



**MINUTES  
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
March 13, 2018**

**MEETING OPENED**

Chairman Cross called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners meeting at 5:30pm., on March 13, 2018 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Chairman Cross, Commissioners Page, Boyer, Stedman, Gerrity, Cottiers and Henning. Executive Staff in attendance: Fire Chief Kingman Schuldt, Assistant Chief Sapp, Deputy Chief's Low, Hanson, and McLaughlin and Deputy Director Bishop. Staff in attendance: Suanne Woeste, Jason Bright, Judy Schleiffer, Steve Riley, Tony Palermo. Public in attendance: Nicole Chesser, Trenton Madding, Chaplain Jack Strom, Charlie Heweker, Shar Hingson, George Danz, Kevin Nelmes, Jim Burke, and NCFD Director D'Angelo Others were in attendance but did not sign in.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Chairman Cross opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the invocation by Chaplain Jack Strom.

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

Chief Schuldt reported there were a total of 5 Firefighter fatalities for the month of February, bringing the total for 2018 to 10, followed by a moment of silence.

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

Deputy Director Bishop requested US 41 property be added as New Business III. F. and Dock at Station 90 be added as New Business III. G. Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

**D. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for February 13, 2018**

Commissioner Stedman moved to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Page seconded the motion. Motion Passed 7-0.

**E. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

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 – Deputy Chief McLaughlin
  - a. Facilities Report – Deputy Chief McLaughlin
  - b. Training and Special Operations Report – Deputy Chief Low
6. Investigation Section Report – Deputy Chief Hanson
7. Disposition of Fixed Assets #18-004– Deputy Chief McLaughlin
8. At-A-Boys
  - a) MDA of Southwest Florida Thank You

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**F. Awards and Recognition**

Chairman Cross presented Commissioner Hemping with a plaque in honor of his retirement and thanked him for his years of service.

Chief Schuldt presented awards and certificates to the following employees:

- 15 Year Service Award – Driver Engineer Tony Palermo
- Excellence in Service in Fire and Life Safety – Lt. Inspector Steve Riley
- Nominated for Civilian of the Year Award – Director Tara Bishop and AA Judy Schleiffer in attendance and others nominated but not in attendance: AA's Susan Morris and Sarah Pike, DE Tim Sims, BC Caleb Morris and LT John Bigica.
- Civilian Employee of the Year – Executive Assistant Nicole Chesser
- Fire Chief's Values – Captain Craig Weinbaum
- Firefighter of the Year – Lieutenant Jason Bright

**G. Fire Chief's Report – Chief Schuldt**

Chief Schuldt reported on the following:

- Live Fire Training – excellent job by Captain Godette and team. Participated in countywide drill that burned down 2 structures safely and with no injuries.
- FDOT MM 63 Funding has been a tough road but after multiple trips to Tallassee, letter to Governor and support from Collier County Lobbyists the House Floor approved the funding bill for the MM63 Fire Station. In order to move Bill passed the Senate Appropriations Committee the Bill was amended from three years to one year of funding, Bill is with Governor to be signed. We need to start working immediately for next year's legislative session. *Cross asked Schuldt if it was discussed what happens if funding goes away? Schuldt – I did not specifically say that, just provided facts. Stedman – Glad you didn't use emotional tactic, however the consequences are very real; closure has significant results. Discussion continued among the Board.*
- Bi-weekly meetings continue between GNFD and NCFD. There is on-going discussion about the Station 24/47 joint staffing, shared resources and joint training. *Page – Are they still productive? Schuldt – Yes, they are productive as long as we can move forward on items. NCFD's Director Sal D'Angelo echoed the Chief statement that meetings are productive and he'd like to see them continue.*

**H. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan – Chairman Arroyo**

No report from Chairman Arroyo.

*Chairman Cross questioned where are we with legal and actuary comparisons of the plans? Bishop responded that both work for the 175 Pension Plan. Gerrity – Discussed with Lt. Arroyo we need a neutral party to give us assurance that whatever changes are made will not disrupt the stream of things and that this is a well-funded plan.*

**I. Local 2396 Report – President Trenton Mading**

- Lieutenant grievance is resolved. Lt. testing is scheduled for June 6, 2018. Out of two other grievances, 1 is resolved and other is going to next step.
- The Union passed the Out of Position MOU to try and save overtime expenses by allowing personnel that have current testing qualifications the ability to be appointed to

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“out of position”, allowing them pay for position they are performing. This could be a savings of \$70,000 to \$80,000 a month.

- Health and Safety committee has met and is working on the investigation concerning one of our injured firefighters. A State Representative has been brought in to assist and the IAFF is also being asked to help. It will take at least 6 months to get investigation done.
- President Mading extended an invitation to any Commissioner that is running for office to meet with the Union body to discuss their endorsement.

