



**MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
May 14, 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 May 14, 2019 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Henning, Page, Cottiers, Gerrity, and Stedman (6:05pm). Executive Staff in attendance: Fire Chief Schuldt, Director Bishop, Deputy Chiefs Hanson, Low, and Martin. Staff in attendance: Suanne Woeste and Nicole Chesser. Public in attendance: Debbie Schwarz, Pat Meulenberg, Billy Cipriano, David Borowski, Kevin Schoch, Corey Nelson, Martie Morgan, Acey Edgemon, George Danz, Rusty Godette, Khris Klock, Shar Beddow, Brian Mading, Matt Trent, Ian Stewart, Kevin Nelmes, Brent Wertz, Tommy Jordan, Matt Tight, Jarett Cotter and Matt Trent. 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 4 firefighter fatalities for the month of April, bringing the total for 2019 to 14, followed by a moment of silence.

C. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Page moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

1. Treasurer's Report – Director Bishop

D. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Staff requested postponing Old Business II. A. Cell Tower Agreement.

Commissioner Henning moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

E. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for April 9, 2019

Commissioner Page moved to approved minutes as presented. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

F. Awards and Recognition

Chief Schuldt recognized the following employees:

- 35 Year Service Award: Finance Specialist Pat Meulenberg
- 15 Year Service Award: Captain Kevin Schoch
- 1 Year Service Award: Inspector Ian Stewart
- Transfer: Firefighter Billy Cipriano Part-time to Full time
- New Employee: Training Division Administrative Assistant - Martie Morgan

G. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Schuldt presented report as submitted and added the following:

- Brush truck 71 (B71) is in the final stages of be readied for service. Once the equipment has been mounted, factory and District training will be provided. Push back is scheduled for May 20th @ 5:30pm at station 71. The GAC Land Trust partnered with GNFD and matched \$106,362.72 for Brush 71 and will be in attendance at the ceremony.
- The 2018 Annual Report is complete and has been electronically distributed.



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- As a result of working with Local 2396 on staffing issues, we are moving forward with the process of adding 3 more Lieutenants per shift; bringing the total number per shift to 17. We will be promoting from Driver Engineers and will backfill that position. The cost of the promotions outweighs the overtime savings.
- *Commissioner Page questioned if Ten-8 and Cummings ever tested the pump on LA72.* Schuldt- GNFD decided to test the pump because of the amount of work that had taken place. The unit did not initially pass, but after an in house repair - passed.
- *Commissioner Gerrity asked if the 3 trucks that are having corrosive issues are all Pierce.* Schuldt- Yes. *Gerrity -Does Pierce understand our displeasure with this?* Schuldt- Yes, it is an ongoing issue and Staff is discussing how to proceed.
- Chief Schuldt reviewed Memorandum 19-027 regarding changes at the Command Staff level. In an effort to enhance management effectiveness and accountability of operational aspects of the organization, Deputy Chief Martin shall serve as the Chief Operating Officer. Assistant Chief Sapp and Deputy Chief Martin will report to, and coordinate all activities accordingly. Battalion Chief Caleb Morris title changed from Battalion Chief to Division Chief.
- *Page- Where are we with ALS position?* Schuldt – It has been included in the budget the last 2 years. Previous labor management didn't support and several months ago the Board gave direction that no additional Chief Officers would be added without Board approval. *Page – Is the position funded?* Schuldt – Yes. *Gerrity – We are already over budget at this point and going into spending reserves, therefore it might be a good time to be prudent.* Chairman Henning asked for minutes reflecting Board's direction that no new Chief Officers be added without the Board's approval.
- Senate Bill 426 sponsored by Senator Flores was signed by the Governor on 5/3/19. Effective 7/1/19, this law grants certain benefits to a firefighter upon receiving a diagnosis of cancer if certain conditions are met; this will have financial implication on the District.

H. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan

No report submitted.

I. Local 2396 Report - President Kevin Nelmes

- Florida Professional Firefighters (FPF) are mindful of the unknown financial impact the passing of Bill 426 will have. Thanks to E. Gill, K. King, J. Taylor, and B. Mading for their efforts and commitment to getting the Bill passed.
- Union members and Scott Hogan have been working with Director Bishop to finalize a Chapter 175 DROP Plan.
- Lt. Grimm asked for assistance in going over the many documents presented at the GDC meetings. Forward process is being made to improve efficiency and safety as well as labor management relations.
- FF Morales and Lt. Nelmes have completed Zoll training with CC EMS.
- Inspector Mading and Chief Low continue work on the PTSD training module.
- Interest in community CERT programs has increased; we are receiving more and more requests for training. More funding may be needed in the future.
- Thanks to Chairman Henning for keeping us in the loop regarding the 3rd party fact finding investigation into allegations against the District.



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II. OLD BUSINESS

- A. AIW – Cell Tower Agreement – Director Bishop**
Postponed until future meeting.
- B. AIW – Reserve Funding Investment Presentations**
Representative Tommy Jordan from FLCLASS and Representative Brent Wertz from FLFIT presented options to the Board regarding investing District reserve funds. The Board directed Staff to consult with the Collier County Clerk for guidance.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Public Comment**
None
- B. Comments by Commissioners**
 - Commissioner Stedman would like to see next quarter’s training schedule at the next meeting.
 - Commissioner Gerrity congratulated the Union on the Firefighter Cancer Bill passing.
 - Chairman Henning stated the auditor has been engaged to look into the allegations about MM 63. The tasks were split between the auditor and an attorney who has begun interviews. Staff is not involved in the investigation, all correspondences are going through me to ensure the process stays impartial. The estimated expense is \$50,000. A report will be presented as soon as all investigations are complete.
 - Chairman Henning and Chief Schuldt will be meeting with Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart at the end of the month regarding funding for Sta. 63. Although the Bill for funding Sta. 63 passed, it will not last forever. We need to talk to the Congressman about future funding for Sta. 63 and the Ochopee Fire District in general. Once allegations are cleared up we will need to work on Bill for merging Ochopee FD with GNFD, until then, things are on hold.
 - Commissioner Gerrity questioned how GNFD will pay for a merger with Ochopee Fire District. Henning – That is why we are meeting with Congressman Diaz-Balart, there is also PILT funding and ad valorem. The funding will have to be identified.

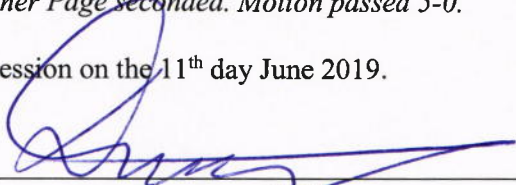
IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Page seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Meeting Adjourned 7:09pm.

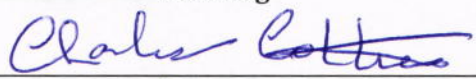
Duly passed with a vote of 5 to 0 and adopted in session on the 11th day June 2019.



Chairman Tom Henning



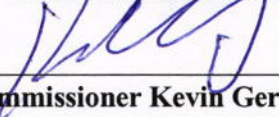
Commissioner David Stedman



Commissioner Charles Cottiers



Commissioner Jeff Page



Commissioner Kevin Gerrity