



MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
July 11, 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 July 11, 2017 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Chairman Page, Commissioners Cottiers, Cross, Gerrity, Hemping, Stedman and Henning, Commissioner Boyer attended via phone. Executive staff in attendance: Chief Schuldt, Chief Sapp, Chief McLaughlin, Directors Bishop and Martin. Staff in attendance: Suanne Woeste and Nicole Chesser. Other employees in the audience and public in attendance: Trenton Mading, Charlie Heweker, Jarett Cotter, William Douglass, Mario Castaneda, Shar Hingson, Andy Krajewski, Jose Garcia, Matt Trent, Ray Kilmer, Bradley Packard, Brandon Bunting, Jeff Roll, Jamie Popiol, Robert McGowan, Chris Citak, Khris Klock, Justin Beasley, Brian Mading, Jason Bright, Dona Dolan, Jean Kungle, Bryan Horbal, Jim Burke, Tabatha Butcher, Eloy Ricardo and WINK news. 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 6 Firefighter fatalities for the month of June bringing the total for 2017 to 51, followed by a moment of silence.

C. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

None

D. Approval of the Agenda

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

E. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for June 13, 2017

The following amendment was made to the June 13, 2017 minutes: Item I. Fire Administration, 13th bullet, insert Commissioner Gerrity also expressed concern that the pay associated with Policy #902.3, should have been approved by the Board.

Commissioner Cross moved to accept the minutes as amended. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

F. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Commissioner Gerrity 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. Disposition of Fixed Assets #17-10 Small Equipment – Deputy Chief McLaughlin

G. Awards and Recognition

None

H. Fire Administration – Chief Schuldt

- Special recognition was given to the men and women firefighters who worked the very busy July 4th weekend, they did an exceptional job. Fire & Life Safety did an exemplary job in vetting the permit applicants for the sale of fireworks, 13 applied 4 did not meet the guidelines.

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- GNFD is currently preparing for an ISO Evaluation in August
- Meetings continue with Sherriff's office and EMS on potential locations for new stations and co-staffing. Director Martin will report more on that later this evening.
- Ochopee MSTU selected 2 more Advisory committee members for its Board which will be filled after approval from the Collier County Board. The Board continue to meet every other month.
- Station 63 Management Agreement has been formally signed over to GNFD. Staff is currently working on getting all assets transferred over.
- GNFD Staff continues to participate in countywide wildfire mitigation taskforce meetings. 15 additional static water sources are being identified for the Golden Gate Estates area. Staff met with Florida Forest Service to secure future acquisition of three additional brush vehicles.
- Staff has met with Barry University regarding possible partnership to make higher-level education available for GNFD personnel with the delivery of Bachelor level programs in fire and EMS related curriculum. An additional meeting was held with Hodges University to enter into partnership for the purpose of providing paramedic training including required preceptorship training for GNFD and other agencies countywide as part of course requirements for said program.
- Fire Inspector Daniel Machin resigned and Lieutenant John Handley announced his retirement effective July 31st. GNFD is currently setting up interviews for Fire Inspector.
- Preparation for the 2017-2018 Budget is underway. Final draft millage rate estimations have been received and calculated. GNFD is forecasted to realize a 5.66% increase, or approximately \$1.1m, and Ochopee is forecasted to realize a 3.66% increase, or approximately \$56,000 increase in ad valorem revenue.
- As part of the District's efforts to standardize equipment and procedures, new sets of battery powered hand tools and glass cutters have been purchased as well as new color coded fire hose and intake valves have been purchased. A new equipment inventory system is being implemented in coordination with the previous efforts of the Fleet Branch to inventory apparatus.
- Staff members have met with labor representatives to address concerns raised regarding the new fleet management program. As a result, daily reports are distributed to provide timely and accurate status reports of vehicle maintenance and repairs. Similar efforts were address by staff to improve station supply and delivery processes. A new Grainger and 3M supply and delivery programs are currently underway.

I. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan – Chairman Arroyo

Next Quarterly Meeting is Friday August 11, 2011 at 9:00am at GNFD's headquarters.

