



**MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
February 12, 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 February 12, 2019 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Henning, Page, Cottiers, Gerrity, and Stedman. Executive Staff in attendance: Fire Chief Schuldt, Deputy Chiefs Martin, and McLaughlin. Staff in attendance: Suanne Woeste and Nicole Chesser. Public in attendance: Kevin Nelmes, George Danz, Dom Tomei, Jean Kungle, Jeff Davenport and Sal D'Angelo. 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 2 firefighter fatalities for the month of January, bringing the total for 2019 to 2, followed by a moment of silence.

C. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

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

D. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for January 8, 2019

Commissioner Cottiers moved to approve the January 8, 2019 minutes as presented. Commissioner Page seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

E. Consent Agenda

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

1. Treasurer's Report – Director Bishop
2. Disposition of Fixed Assets 19-002 – Deputy Chief Martin

For future meeting Chairman Henning requested moving Consent Agenda before Item I.C. Approval, Additions, and Deletions to the Agenda.

F. Awards and Recognition

Chief Schuldt recognized the following employees:

- Firefighter A. Borowski – Probation Completed
- Promotion to Full Time Employment: FF's N. Pratt, D. Fleming, D. Gutierrez, J. Alvarado, S. Finger, S. Kehoe, G. Yelinek, L. Conroy, and A. Smith.
- New Hires: FF's Z. Henderson, S. Lawrence, D. Ramis, R. Rogula, R. Roseme', D. Williams, D. Kelly, C. Hogue, W. Wilkie, H. Hullibarger, V. Trapani, A. Arts-Kottke, B. Cipriano, and M. Gonzalez

G. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Schuldt presented report as submitted and added the following:

- In the next week staff will travel to Tallahassee to address funding efforts for Station 63. Senator Passidomo has given her personal commitment to see this bill through.



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- Several meetings have been held with Union President Nelmes covering a wide range of topics including: collective bargaining, grievance procedures, on-going legal, safety review, safety committee, ALS program, and personnel issues.
- Over the past month Chief Schuldt has met privately with the Union President and others to discuss The Curlew Ave. Fire Safety Review. In cooperation with the Union, Deputy Chief Low will be scheduling a "Lessons Learned" training about that incident in April. All members of the organization will be able to sit in.
- Chief Schuldt stated he was requested by the Lee County fire chiefs to participate in a teleconference to discuss a current effort by the group to develop a bill that would modify the current ad valorem taxing structure for special fire districts in Florida. The proposed change to Chapter 191 will allow the use of special assessments and non-ad valorem assessments with more flexibility under certain circumstances. Chief Schuldt will continue to monitor the group.
- The County Commission requested Chief Schuldt to present the storm shutter issue during their February Board meeting. The issue was discussed with the County Chiefs' Association where membership does not support a position to request a local ordinance. Because of the group opposing the District's position, it was determined Chief Schuldt would not present the item to the BBC, Chief Butcher would. Staff continues to develop a public awareness program on Storm Shutters.

6:00 pm – Chairman Henning announced time specific Attorney/Client Session

Chairman Henning read the following statement: As requested by the District's Counsel, there will be a closed door attorney-client meeting to discuss settlement negotiations strategy related to litigation brought forward by Christian Tobin, Matthew Trent, Jeff Davenport, Andy Krajewski, Corey Nelson, and Forrest Campbell vs Greater Naples Fire Rescue District; that should last no more than three and a half hours.

The attendees of the session are: Governing Board Members, Executive Office: Fire Chief, Kingman Schuldt, District Counsel: Rey Velazques, and a court reporter.

The session will be closed to the public pursuant to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes.

At the conclusion of the closed-door attorney-client session, I will reopen the public meeting and terminate the attorney-client session.

The public meeting is now recessed, the Board, Executive Officer, and District Counsel will now meet in the Command Post for the closed-door session.

6:28 pm – Chairman Henning announced the public meeting is now reopened and the attorney-client session is terminated.

H. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan

No report

I. Local 2396 Report

Union President Nelmes continues working cooperatively with Chief Schuldt, moving mutual items forward. It would be beneficial to also meet with Commissioners and the Chief, as a 3 person group to work on several issues that affect all our people from different angles.



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II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Closed Door Attorney-Client Session- Rey Velazques
See above

B. AIW-Ochopee Management/Merger Discussion – Commissioner Henning

- Chief Schuldt presented background information on the Ochopee Management Agreement and a timeline for discussion on formally annexing the Ochopee dependent district.
- Chairman Henning stated meeting with County Manager was very positive. There are issues that need to be worked out such as funding and fire trucks. Next step would be getting an attorney involved.
- Commissioner Page questioned if the PILT Funding would be part of the legislature or separate with the County. Henning- I want surety not for year to year but forever. I would recommend to add legislation after the bill is submitted, as an amendment.

