



MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
October 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 October 8, 2019 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Henning, Page, Cottiers, Gerrity, and Stedman. Executive Staff in attendance: Fire Chief Schuldt, Director Bishop, Assistant Chiefs Hanson, Low, Martin, Sapp, and McLaughlin. Staff in attendance: Suanne Woeste and Nicole Chesser. Public in Khris Klock, Joey Brown, Jarett Cotter, Rey Velazquez, Forrest Campbell, Bran Mading, Kevin Nelmes, George Danz, Charles Heweker, Scott Johnson, Antonio Grau, and Brian Bowers. 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 5 firefighter fatalities for the month of September bringing the total for 2019 to 38, followed by a moment of silence.

C. Request for Attorney/Client Closed Door Session

Attorney Rey 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-616-FtM-99MRM. The subject matter shall be confined to the pending litigation. Notice of the closed-door attorney/client session October 8, 2019 has been published.

Closed door attorney/client session is currently on Agenda as II. Old Business B.

D. Consent Agenda

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

1. Treasurer's Report

E. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Commissioner Stedman requested adding Station 23 Issues as III. New Business D. A handout of the FDOT Agreement was given to Commissioners for Agenda Item, III. B. *Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

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

*Commissioner Cottiers moved to approve the GNFD Board minutes as presented.
Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

G. Approval of the FY 2019-20 1st Budget Hearing Minutes for August 12, 2019

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the FY19-20 1st Budget Hearing minutes as presented. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.



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H. Approval of the FY 2019-20 Final Budget Hearing Minutes for August 24, 2019
Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the FY 19-20 Final Budget Hearing minutes as presented. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

I. Awards and Recognition

- 1 Year Service Award: Mechanic Matthew Day
- Introduction of New Employees:
 - Logistic Technician Brian Bower
 - Logistic Technician Scott Johnson

J. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Schuldt presented report as submitted and added the following:

- BOFC Meetings are now being recorded and can be viewed during meetings in lobby
- An environmental specialist assessed water damage at Station 23. Staff is putting together a timeline for repairs and crews are being moved until repairs are done
- Chief Schuldt enacted the Emergency Purchase Policy
- Staff and Union continue to work on labor management issues
- October is Fire Prevention Month, Greater Naples Fire Foundation has made donations to various charities
- The Board brought up discussion on the number of automatic aid given verses automatic aid received

K. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan

No report submitted.

L. Local 2396 Report – President Joey Brown

- Increased communication between Union and District
- Impact bargaining has been productive
- Waiting on dates for Arbitration
- Negotiations scheduled for Friday October 11th @ 10:00am

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Allegation Report – Chairman Henning

Auditor Tony Grau and Attorney Brian Accardo presented written and oral reports in regards to allegations presented to the Board in April.

Commissioner Page moved to accept Auditor Tony Grau's report as presented.

Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Commissioner Page moved to accept Attorney Brian Accardo's report as presented.

Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

B. Closed Door Attorney/Client Session

Chairman Henning read the following statement at 6:40pm: 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



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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 Velazquez, 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.

7:27 pm – Chairman Henning stated the public meeting is reopened and the closed-door attorney-client session is terminated.

C. AIW- At Large Commissioner Seat Update

Commissioner Page moved to proceed with Bill drafting for the 2020 Legislative Session to set all commissioner seats at-large. Additionally, to engage the law firm of Manson, Bolves, Donaldson and Varn. Chairman Henning seconded for discussion. Chairman Henning called the question. Motion passed 3-2 (Cottiers/Gerrity).

7:33pm Chairman Henning needed to leave.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. AIW- 2019 SHSGP Grant – MARC Unit Region 6 Agreement

Commissioner Cottiers moved to authorize execution of the FY 2019 SHSGP Grant Agreement R0114. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

B. FDOT MM63 Agreement

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to approve the updated Mile Marker 63 Agreement with FDOT. Commissioner Page seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

C. AIW – Acceptance of FEMA Firefighters Assistance Grant EMW2018-FO-03451

Commissioner Cottiers moved to proceed with accepting FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant for a total package of \$610,250.00 with the Federal share being \$554,772.72 and the District's share \$55,477.28. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

D. Station 23 – Commissioner Stedman

The Board discussed different options on how to fix the issues with Station 23. It was decided a long term solution is needed. The Board directed Staff to assess options and present at a future meeting.

E. Public Comments items not listed on the Agenda

- Director Bishop requested moving the January 14th BOFC meeting to January 7th. It has been difficult to find a date for Labor Management Arbitration and it appears January 14th is agreeable for all parties involved. The Board agreed to move the BOFC meeting to January 7, 2020.

F. Comments by Commissioners

None



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IV. ADJOURNMENT

Duly passed with a vote of 4 to 0 and adopted in session on the 12th day November 2019.



Chairman Tom Henning

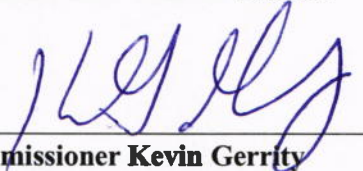


Commissioner Jeff Page



Commissioner Charles Cottiers

Commissioner David Stedman



Commissioner Kevin Gerrity