



MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
March 10, 2020

I. MEETING OPENED

Chairman Page called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners meeting at 5:30pm, on March 10, 2020 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Henning, Page, Cottiers, Stedman, and Gerrity. Executive Staff in attendance: Fire Chief Schuldt, Director Bishop, Assistant Chiefs Hanson, Low, McLaughlin, Sapp and Martin. Staff in attendance: Suanne Woeste and Nicole Chesser. Public in attendance: Tracey Caparrelli, Susan Morris, Kevin Nelmes, Charlotte Johnson, Steve Riley, Joey Brown, David Borowski, Tim Sims, George Danz, Joshua Grimm, Jarett Cotter, and Scott Hogan. Others were in attendance but did not sign in.

A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Chairman Page 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 February, bringing the total for 2020 to 13, followed by a moment of silence.

C. Consent Agenda

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

1. Treasurer's Report

D. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

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

E. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for February 11, 2020

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

F. Awards and Recognition

- Civilian Employee of the Year Nominees:
 - AA Tracey Caparrelli
 - AA Judy Schleiffer
- Introduction of New Employee – Jean Schwarz
- Fire Chief's Values – Lieutenant Inspector Steve Riley
- Firefighter of the Year – Lieutenant Joshua Grimm
- Civilian Employee of the Year – Accountant Charlotte Johnson
- Excellence in Service in Fire & Life Safety – AA Tracey Caparrelli

Due to the 6:00pm time specific Executive Session, Items H. & I. will be heard before the Fire Chief's Report.



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H. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan

- Chairman Tim Sims reported there was a Pension Plan quarterly meeting held on February 13, 2020.
- As of December 2019 the Plan is up 19.4% over a year ago, to over \$35 million.
- The DROP Resolution will be discussed later tonight.
- Director Bishop stated the District has advertised and is soliciting letters of interest for Seat 2 on the Pension Board. The goal is to have a recommendation to present at the April BOFC meeting.

I. Local 2396 Report

- President Joey Brown reported the Union continues working with management on contract negotiations and there are 2 open grievances with 2 more to come.

6:00 PM ** Chairman Page called for recess due to the time specific Executive Session.

7:10 PM ** Chairman Page reopened the regular BOFC meeting.

G. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Schuldt presented report as submitted and added the following:

- The District is working diligently to secure an adequate inventory of personal protective equipment including masks, gowns, and gloves. We are working closely with our partners at Collier County Emergency Management, Collier County EMS, and fire rescue agencies countywide to secure adequate supplies.
- The District continues to monitor the outbreak of COVID-19. The District is taking proactive steps to ensure a safe workplace is maintained and implement practices that protect the health of our employees, customers, and visitors.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. AIW- Fire & Life Safety Existing Inspection Requests

Assistant Chief Hanson presented the additional information requested by the Commissioners during February's BOFC Meeting.

Commissioner Henning moved to proceed with staff recommendation to hire no more than three civilian inspectors for the purpose of performing a progressive Periodic Inspection Program. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Executive Session

The Board and Executive Staff moved into the Command Post for an Executive Session at 6:00 pm. The regular BOFC meeting resumed at 7:10am.

B. AIW – Resolution 2020-05, Fire & Life Safety Fee Schedule

Assistant Chief Hanson presented the changes made on the F&LS Fee Schedule, *Commissioner Henning moved to support staff's recommendation by approving Resolution 2020-05; Fire and Life Safety Fees Schedule effective April 1, 2020. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*



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- C. AIW – 2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Application**
Commissioner Henning moved to support Staff's recommendation to develop and submit a FY 2019 AFG Grant as proposed. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- D. AIW – HERO's Grant Application**
Commissioner Gerrity moved to proceed with accepting the pharmaceutical resources offered through the HEROS Program. Commissioner Henning seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- E. AIW – Resolution 2020-04, 175 FF's Pension Plan DROP**
Director Bishop presented the 175 DROP Resolution. Of notable interest from previous discussions: COLA is 3% and the Interest rate is 1.3%.
Commissioner Stedman moved to accept Staff's recommendation to adopt Resolution 2020-04. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- F. AIW – Ochopee Management Agreement**
Director Bishop presented the Commissioners a handout of the draft agreement from the County that was marked up in red with changes from GNFD's legal team.

