



MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
March 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 March 12, 2019 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Henning, Page, Cottiers, Gerrity, and Stedman. Executive Staff in attendance: Fire Chief Schuldt, Deputy Chiefs Hanson, Low, Martin, Sapp, and McLaughlin. Staff in attendance: Suanne Woeste and Nicole Chesser. Public in attendance: Kevin Nelmes, George Danz, Debbie Schwarz, Judy Schleiffer, Susan Morris, Daniel Garretto, Jason Bright, Joey Brown, Craig Weinbaum, 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 Pastor Jack Strom.

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 February, bringing the total for 2019 to 5, followed by a moment of silence.

C. 2018 Annual Awards Ceremony and Presentation

The following GNFD members we recognized for their significant contributions during 2018.

- **Fire Chief's Values** – Lieutenant Tom Purcell
- **Firefighter of the Year** – Driver Engineer Daniel Sawyer
- **Civilian Employee of the Year** – Administrative Assistant Susan Morris
- **Excellence in Service in Fire and Life Safety** – Inspector Mike Bays
- **Excellence in Service in Chaplaincy**- Chaplain Jack Strom
- **Tenzinga Excellence in Leadership Award Trophy**- Battalion Chief Chris Tobin
- **Tenzinga Excellence in Leadership Award Challenge Coin**- Assistant Chief J. Nolan Sapp
- **Tenzinga Excellence in Leadership Award Challenge Coin**- Lieutenant Kevin
- **Employees of the Month 2018:**
 - **April**- HR Specialist Debbie Schwarz
 - **May**- Driver Engineer Vaughn Palmateer
 - **September**- Administrative Assistant Sarah Pike
 - **October**- Administrative Assistant Judy Schleiffer
 - **November**- Administrative Assistant Tracey Caparrelli
 - **December**- Administrative Assistant Suanne Woeste

D. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Page seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

1. Treasurer's Report – Director Bishop
2. Disposition of Fixed Assets 19-003

E. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

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



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F. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for February 12, 2019

Commissioner Gerrity asked for clarification on the minutes: Section II. Old Business C. ESTF Merger Presentation. The ESTF is not ours to table, the meaning was for GNFD not to participate anymore. The Board agreed that was the intended meaning. Commissioner Gerrity moved to approved minutes as amended. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

G. Awards and Recognition

Chief Schuldt recognized the following employees:

- 15 Year Service Award: FF Occhipinti, DE L. Garcia, LT. Asher, and Captain Weinbaum
- 10 Year Service Award: DE Hancock and LT. Grala
- Probation Completed: AA Amanda Eberl
- Florida State Elks Association selected firefighter/paramedic LT. Kevin Nelmes as 2019 First Responder of the year.

H. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Schuldt presented report as submitted and added the following:

- GNFD received 1st check in amount of \$19,575 for hurricane Irma reimbursement. Category B Protective Measures is still being processed, we are expected to receive a total of \$296,574 in reimbursements.
- Legislative update: Staff has travelled to Tallahassee the past few weeks to address funding efforts for Station 63, and has been working with DOT Legislative Affairs people on language for a future agreement. The County Staff and Legislative Affairs team has gone above and beyond in working towards getting the MM63 Bill passed.
- On March 8, 2019, the Ochopee Advisory Committee dedicated Station 61 to Chief Alan McLaughlin for his dedicated service as Ochopee Fire Chief (2008-2016).
- The District completed an on-line auction producing approximately \$65,000.00 in revenue. Three fire apparatus, 5 staff vehicles and numerous pieces of loose equipment were included in the disposition of assets.
- The Collier County Fire Chiefs voted to support a public relations campaign to raise awareness of the hazards associated with storm shutters
- Assistant Chief Sapp gave a brief summary on the actions and after actions report on the Naples Estates Clubhouse fire.

**** Time Specific 6:30pm Attorney Request- Rey Velazquez**

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 April 9, 2019 time specific of 6:00 pm.

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to have a closed-door attorney-client session April 9, 2019, time specific 6:00pm. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.



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I. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan
No report

J. Local 2396 Report - President Kevin Nelmes

- The Health and Safety meeting group has finalized the talking points/ lessons learned for the Curlew fire training, the roll out is expected by end of March.
- The Drexel Focus Group that Deputy Chief Low has taken on (that Labor has partnered with) will begin in April.
- Five union members did attend the IAFF Peer Support Group. Deputy Chief Low was also invited and was able to attend 1 day.
- Printing of the PTSD/suicide prevention brochures have been vetted by Deputy Chief Low and executive board member Brian Mading and sent to print. IAFF Local 2396 will pay for ½ the printing cost with the District as a co-sponsored effort.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Attorney Request- Rey Velazquez
See above

B. AIW-Fire Chief's Employment Compensation Review

Commissioner Henning followed up on last month's discussion regarding Chief Schuldt's annual review and compensation. 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 made a motion to award a merit increase of 2%, to be retroactive to an effective date of October, 2018. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. AIW – State of Florida Deferred Compensation Plan

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve staff's recommendation thereby authorizing participation in the State of Florida Deferred Compensation Plan 457 (b). Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

B. AIW – Employee Handbook Update

Commissioner Cottiers moved to proceed with adopting the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District Administration Employee Handbook dated March 2019. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

C. AIW – Sun Life Dental Administrator Assignment

Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to support staff's recommendation approving Resolution 2019-02; therefore assigning Sun Life Assurance Company the District's dental claims administrator. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

D. Public Comment
None



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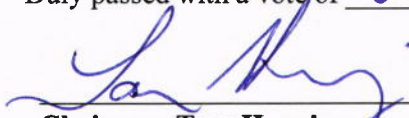
E. Comments by Commissioners

- Commissioners Stedman & Henning thanked Chief Sapp for the thorough after-action report on the Naples Estates Clubhouse fire.
- Commissioner Gerrity stated that last month a vote was passed to curtail the involvement with the Emergency Task Force which he was against. He passed a handout to the Commissioners to remind them exactly what the taskforce mission is. Henning - stated the Board gave direction to the Chief to focus his time on the Ochopee merger which involves finances, meeting with attorney and County staff, and much more.
Gerrity – the meetings would be helpful if you wanted to have a discussion with Immokalee about their plans. The ESFT meetings allow staff and Commissioners from both Districts to attend and discuss in the publically announced meeting. The ESTF meetings are more than just about merging with North Collier Fire District.
- Commissioner Cottiers is encouraged by President Nelmes involvement with Staff.
- Commissioner Henning stated he received an email from Chris Tobin regarding an item on the agenda. Clearly this is not following the chain of command. The Board’s message to the Chief is to communicate to staff that the chain of command must be followed or there will be consequences.
Gerrity – A motion cannot be made at this time, let’s add to next month’s agenda.

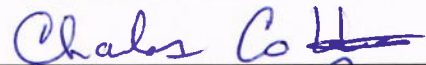
IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Page seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Meeting Adjourned 7:07pm.

Duly passed with a vote of 5 to 0 and adopted in session on the 9th day April 2019.



Chairman Tom Henning



Commissioner Charles Cottiers



Commissioner Kevin Gerrity

Commissioner David Stedman



Commissioner Jeff Page