



**MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 8, 2019**

I. MEETING OPENED

Chairman Henning called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners meeting at 5:30pm., on January 8, 2019 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Henning, Page, Cottiers, Gerrity, and Stedman. Executive Staff in attendance: Fire Chief Kingman Schuldt, Deputy Chiefs Martin, and McLaughlin, and Director Bishop. Staff in attendance: Suanne Woeste and Nicole Chesser. Public in attendance: Kevin Nelmes, Chris Tobin, Matt Trent, Jeremy Morgan, George Danz, Jim Overman, Annette K., Chris Thornton, Jim Burke, Steve Gifford, Jay Roth, Justin Beasley, Khris Klock, Sal D'Angelo and Jarett Cotter. Others were in attendance but did not sign in.

A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Chairman Henning 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 3 firefighter fatalities for the month of December, bringing the total for 2018 to 83, followed by a moment of silence.

C. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Page seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

D. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for December 8, 2018

Commissioner Gerrity moved to approve the December 8, 2018 minutes as presented. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Chairman Henning requested his statement under Agenda I, be corrected to read ...”announce the *termination* of the...” Commissioner Gerrity amended his motion to include correction. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

E. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

1. Treasurer's Report – Director Bishop
2. Capri Community, Inc. Thank You Letter

F. Awards and Recognition

Chief Schuldt recognized the following employees:

- Lieutenant Jeremy Morgan – 15 Year Service Award
- Lieutenant John Taylor – Eagle Award

G. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Schuldt presented report as submitted and added the following:

- Thank you to staff and community members who helped make GNFF's 2018 Toy Command a success. A record number of children (over 1,100) in Collier County were provided with gifts for the Holiday Season.



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- 14 new firefighters (5 full time and 9 part-time) started employment with GNFD 1/7/2019. Orientation training is anticipated to take four weeks with a transition to shift anticipated in mid-February.
- Congratulations to new Local 2396 Union President Kevin Nelmes and Vice President Joey Brown. The District and new Union Leadership has already met to discuss a pathway to enhanced labor management cooperation.

H. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan
No Report Presented

I. Local 2396 Report – President Kevin Nelmes

- Immediately after election, steps were taken to move forward as a Union and to transition Leadership. We will be growing some committees and reformulating other with the true intent to move forward.
- Looking forward to working with management and available to meet with the Chief individually to ensure a pathway to enhanced labor management cooperation.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Emergency Services Task Force Merger Presentation – Deputy Chief Martin

- Chief Schuldt presented the background information on Greater Naples Fire District (GNFD) movement towards a merger with North Collier Fire District (NCFD). Most recently the Emergency Service Task Force requested a merger update from the GNFD and NCFD fire districts staff. A PowerPoint presentation with an overview was presented at the December 2018 ESTF meeting.
- Deputy Chief Martin and NCFD's Director D'Angelo presented the PowerPoint presentation from the December 2018 ESTF meeting. NCFD will also see the presentation at their January BOFC meeting.
- Commissioner Gerrity stated we need to give staff direction. Does the Board want to continue working towards a consolidation with NCFD or not?
- Commissioner Page stated we need to pursue the Ochopee District merger ahead of anything we do with NCFD. After unsuccessfully trying to meet with NCFD, he'd like to wait and see how they address the question of having a referendum ready for 2020/2022. Commissioners Stedman and Cottiers agreed.
- Chairman Henning stated next meeting we should have a formal vote to give staff direction to work on Ochopee merger or continue working with ESTF and NCFD.

B. Attorney Request – Rey Velazquez *Time Specific 6:00pm*

Director Bishop advised District's Counsel Rey Velazquez is on the phone. Attorney Velazquez stated pursuant to section 286.011(8) Florida Statutes, I am advising the governing Board that I desire advice, regarding settlement negotiations strategy in the matter of Christian Tobin, Matthew Trent, Jeff Davenport, Andy Krajewski, Corey Nelson and Forrest Campbell v. Greater Naples Fire Rescue District, Middle District Court, Civil Action No. 2:18-cv-00616-UA-MRM. The subject matter shall be confined to the pending litigation. I'm requesting the session be held Tuesday February 12, 2019 time specific of 6:00 pm. *Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to have a closed-door attorney-client session February 12, 2019, time specific 6:00pm. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*



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III. NEW BUSINESS

A. AIW – Impact Fee Purchase Authorization – Deputy Chief McLaughlin

Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to approve staff's recommendation to release \$264,278 from the Impact Budget for the purchase of equipment as specified. Commissioner Stedman seconded.

Commissioner Cottiers questioned if this purchase will bring everything up to date? Deputy Chief McLaughlin responded no we would be about 75% complete. Another \$148,000 or so is needed to bring all apparatus up to commonality. Approximate cost to just fix and replace non-working out dated parts would be around \$75,000. Commissioner Cottiers asked why not fix all now? Chief Schuldt responded this is what we feel comfortable using out of the Impact Budget.

Chairman Henning called the question. Motion passed 5-0.

B. Discharge of Fire Arms in Golden Gate Estates

Commissioner Gerrity presented the Board a handout on EPA Regulations on Outdoor Shooting Ranges. He requested the Board send the County Commission a letter supporting their efforts, for the State to provide regulations on back yard shooting ranges. Chairman Henning agreed and added it needs to be made a legislative priority to change the law. *Commissioner Gerrity made a motion for staff to develop a letter (for the Chairman to sign), to the County Commissioners, expressing our support to persuade the State to regulate backyard shooting ranges. Seconded by Commissioner Stedman. Motion passed 5-0.*

- Golden Gate Estates resident Milton L. asked how changes would affect local residents who currently follow the regulations and take proper precautions. Chairman Henning stated the law applies to everyone, the Board voted on seeking stricter regulations; not totally prohibiting shooting ranges.

C. Storm Shutter

Chief Schuldt present background information on firefighters being hampered while battling fires involving homes with hurricane storm shutter in place. The blocked windows and doors impede firefighting operations, limit the ability to adequately ventilate a structure, and prohibit safe evacuation of trapped victims. It is a life safety issue. Chief Schuldt requested authorization from the Board to bring this issue to the attention of County staff and request the Board of County Commissioner adopt a County-wide Ordinance outlining requirements for the use of storm shutters: deployment, duration, and removal. Chairman Henning stated at the recent County Board meeting the Board gave staff direction to reach out to the local Fire Chiefs and get recommendations and input on the storm shutter issues. The Board supported Chief Schuldt's position on storm shutters and agreed it's best to get ahead of the situation for life safety reasons.

D. Public Comment

E. Comments by Commissioners

None



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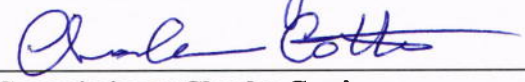
IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned 6:35pm.

Duly passed with a vote of 5 to 0 and adopted in session on the 12th day of February 2019.



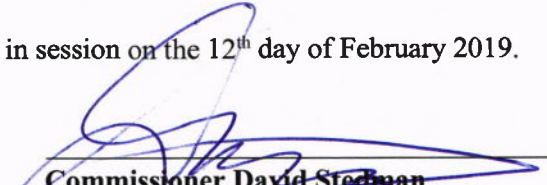
Chairman Tom Henning



Commissioner Charles Cottiers



Commissioner Kevin Gerrity



Commissioner David Stehman



Commissioner Jeff Page