J. Local 2396 Report – Trenton Mading

President Trenton Mading announced to the Board publically the Union has done a Vote of No Confidence on Fire Chief Kingman Schuldt and Deputy Chief Rob Low. A letter was given to Board members serving as notification and complain of perceived violations of the District's Nondiscrimination / Anti-Harassment policy against Chief Schuldt. President Mading read the letter he submitted to the Board.

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Discussion and Comments from the Board followed with agreement from the Board to seek legal assistance from the Law Firm Alan, Norton & Blue and to appoint a "liaison" to look into allegations and report back to Board.

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to have Commissioner Cross look into allegations and report back to Board.

Commissioner Cross stated that could be a violation of the Chief's contract.

Commissioner Stedman amended motion to seek legal advice from attorney prior to having Commissioner Cross look into allegations and report back to Board. Commissioner Henning seconded. Motion passes 7-1 (Boyer)

Commissioner Boyer remarked the Union should file grievances first.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Emergency Services Task Force Meeting – Commissioner Hemping

Next meeting is Thursday, July 20th at 9:00am.

** Staff requested moving III. New Business A. -Audit Presentation here*

A. AIW – FY 15-16 Audit Presentation – Tony Grau Jr., CPA

In accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America Greater Naples Fire District's FY 15-16 financial statements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016 have been audited. As noted in the Report to Management, there are no current year findings and recommendations and all previous year findings/recommendations have been implemented.

Highlights from Independent Auditor's Report:

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, the financial statement referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District as of September 30, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position for the fiscal year ended on September 30, 2016, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

** Resume Agenda – II. Old Business*

B. AIW – Future Fire Station Locations – Deputy Director Martin

Deputy Director Martin presented a slide show with financial and logistic plans to help determine the best location, size, and use for current and future facilities throughout the Fire District. Highlights included Fire District growth, standard and recommendations of distance and response times, documented response time and distance to incident location, agencies that are interested in joint facilities, recommended future fire station locations, and estimated costs.

Staff Recommendation Station 25 – Joint occupy Station 25 with Collier EMS Late 2018 Early 2019

Staff Recommendation Station 26 – Joint Public Safety Complex at Lake Park Drive Late 2019 Early 2020. Greater Naples Fire Rescue, Collier County Sheriff's Office, and Collier EMS

Commissioner Henning made a motion to move forward with joint facility with Collier EMS on Lords Way and proceed with the Lake Park analysis on a joint venture with other government agencies for a public safety complex. Commissioner Hemping seconded. Motion Passed 8-0

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- C. AIW – Greater Naples/North Collier Joint Staffing Initiative – Chief Schuldt**
Station 24/47 is currently staffed by three agencies with three units: one CC EMS transport unit, one GNFD BLS fire engine, and one NC ALS fire engine or truck company. Total staffing includes 8 personnel, all units operate independently, assume personnel costs, and share equally in facility operating costs.

Results after initial meeting include:

- CC EMS is supportive of participating in operational initiatives to enhance overall services
- Reduction from two fire apparatus to a single unit with a joint staffing model to be determined will result in enhanced resources to both agencies
- ALS services will be maintained
- Enhancement of specialized operations can result from a joint staffing initiative
- Operation staff members need to meet to develop detailed plans and assess additional options

Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to authorize Chief Schuldt to implement changes. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion Passed 8-0.

Commissioner Henning requested Chief Schuldt report back what's implemented.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. AIW – FY 15-16 Audit Presentation – Deputy Director Bishop**

Moved and presented after II. Old Business A.

- B. AIW – Millage Rate % Decrease Chart – Commissioner Gerrity**

Commissioner Gerrity asked staff to develop for discussion purposes a reduction in millage rate table. The table presented represents the projected gross revenue at various millage rates.

Conversation from the Board included the estimate of lowering the millage rate from 1.5 Mills. to 1.495 Mills. (estimated decrease in revenue \$86,818), is now the right time to change millage rate with current station rehabs and fleet concerns or keep current millage rate to collect all revenue available in anticipation of the revenue decrease in 2020 (as a result of the Homestead Exemption increase).
No action taken.

