

**MINUTES**  
**GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

**I. MEETING OPENED**

Commissioner Gerrity called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners at 5:40 PM on September 9, 2015 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Gerrity, Hemping, McMahon, Cross, Cottiers, and Stedman. Chairman Page and Commissioner Boyer were excused for family illnesses. Executive staff in attendance: Chief Schuldt, Assistant Chief Sapp, Deputy Chief Low, Division Chief Hanson, Deputy Directors Bishop and Martin. Staff in attendance: Michele Packard, Nicole Chesser, Chris Tobin, Stephen Thigpen, David Perez, Robert McGowan & family, Khri Klock, Jarett Cotter, Jamie Popiol and Trenton Mading. Members of the public included; CCSO CPL Mike Craig, Walter Kopka, Donna Dolan and Michael Ramsey. Others were in attendance but did not sign in.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

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

**B. Line of Duty Deaths Reading and Moment of Silence**

Chief Schuldt reported that there were a total of 9 FF fatalities for the month of August, bringing the total for 2015 to 59 followed by a moment of silence.

**C. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

Commissioner Stedman requested the removal of III.B. Performance Measures Presentation and requested it be added to the October agenda.

**D. Approval of the Agenda**

*Commissioner Hemping moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.*

**E. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for August 11, 2015**

*Commissioner Hemping moved to approve the board minutes for the August 11, 2015 regular meeting as presented. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.*

**F. Approval of the GNFD BOFC First Budget Workshop Minutes for August 11, 2015**

*Commissioner Cross moved to approve the board minutes for the August 11, 2015 First Budget Workshop as presented. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.*

**G. Approval of the GNFD BOFC Second Budget Workshop Minutes for August 25, 2015**

*Commissioner Cross moved to approve the board minutes for the August 25, 2015 Second Budget Workshop as presented. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.*

**H. Consent Agenda**

*Commissioner Hemping moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.*

1. Treasurer's Report
2. FCO's Treasurer Report
3. Operations Report – Assistant Chief Sapp
4. Administration and Finance Report – Deputy Director Bishop
5. Support Services Report – Deputy Chief Biondo
  - a) Fire and Life Safety Report – Division Chief Hanson
  - b) Fleet Report
  - c) Logistics
6. At-A-Boys
  - a) Kiwanis Thank You – LT Marty Good, DE Tom Szempruch, FF Aaron Douglas and FF Erin Gill
  - b) Duckling Rescue Thank You – DE Joey Brown & FF Ryan McGinnis

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**I. Awards and Recognition**

1. **Introduction of New Employee – Facility Maintenance Technician Charlie Heweker**  
Chief Schuldt, along with Chief Low, introduced Charlie Heweker to the Board and swore him in.
2. **Life Saving Awards – LT Robert McGowan, FF David Perez, FF Stephen Thigpen, CCSO CPL Mike Craig & CPL Michael Savel**  
Chief Schuldt, along with AC Sapp and Chief Low recognized the above mentioned individuals (CCSO CPL Michael Savel was not in attendance) for the rescue of occupants from a structure fire on August 6, 2015.

**J. Fire Administration – Chief Schuldt**

1. **Fire Chief's Board Update**

Chief Schuldt reported on the following:

- It was reported for the record that Chairman Page and Commissioner Boyer were not in attendance due to family illnesses.
- Tropical Storm Erika came through the area the week of August 24<sup>th</sup> without much significance. A comprehensive hurricane plan was developed and ready to roll out and activate.
- The Collective Bargaining Agreement which was ratified last month is currently being implemented.
- There is some work being done for some potential promotional processes.
- Strategic Planning is moving forward, there are meetings held every other week and the committee is preparing to put out a survey to the entire membership to encourage participation.
- The Fire & Life Safety offices are now officially located at 2700 N. Horseshoe Drive and everyone is welcome to stop by. The building has been rebranded for Greater Naples Fire. An open house has been tentatively scheduled for October 20, 2015 during fire prevention month.
- The Sneaker Drive is well under way and the District has partnered with the Golden Gate Kiwanis to collect new and gently used sneakers for children. The East Naples Kiwanis has expressed an interested in joining this endeavor.
- Fourteen additional paramedics were introduced into the ALS program and are currently going undergoing the credentialing process.
- At Commissioner Hemping's request, Chief Schuldt explained the apparatus replacement program which provides for a new piece of apparatus each year for the next 10 years. The apparatus bought this budget year are a water tender, two demo vehicles; an engine and a 107' aerial. Also purchased was an air and light unit.
- The District will participate in several events planned for Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. The remembrance ceremony will be held at the Golden Gate Community Center and begins at 9:30 AM. There will be two events at the Lorenzo Walker educational facility; 7:30 AM and 8:15 AM. The final 9/11 event will be held at Terracina Grand.

