



MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 12, 2021

I. MEETING OPENED

Chairman Gerrity called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners at 5:30 p.m., on January 12, 2021 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Duffy, Biondo, Cottiers, Stedman, and Gerrity. Executive Staff in attendance: Interim Fire Chief Sapp, Director Bishop, Assistant Chiefs Low, McLaughlin, and Martin; Division Chief Nelmes. Staff in attendance: Nicole Chesser, Lyndsay Tomlinson, Jamie Popiol, Joey Brown, and Christian Tobin. Public in attendance: George Danz. In attendance via Zoom: Assistant Chief Hanson, Scott Wilson, Martie Morgan, Paul Pernak, Tom Purcell, Matt Trent, Josh Grimm, Brynn Fuentes, Khris Klock, and Andy Krajewski. Others were in attendance but did not sign in.

A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

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

B. Consent Agenda

1. **Treasurer Report**

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

C. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Director Bishop requested adding a handout for Old Business D. and adding PERC Recognition Agreement as New Business B.

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

D. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for December 8, 2020

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

E. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Sapp had Division Chief Nelmes give a verbal report on COVID-19. Chief Sapp presented his report as submitted.

F. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan

No report provided. Director Bishop announced the next Pension meeting to be held on February 11, 2021 at 9 a.m.

G. Local 2396 Report

President Brown gave a verbal report noting that the contract is complete and things are going very well under Chief Sapp's leadership.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Fire Chief Selection Committee Update

Commissioner Gerrity reviewed Fire Chief job requirements and interview process proposed by the Fire Chief Selection Committee. *Commissioner Duffy made a motion to reach out to local candidates before posting the position. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. After further discussion, Commissioner Duffy withdrew the motion. Commissioner Duffy*



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made a motion to require candidates to have state of Florida certifications. The motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Stedman made a motion to open the pool of candidates to anywhere in the Continental United States. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. Motion failed 2-3 (Duffy, Cottiers, Biondo) Commissioner Stedman made a motion to require candidates be a Florida certified Firefighter. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed 5-0. The Board agreed on the other requirements and process recommended by the committee and will post the position for 30 days.

B. Logistics Warehouse Lease

Commissioner Cottiers made a motion to approve the new lease agreement for the logistics warehouse. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

C. District Land Use Update

Assistant Chief Martin provided an overview of three land opportunities being vetted by the District. Commissioner Biondo made a motion to table all three items. Stedman seconded. Motion failed 0-5. Commissioner Stedman made a motion to authorize Staff to continue negotiations with the County in regards to the Lake Park Blvd. property. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Biondo made a motion to table any movement regarding the Sabal Palm Rd. and Outer Drive properties. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Duffy made a motion to authorize the Fire Chief to negotiate a final purchase price subject to due diligence to be conducted by the District, authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of intent to purchase when prepared, and authorize the District to enter into a contract with DE Davidson for professional services and release funds up to \$75,000 for engineering for due diligence to be conducted by the District. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed 4-1 (Biondo).

D. Foundation

Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to have Staff request an opinion from a private attorney to send to the Attorney General for an opinion to see if the Greater Naples Fire Foundation meets the Sunshine Law requirements. Commissioner Biondo seconded. There was discussion about dissolving the Foundation and if the Board of Fire Commissioners has the authority to do so. Motion passed 3-2 (Stedman, Duffy)

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Local 2396 MOU

Commissioner Biondo made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding-Financial Considerations- Station 63 as agreed upon between Local 2396 and the District. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

B. PERC Recognition Agreement

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to approve the recommended mutual language and understanding that Emergency Vehicle Technicians (mechanics) are inclusive in the bargaining unit and the designation of "Battalion Chief" as a job title indicating a sub-category within the job classification of "Battalion Commander," which is a classification already existing at the rank of Captain. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.



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D. Public Comments items not listed on the Agenda

George Danz asked about the status of Station 63. Commissioner Gerrity advised the station is still open and the District is working on it.

E. Comments by Commissioners

Commissioner Biondo advised that he has concerns with the Training Division that he needs to discuss with Chief Sapp. Commissioner Cottiers commended the Union for stepping up and helping out the District. Commissioner Gerrity presented a letter to the Board received by Chairman Lombardo from North Collier Fire offering assistance and support during the transition. Commissioner Duffy expressed his disapproval of any type of merger or collaborative efforts.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Duffy made a motion to adjourn at 7:23 p.m. The motion was seconded. Motion passed 5-0, meeting adjourned.

Duly passed with a vote of 5 to 0 and adopted in session on the 9th day February 2021.



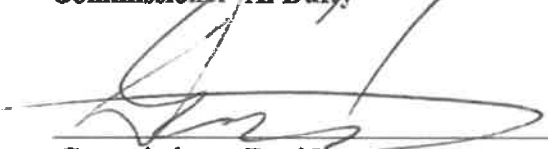
Chairman Kevin Gerrity



Commissioner Al Duffy



Commissioner Charles Cottiers



Commissioner David Stedman



Commissioner Nick Biondo