



**MINUTES  
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
December 8, 2020**

**I. MEETING OPENED**

Commissioner Gerrity called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners meeting at 5:30pm, on December 8, 2020. Present in person were Commissioners Gerrity, Stedman, Cottiers, Duffy, and Biondo. Executive Staff: Fire Chief Schuldt, Director Bishop and Assistant Chief Martin. Public in person: Judge James McGarity, Kevin Nelmes, Chris Tobin, Joey Brown, Manny Arroyo, Sam Cadreau, V. Palmateer, D. Downey, John Luppy, J. McGowan, Sue Biondo, Carmine Junkeen, Dominick Biondo Sr., Kim Crawford, Brian Mading, Jameson, Wertz. Staff on line: Assistant Chiefs Low and Sapp, Suanne Woeste and Nicole Chesser. Public on line: George Danz, Scott Wilson, Todd Nugent, Tom Purcell, Tracey Caparrelli, Jeff Page, Juan Gaitan. Other attended meeting but did not sign in.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Commissioner Gerrity opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the invocation by Commissioner Stedman.

**B. Line of Duty Deaths Reading and Moment of Silence**

Chief Schuldt reported there were a total 9 of firefighter fatalities for the month of November, bringing the total for 2020 to 82.

**C. Swearing in of New Commissioners**

New Commissioners Al Duffy and Nick Biondo were sworn in by Judge James McGarity.

**D. Consent Agenda**

*Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.*

*Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

1. Treasurer's Report
2. Disposition of Fixed Assets 21-001

**E. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

Commissioner Gerrity requested inserting a letter from the Fire Chief under III. New Business E. and moving the subsequent items down. *Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

**F. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for November 10, 2020**

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

**G. Fire Chief's Report**

Chief Schuldt presented report as submitted and added the following:

- Special guest Dave Downey retired Fire Chief of Miami-Dade Fire Rescue.
- Covid-19 update
- The Ochopee draft Bill was presented during the December 4, 2020 Local Delegation meeting. Local legislators and a sponsor have agreed to run the Bill through the legislative process.

**H. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan**

No Report



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**I. Local 2396 Report**

- President Joey Brown congratulated Commissioners Biondo and Duffy on their appointment.
- Negotiations are scheduled for December 11<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. AIW – District Property Update**

Chief Martin provided a brief update on the properties that the District has recently been vetting. Discussions will continue at future meetings.

**B. AIW – DROP Resolutions 2020-24**

*Commissioner Stedman made a motion to approve DROP Resolution 2020-24. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. AIW – 2021 Board Seat Elections**

- Commissioner Stedman moved to nominate Commissioner Gerrity to the office of Chairman. Commissioner Gerrity accepted. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- Commissioner Gerrity moved to nominate Commissioner Stedman to the office of Vice - Chairman. Commissioner Stedman accepted. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- Commissioner Stedman moved to nominate Commissioner Duffy as Secretary. Commissioner Duffy accepted. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- Commissioner Stedman moved to nominate Commissioner Biondo as Treasurer. Commissioner Biondo accepted. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

**B. AIW – 2021 Regular BOFC Meeting Dates**

*Commissioner Cottiers moved to approve staff's recommendation and approve the 12 listed GNFD 2021 regular BOFC meeting dates. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

**C. AIW – 2021 Florida Forest Service Operating Plan**

*Commissioner Cottiers moved to authorize the Fire Chief to approve the 2021 Operating Plan between the Florida Forest Service and Collier County Fire Rescue Agencies. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

**D. AIW – Firehouse Subs Grant Authorization**

*Commissioner Stedman moved to proceed with approving the submission for the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grants application and Resolution 2020-23 for the BullsEye Digital Fire extinguishing Training System. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*



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**E. Letter from Fire Chief Kingman Schuldt**

The Board announced receipt of an amendment to the Fire Chief's contract to conclude on March 8, 2021. The Board approved the new agreement; in summary December 11<sup>th</sup> as the last duty day, Dec 14-18<sup>th</sup> as Personal Leave and approved paid administrative leave beginning December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 till March 8, 2021.

*Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to appointed Assistant Chief Sapp as the interim Fire Chief. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

**F. Path Forward for District**

The Board agreed to post the Fire Chief position. Commissioner Stedman was appointed by the Board to work with Director Bishop to get things rolling. Commissioner Biondo suggested the committee be comprised of; a member from Local 2396, a resident of the District; George Danz, a staff member appointed by the Interim Chief, Commissioner Stedman and if needed a consultant. The Board agreed and for the committee sort and evaluate applications then recommend up to 5 candidates to the full Board for interviews. Attorney Donaldson will be consulted for time line and any legal requirements.

**G. Public Comments on items not listed on Agenda**

None

**H. Comments by Commissioners**

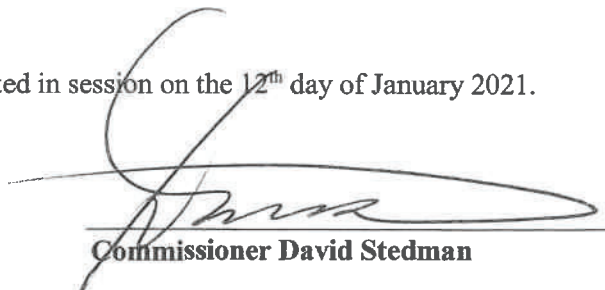
Commissioners Stedman, Biondo, Cottiers, and Gerrity thanked and wished Chief Schuldt for his service. Commissioners Cottiers, Gerrity, and Stedman welcomed the newly sworn in Commissioners Biondo and Duffy.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

*Meeting adjourned 6:30.*

Duly passed with a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ and adopted in session on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021.

  
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Chairman Kevin Gerrity

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner David Stedman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Charles Cottiers

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Nick Biondo

  
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Commissioner Al Duffy