



**MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
September 9, 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 5:47pm, on September 9, 2020 via teleconference on Zoom.us. Present on line were Commissioners Page, Cottiers, Henning, Stedman and Gerrity. Executive Staff on line: Fire Chief Schuldt, Director Bishop, Assistant Chiefs Hanson, Low, McLaughlin and Martin. Staff on line: Nicole Chesser, Tim Sims, Caleb Morris and Kevin Nelmes. Public on line: George Danz, Randy Ward, Tom Purcell, Khris Klock. Other were on line but not recognized.

A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

The Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation were skipped.

B. Line of Duty Deaths Reading and Moment of Silence

Chief Schuldt reported there were a total 14 of firefighter fatalities for the month of August, bringing the total for 2020 to 58.

C. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Gerrity 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 August 4, 2020

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

F. Approval of the First Budget Workshop August 4, 2020

Commissioner Cottiers moved to approve the First Budget Workshop minutes as presented. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

G. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Schuldt presented report as submitted and added the following:

- Staff continues to work on the District's strategic stockpile of PPE inventory
- Chief Schuldt will follow up with Arthrex on free PPE
- Electrostatic Disinfecting Sprayers and disinfecting solutions have been deployed throughout the District. A user and training guide has been developed by Professional Development.
- The 1st shipment of ballistic gear has been received and placed into service. Protocol is outline in a General Order and training has been provided.
- Tentative meeting set up with EMS Chief Butcher to discuss re-implementing the ALS Swap program.
- Professional Development and Company Officers have made a significate effort to continue training safely during the Covid pandemic.



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H. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan

Chairman Sims stated the Plan is at \$34 million; up 4% from Jan. /Feb. The next 175 Firefighter' Pension Plan meeting is November 12th @ 9:00am.

I. Local 2396 Report

No Report presented

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. AIW – Shallow Water Boat / Bid Award

Commissioner Cottiers made a motion to authorize the release of up to \$65,000 from Impact fees for the purchase of two vessels and two trailers on the bid received from Millers Boating Center, Inc. Ocala Fl. for \$58,346.80 and authorize the balance to be used for ancillary communications, navigation, and other equipment. Chairman Page second. Discussion followed with questions on location of boats, how they will be deployed and were there other bids. Motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Gerrity suggested next time when we have non responsive bids we list out who the bids were sent to so we have a record and know who didn't respond.

B. AIW – FDOT Mile Marker 63 Update

Chief Schuldt notified the Board that the Florida Department of Transportation has advised the District that due to decrease in toll revenues, they may not be able to make a payment to the District. No formal letter has been received at this time. Discussion continued among the Board regarding different strategies to handle the situation. Under Board direction Staff will continue working to develop a strategic contingency plan and will continue to work with FDOT to fulfill the current agreement.

C. AIW – Fire District Future Growth Needs

Assistant Chief Martin presented options to manage current and future growth in the District and to address the need to relocate the Logistics warehouse due to the lease expiring March 1, 2021. *Commissioner Henning made a motion to authorize the Fire Chief to negotiate the purchase of 3963 Progress Avenue Naples, FL. with the addition of a phase one environmental audit. Discussion continued among the Board. Motion died to lack of second. Commissioner Gerrity made a motion for Staff to pursue information on 10 acres on County Barn Rd. located next to the current Collier County Sheriff and Fleet Maintenance for \$2.2 million dollars and report back to them. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

D. AIW – Collier County CARES Grant Update

Director Bishop provided additional information regarding the District's application for \$350,443.29 of the Collier CARES Act funds and advised the District will continue to pursue the reimbursement funds. Commissioner Page and Henning will accompany the Fire Chief in discussions with the County Manager and Deputy County Manager and individual County Commissioners if necessary.



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III. NEW BUSINESS

A. AIW- LLW Engagement for 175 Pension Matters

Director Bishop presented the Board information on the District's need to engage the legal services of Lewis, Longman, And Walker attorney Jim Linn to represent the District for issues relating to the GNFD 175 Pension Plan.

B. AIW – Ochopee Merger Engagement Letter

Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to accept Staff's recommendations to engage Manson, Bolves, Donaldson, Varn, P.A. for Bill drafting and related legislative session work for merging the Ochopee MSTU service are into the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District. Staff additionally recommends that Ochopee service area be drafted as a sub-component with its own mileage rate. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

C. AIW –The White Rose of Naples Inc. Agreement

Commissioner Henning moved to proceed with approving The White Rose of Naples Inc. ("The White Rose") Agreement as drafted and presented by District legal and signed by representation of The White Rose of Naples Inc. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

D. AIW –Naples Wedding Barn Inc. Agreement

Commissioner Henning moved to proceed with approving Naples Wedding Barn Inc. ("The Wedding Barn") Agreement as drafted and presented by District legal and signed by representation of the Naples Wedding Barn Inc. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

E. AIW – New Fire Apparatus

Commissioner Cottiers made a motion to move forward to purchase one new E-One Fire Engine from REV E-One for up to \$476,000 and secure best financing for the District. Commissioner Henning seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

F. Public Comments on items not listed on Agenda

None

G. Comments by Commissioners

- Commissioner Henning agreed with Chief Schuldt's proposal that Support Staff is a ratio of 14:1 not a percentage.
- Commissioner Gerrity reiterated the need to be prudent with the FY20-21 Budget.
- Commissioner Stedman asked the Board's opinion of recording Executive Sessions for future release to the public. Page stated we need to ask attorney, it can be expensive. Gerrity suggested doing an audio recording only. Chief Schuldt stated we will seek guidance from District's Legal.



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IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned 7:32pm.

Duly passed with a vote of 5 to 0 and adopted in session on the 13th day October, 2020.

Chairman Jeff Page

Commissioner Tom Henning

Commissioner Charles Cottiers

Commissioner David Stedman

Commissioner Kevin Gerrity

Approved Verbally during October 13, 2020 BOFC Meeting