District's Legislative attorney to find the answers.

Chairman Gerrity invited everyone to attend the Merger Team meetings which are held every other Thursday. These meetings provide a great opportunity to speak to members of the public, members of the other fire districts as well as other Fire Commissioners.

1. Cost Savings Worksheet

The Joint District has realized a net savings of \$567,500.55.

B. Fire Code Office Update – Chief Schuldt

Addressed under the Fire Chief's Report.

13. New Business:

A. Response Time Reporting

Commissioner Stedman requested a running percentage of the response times where the District is meeting the NFPA standards of 6 minutes or less for BLS; how close the District is to that and what districts are most efficient. This would enable the District to see where the biggest challenges are which could help determine future station placement. In addition Commissioner Stedman has been meeting with Sheriff Rambosk to look into improving the ability to get somebody to an incident in 4 minutes or less regardless if it is a fire engine or not. He would like to create a campaign to offer free and numerous CPR classes and advertise to the residents east of CR951 in order to get the residents trained out in an area where resources are the scarcest. Everyone knows that you need to get to someone in a certain amount of time to perform CPR and it doesn't really matter what you do after that. Getting the CERT program up and running again would assist in this by getting the residents involved. Sheriff Rambosk assured Commissioner Stedman that a Sheriff's Deputy would respond to any medical call east of 951 and will help out on the campaign for the CPR training. The CPR assist device that Dr. Tober demonstrated earlier works right into this by making people more comfortable with CPR. Commissioner Stedman requested thoughts

from the Commissioners who both support the idea. Chairman Gerrity wondered if the schools were teaching CPR. Commissioner Stedman stated he would reach out to the School Board to try to get them on board and would imagine that they would want to participate as well since the Sheriff's Office, along with several media outlets are interested as well. Commissioner McMahon mentioned how this goes along with the Rapid Response Center out in the Estates to which Commissioner Stedman stated that there is a renewed interest in the center since people have changed and monies are becoming more readily available. Chief Sapp stated that some response times from Station 71 are 8 minutes and south of DeSoto Ave., the response times can be up to 18 minutes. Chairman McMahon would like to see patient contact times. Chief Sapp did state that the District meets the NFPA fire response of having 14 people on scene in 8 minutes or less 69% of the time. Station 70's average response time is 5 minutes, Station 71 is 8 minutes, 72 is 7 minutes and 73 is 6 minutes. Chief Schuldt added that the average response time for both districts is 6.33 minutes. Chief Sapp also included the DeSoto and I-75 average response time which is 18-20 + minutes.

Chief Schuldt informed the Board that the ENFD Board is sending a thank you letter to Dr. Tober in appreciation for the donation of the CPR assist devices and wanted to get approval to include the GGFD Board in the letter. The GGFD Board agreed to be included.

14. Comments from the Public and Commissioners

Commissioner McMahon thanked everyone for all of their hard work and all of the information that the Board is receiving is overwhelming but very interesting. He went on to say that he has a conflict for the July meetings and would like to attend via phone.

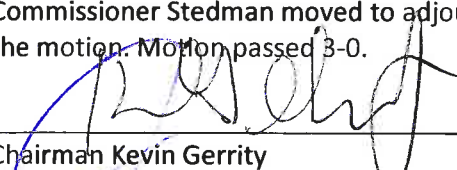
After much discussion on the problems of trying to schedule a meeting for all of the Districts to get together to discuss Fire Code it was decided to include Fire Code on the July Joint Agenda and invite everyone to come if they want to participate in the discussion.

15. Items for Next BOFC Meeting Agenda (July 9, 2014)

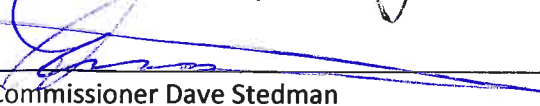
None

Adjourn

Commissioner Stedman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.



 Chairman Kevin Gerrity 7/9/14
Date



 Commissioner Dave Stedman 7/9/14
Date

 Commissioner Chuck McMahon Date