- C. AIW – FY17-18 Budget Meeting Scheduling – Deputy Director Bishop**

As required by the Department of Revenue Florida's Truth-In-Millage (TRIM) guidelines, the BOFC is tasked with setting two public hearings to discuss, present to the public and vote on the upcoming year's budget and millage rate.

Director Bishop proposed the following dates:

Workshop: Tuesday, August 8th at 3:30pm or Tuesday, August 22nd at 5:30pm

Public Hearing: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 5:05pm

Final Public Hearing: Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 5:05pm

Commissioner Henning made a motion to schedule the Budget Workshop Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 3:30 pm. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 8-0.

Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to schedule the First Public Hearing Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 5:05 pm and to move the Regular September Board meeting from Tuesday September 12, 2017 to Wed., September 13, 2017. Commissioner Henning seconded. Motion passed 8-0.

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Commissioner Stedman made a motion to schedule the Final Public Hearing Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 5:05 pm. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 8-0.

D. AIW – Chairman of the Board Rules and Responsibilities – Chairman Page

A draft policy of Board Chairman Roles and Responsibilities was presented for discussion.

Discussion and Comments from the Board included it's the Chairman's role is to run the meeting but Chair has equal standing as other Board members and cannot alone give direction to the Fire Chief, Chair reviews and signs minutes as do all Commissioners, the Chair can execute Emergency Resolutions/Declarations on behalf of the Board (which will be ratified in next regular Board meeting), if documentation is not provided to all Commissioner so an educated decision can be made the Chair should prevent a vote, and the Chair cannot act as a liaison between District CEO and the Board. All Board members agreed to have Attorney review policy before final approval.

Commissioner Henning made a motion to approve draft version for legal review to be brought back to the Board for final approval. Commissioner Cross seconded. Motion Passed 6-2 (Cottiers, Gerrity).

E. AIW- Water 71 Repair Request – Chief Schuldt

Staff requested approval for Ten-8 to repair the pump assembly and related parts on Water Tender 71 (08-02-1426) not to exceed \$30,000.

Commissioner Cross moved to support staff's recommendation and authorize the release of funds from Reserves, not to exceed \$30,000 for the repairs to Water Tender 71. Commissioner Boyer seconded. Motion Passed 8-0.

F. Topics Initiated by the Board of Fire Commissioners

- Commissioner Cross attended ULP Mediation a couple Fridays ago. Attorneys are working to finalize an agreement.
- Chairman Page stated on July 3rd he did a ride-a-long with Captain Shar Hingson from Fire & Life Safety. Vendors selling fireworks out of tents were checked to verify they were compliant per policy. It was a great experience per Chairman Page, he learned a lot and noted some problem areas that could be changed for next year.
- Commissioner Cottiers expressed disappointment to hear we are having such issues between labor and management. He commends the Union for bringing to attention of Board – we need to take a hard look at these issues immediately.
- Commissioner Henning thanked Commissioners Cross and Page for their extra time dealing with negotiations and District issues.

G. Public Comments

None

IV. SIGNATURE OF BOARD APPROVED ITEMS

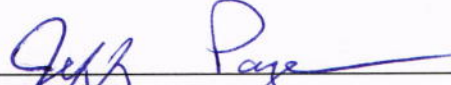
1. Board Minutes June 13, 2017
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V. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Stedman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 pm. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

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



Chairman Jeff Page

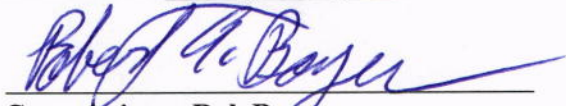


Commissioner Charles Cottiers

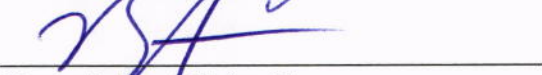


Commissioner Kevin Gerrity

Commissioner Tom Henning



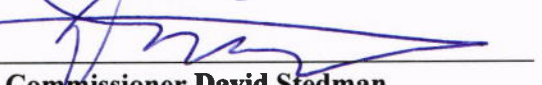
Commissioner Rob Boyer



Commissioner Brian Cross



Commissioner Steve Heping



Commissioner David Stedman