Commissioner Henning made a motion to accept staff's recommendation and accept the management agreement for the Ochopee Fire Control and Rescue District in concept pending inclusion by the County of the District Legal recommendations. Commissioner Cottiers seconded.

Discussion followed. Director Bishop pointed out the specific changes and noted a lot of the red markups are language clean up. Bishop stated the County would like to move forward with agreement and present at their March meeting.
Commissioner Henning amended his motion to authorize staff to present agreement to County Staff and if there are no changes the Board will sign. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- G. AIW – Supervisor of Elections Clarification Request**
Commissioner Page stated he received a letter from Melissa Blazier, the Chief Deputy Supervisor of Election (SOE) requesting clarification on the District's written elections language, in the enabling Act.

Question 1) Are all five Commissioners elected at-large **or** are the Commissioners in seats 1 and 2 elected by the electors residing within the East Naples Division (EN), seats 4 and 5 elected by the electors residing within the Golden Gate Division (GG) and seat 3 elected by the electors residing with in the entire District?

Question 2) If the Commissioner seats 1, 2, 4, and 5 are in fact elected by the electors residing within those specific divisions than are the candidates running for those division specific seats required to reside within the divisions?



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Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to advise SOE the intension is seats 1 and 2 are elected by EN residents, seats 4 and 5 are elected by GG residents and seat 3 is elected at large. That being the case, the answer to question 2 is Commissioners for seats 1, 2, 4, and 5 should reside within their respective division. Commissioner Cottiers seconded.

Discussion followed and included:

- We need to be one Greater Naples Fire District, not East Naples and Golden Gate.
- Commissioner Henning stated a qualified elector is a resident of the District. The current language can be interpreted different ways, clarification is needed.
- How are we going to add more Districts? For example, if Immokalee was added to GG Division, they would have more votes than others.
- Attorney didn't write clearly, maybe do a straw ballot.
- Seats stay designated and divisions vote for specific seats. Candidates can live anywhere with the District.

Chairman Page called the question. Motion failed 2-3 (Page, Henning, & Stedman)

Commissioner Henning made a motion: Seats 1, 2, 4, & 5 shall be elected at large within the District and shall be a qualified elector. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Discussion continued. Commissioner Henning withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Gerrity made a motion that seats 1 and 2 remain elected by EN Division, seats 4 and 5 remain elected by GG Division and seat 3 remains at large. A qualified elector from anywhere in the District can run for any seat. Chairman Page seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

H. AIW - Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement

Commissioner Gerrity moved to proceed with authorizing the execution of the presented Indemnity Agreement with Collier County to use for the purpose of training at acquired structures. Individual agreements to be executed by the Fire Chief or designee at time of training. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

I. Public Comments items not listed on the Agenda

None

J. Comments by Commissioners

- Chairman Page requested moving the August 11, 2020 BOFC meeting to August 4, 2020. All Commissioner agreed on changing the date.
- Commissioner Cottiers thanked everyone who worked on the FF's PP DROP Resolution and for the work being done to stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Commissioner Stedman congratulated C Shift on their improved turn out times.

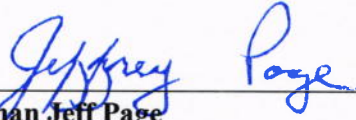
IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned.




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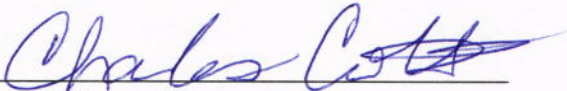
Duly passed with a vote of 5 to 0 and adopted in session on the 14th day April 2020.



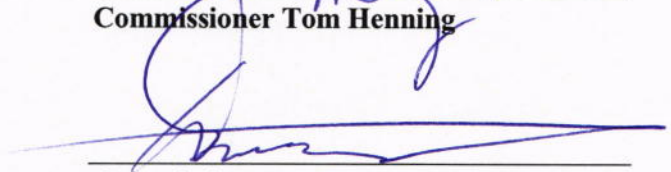
Chairman Jeff Page



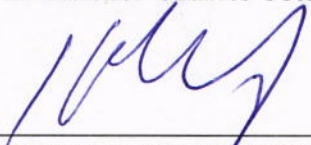
Commissioner Tom Henning



Commissioner Charles Cottiers



Commissioner David Stedman



Commissioner Kevin Gerrity