**K. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan**

Director Bishop reported that the investment portfolio performance through June 30, 2015 was included in the report along with information on the authorization for the Plan Actuary to create a

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payroll and contribution history spreadsheet back to 1998. The Plan received notification of its allocation of state monies for 2014. Director Bishop also provided a reminder that the next quarterly meeting will be held on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

**L. Local 2396 Report**

President Trenton Mading reported on the following:

- Received confirmation from the International on the merger of the Greater Naples and Isles of Capri locals.
- Initiated talks with the Ochopee local on a possible merger of the locals.
- The Romp in the Swamp will be held October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> raising funds for a child of a police officer.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Emergency Services Task Force Meeting – Commissioner Hemping**

Commissioner Gerrity reported that there was a lengthy discussion on the training with the Fire and EMS agencies. The consensus was that there is a lot of training going on but it is not coordinated together. Both Commissioners Gerrity and Burke are looking for a way to get the training coordinated. He provided a reminder that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM at GNFD Admin HQ.

**B. Fire Code Office – Director Bishop**

Chief Schuldt reported that the letters were sent to all the Districts for the disbursement of funds. To date, none of the letters have been returned.

**C. Isles of Capri Update – Chairman Page**

Chief Schuldt reported that the Interlocal Agreement was approved by the County making way for the management of Isles of Capri (MSTU) effective October 1, 2015. Staff went down to meet with the Isles employees to answer any questions that they may have. The employment process has begun for all Isles employees on becoming GNFD employees. Applications have been filled out and they will be scheduled for their physicals. There are a few details that still need to be worked out but the District is looking for a seamless transition on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Chief Schuldt also stated that the County approved supporting GNFD's efforts of annexing Isles and all of District One through the formal legislative process. Director Bishop is working on getting these Bills ready to go to the Local Delegation in October. Commissioner Gerrity asked for the Chief to provide information on the marine unit at Isles. Chief Schuldt informed the Board that Isles had a boat and have since disposed of it. The Interlocal clearly states that GNFD is to provide the same level of service or greater. EMS Boat 80 is headquartered there and there has been a joint cooperative between Isles and EMS. Chief Schuldt expects to meet with EMS Chief Kopka to discuss continuing the joint cooperative, and to discuss ALS services to assure that the service remains the same.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Fire Chief's Employment Agreement – Chairman Page**

Commissioner Gerrity stated that all employees were provided a post-employment benefit option with the exception of Chief Schuldt. Three options are being proposed for the Board to consider for the Chief. One is to provide Chief Schuldt with post-employment benefits for a number of years. Two, would be to allow the Chief to accrue the \$5000/yr PEHP benefits going back to when he became Chief and three, to fully fund the \$50,000 PEHP. Commissioner Gerrity supports option 2.

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*Commissioner Hemping moved to approve amending the Chief's contract to provide for the accrual of the \$5000/yr PEHP retroactive to the time he became Chief. Commissioner McMahon seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-1, with Commissioner Stedman opposed.*

Commissioner Hemping reminded the Board that the Chief's performance appraisal needs to be completed by November 1<sup>st</sup> and he comes up for salary review on May 1<sup>st</sup> which was missed. Again there was a lengthy discussion on the Chief's compensation.

*Commissioner Cross moved to reset the Chief's base salary to \$140,000 annually effective September 8th. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-1, with Commissioner McMahon opposed.*

**B. Performance Measures Presentation – Commissioner Stedman**

Removed from the agenda; will be presented in October.

**C. Reading into the Record Resolution 2015-13 State of Emergency Erika – Director Bishop**

Director Bishop reported in preparation for Hurricane Erika Resolution 2015-13 was executed by Commissioner Cross on August 28, 2015. Director Bishop read into the record Resolution 2015-13 as required.

Commissioner McMahon stated that in the past the Board was brought into an Emergency Session in such instances and wanted to know why this was not the case. Director Bishop responded stating that there is no statutory requirement to bring the Board together. Commissioner Gerrity asked staff to make sure to check on the legalities on this. Chief Schuldt stated that he felt confident in how staff handled the situation but the Board could set policy that would require a meeting in an emergency situation.

**D. AIW – Disposition of Fixed Assets 2015-06 Hurst and Small Equipment – Chief Low**

*Commissioner McMahon moved to support staff's recommendation to approve Disposition of Fixed Assets #15-006 to dispose of the obsolete and broken equipment located at Fleet Maintenance. Commissioner Hemping seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.*

**E. Public Comment**

None

**F. Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner McMahon thanked everyone for their hard work and what a fine example of this with the lifesaving awards earlier.

Commissioner Stedman stated how much it meant to him for the Chief to call him and tell him that he saved \$300,000 on fire trucks.

**G. Topics Initiated by the Board of Fire Commissioners**

None

**IV. SIGNATURE OF BOARD APPROVED ITEMS**

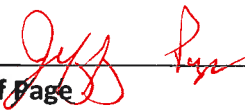
1. GNFD Board Minutes for August 11, 2015
2. GNFD BOFC First Budget Hearing Minutes for August 11, 2015
3. GNFD BOFC Second Budget Hearing Minutes for August 25, 2015
4. Disposition of Fixed Assets 2015-006 Hurst & Small Equipment

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**V. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner McMahon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM. Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Duly passed with a vote of 8 to 0 and adopted in session on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2015.

  
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Chairman Jeff Page

  
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Commissioner Charles Cottiers

  
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Commissioner Kevin Gerrity

  
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Commissioner Chuck McMahon

  
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Commissioner Rob Boyer

  
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Commissioner Brian Cross

  
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Commissioner Steve Heping

  
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Commissioner David Stedman