Commissioner Page made a motion to support staff's recommendation and utilize the proposed timeline to merge Ochopee MSTU into the District, and reach agreement with the County for an extension to the existing management agreement. Commissioner Cottiers seconded.

- Discussion continued including: millage rate, PILT funding, long term contract with County, benefits, and what the citizens want.
- District resident Ms. Jean Kungle stated Ochopee has very few tax payers, it has a lot of state and federal land. The County benefits from tourists going to those parks; the County should step up and not expect so few taxpayers to cover costs.

Commissioner Page amended his motion to support staff's recommendation and utilize the proposed timeline to merge Ochopee MSTU into the District, or secure a long term agreement in perpetuity, and, reach agreement with the County for an extension to the existing management agreement. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

C. Emergency Services Task Force Merger Presentation

- Chief Schuldt presented the background information on the Emergency Services Task Force Meetings and asked the Board for direction on whether to continue or discontinue merger efforts with NCFD and stop ESTF meetings.
- Commissioner Gerrity stated he would step up and do all the leg work.
- Commissioner Stedman asked who attends these meeting for North Collier.
- North Collier FD Director Sal D'Angelo stated for the record he attends the ESTF meetings on behalf of the District. NCFD Commissioner Burke also attends.
- Commissioner Page attended ESTF meeting for years and does not feel they are productive and that NCFD is not serious about merging with GNFD. Let's focus on Ochopee or Immokalee management.

Chairman Henning made a motion to discontinue participation in the Emergency Task Force Meetings until significant changes in the merging of Ochopee and Greater Naples Fire District comes to light. Commissioner Page seconded. Motion Passed 4-1 (Gerrity)



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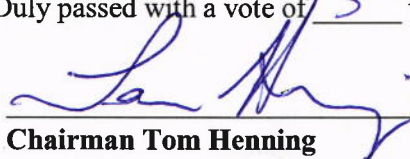
III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. AIW – 4711 Outer Drive Amendment to Listing Agreement**
Commissioner Page made a motion to accept the Exclusive Right of Sale Listing agreement presented by IPC, agent William Gonnering and a list sale price of 1,600,000. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- B. AIW – Resolution 2019-01 Adoption of the National Incident Management System**
Commissioner Cottiers moved to adopt Resolution 2019-01 formally adopting the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Commissioner Page seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- C. Public Comment**
 - District resident Don Tomei spoke as a delegate for the Naples Estates HOA and wanted to ask the Fire Chief some questions about the recent fire at their clubhouse construction site. *Chief Schuldt stated he would be happy to meet with Mr. Tomei to discuss, but not in a public forum when he has no back up information or data. A meeting was set for 8:00am the next day.*
 - Mr. Tomei stated he had a great time running against Commissioner Stedman and got to meet a lot of great guys. East Naples and Golden Gate guys who should all rally together to be Greater Naples.
- D. Comments by Commissioners**
 - Commissioner Stedman said it was an honor to run against Mr. Tomei.
 - Chairman Henning stated when he met with the County Manager they talked about fire trucks that should have been in the District’s name and are in the County’s name. The County manager responded if you are going to merge you can have everything. However, if you decide not to merge and the County needs to provide fire protection, we will need fire trucks, equipment, land, etc. Chairman Henning - I think we need to wait before we talk about whose name is on the titles.
 - Chairman Henning stated it is the Board’s responsibility per contract to evaluate The Fire Chief and award a merit increase of at least 2%, if the majority of evaluations are positive. Commissioner Page agreed and stated it needs to be retroactive to October, 2018.

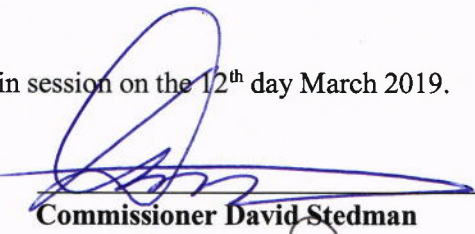
IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned.

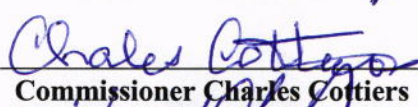
Duly passed with a vote of 5 to 0 and adopted in session on the 12th day March 2019.



Chairman Tom Henning



Commissioner David Stedman



Commissioner Charles Cottiers



Commissioner Jeff Page



Commissioner Kevin Gerrity