## **II. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Emergency Services Task Force Update / Giving Staff Direction Commissioner Page**  
Commissioner Page reiterated he is not in favor of members of the Board giving staff direction to do something at the ESTF meetings. Commissioner Gerrity does not remember anything like that being said. After more discussion Chairman Cross stated: to make it clear the ESTF or any Commissioner at the ESTF meeting does not have authority to give staff direction.
- B. Vacant Fire Commissioner Seat #7; Appoint George Danz – Commissioner Gerrity**  
*Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to appoint retired Chief George Danz to fill vacant Fire Commissioner Seat # 7. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Discussion among the Board included questions on whether the seat has to be filled, do we have to advertise position, open up to other qualified candidates and why not leave it alone because we now have an odd number. Chairman Cross called the question. Motion Failed 2-5(Boyer, Page, Cross, Stedman, & Henning). Commissioner Stedman made a motion to leave the Board at the current seven members. Commissioner Page seconded. Motion Passed 6-1 (Gerrity)*
- C. Countywide Consolidation Referendum – Commissioner Gerrity**  
Commissioner Gerrity reported when the ESTF met last month the discussion centered on moving the Referendum to 2018, however it was decided we are on a glide to 2020. We will need language by November to be in the 2019 cycle. Other things to consider are the Homestead exemption and the GSG Study. Page – We need to see funding review before we discuss language. Cross – The Referendum being done at all is contingent on the funding study. Did we get a copy of NCFD report? Bishop – No. Page – Can we ask NCFD for a copy of their report? NCFD’s Director Sal D’Angelo responded, an agenda item was presented by Commissioner Feder at their last meeting; I will provide copy of agenda item & GSG study. Discussion about the GSG study continued along with what North Collier’s BOFC direction was to Director D’Angelo’s.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. AIW - Out of Position Assignments MOU – Chief Schuldt**  
*Commissioner Stedman made a motion to support Staff’s recommendation and approve the Appointment to Out-of-Position Memorandum of Understanding between The District and Local 2396. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed. 7-0.*



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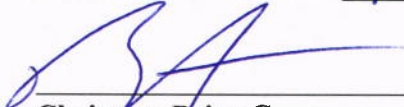
- B. AIW – Employee Handbook for Administrative Employees – Deputy Director Bishop**  
*Commissioner Page moved to proceed with adopting the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District Administrative Employee Handbook dated March 2018. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed. 7-0.*
- C. Administrative Staff Work Hours – Commissioner Boyer**  
Commissioner Boyer stated the GNFD office Staff works 7 ½ hours a day and is paid for 8 hours, the handbook needs to be changed - you work 8 hours you get paid for 8 hours. Schuldts – This work model was carried over from East Naples where employees are here for 8 ½ hours and get ½ hour paid lunch. Civilian Staff are still the only employees not brought up to the agreed upon scale from last pay cycle. Gerrity – Asked Chief Schuldts if he thought implementing Boyer’s recommendation would make employees do a better job or worse? Keep employees motivated and do more work? Schuldts – I can’t speak for everyone but with the emotional side, employees are not going to be happy working 2 ½ hours more a week for same pay. It was an unspoken benefit that they were paid for ½ hour of their lunch. Chairman Cross suggested Civilian Employee salaries are looked at. *Commissioner Boyer made a motion that all non-shift personnel work 40 hours a week and the HQ office shall be open Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Commissioner Paged seconded. Motion passed 4-3 (Gerrity, Cottiers, Henning).*
- D. AIW – Department of Homeland Security’s SAFER Grant – Chief Schuldts**  
*Commissioner Cottiers moved to proceed with staff applying for the Department of Homeland Security SAFER Grant. Commissioner Page seconded. Motion passed 6-1 (Gerrity).*
- E. AIW – 2018 Florida Forest Service Operating Plan – Chief Schuldts.**  
*Commissioner Cottiers moved to approve the 2018 Operating Plan between the Florida Forest Service and Collier County fire rescue agencies. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. Motion passed 7-0.*
- F. Competitive Market Analysis - US 41 – Deputy Director Bishop**  
Chairman Cross suggested raising the price for 4711 Outer Drive to \$20.00 per Sq. Ft. *Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to list the price of 4711 Outer Drive at \$20.00 per Sq. Ft. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 7-0.*
- G. Boat Dock Station 90**  
*Commissioner Stedman made a motion to approve quote from Collier Seawall & Dock, LLC. In the amount of \$29,350.00. Commissioner Page seconded. Motion passed 7-0. Repairs and estimates have been submitted to insurance for reimbursement.*
- H. Public Comment on Items not listed on the Agenda**  
Kevin Nelmes stated the old East Naples 175 Plan / Union did not cost the District money as stated by Commissioner Boyer, it saved the District over \$2,000,000.00. Commissioner Boyer disagreed. Director Bishop clarified stating the District had major make-ups to do and paid in substantial contributions, then there was a stop/restart which provided funding relief to the District, therefore saving the District and reducing future contributions.
- I. Comments by Commissioners**  
None

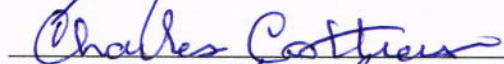
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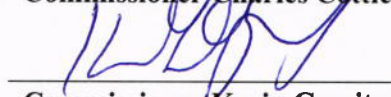
**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

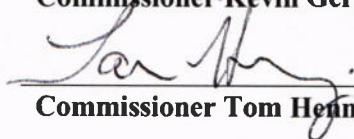
*Commissioner Stedman made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:45pm. Commissioner Gerrity seconded.  
Motion passed 7-0.*

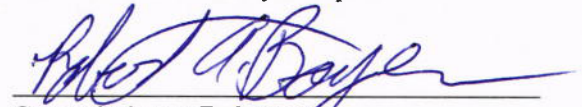
Duly passed with a vote of 7 to 0 and adopted in session on the 10th day of April.


  
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**Chairman Brian Cross**

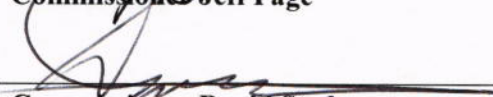
  
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**Commissioner Charles Cottiers**

  
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**Commissioner Kevin Gerrity**

  
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**Commissioner Tom Henning**

  
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**Commissioner Rob Boyer**

  
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**Commissioner Jeff Page**

  
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**Commissioner David Stedman**