



**MINUTES**  
**GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**October 13, 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 October 13, 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, and Martin. Staff on line: Suanne Woeste, Nicole Chesser, Tim Sims, Caleb Morris and Kevin Nelmes. Public on line: George Danz, Randy Ward, Joey Brown, Chris Tobin. 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 9 of firefighter fatalities for the month of September, bringing the total for 2020 to 68.

**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**

Director Bishop requested an Executive Session immediately following the meeting. *Commissioner Gerrity moved to approve the Agenda as Amended. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

**E. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for September 9, 2020**

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

**F. Approval of the First Budget Hearing Minutes for September 9, 2020**

*Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the First Budget Hearing minutes as presented. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

**G. Approval of the First Budget Hearing Minutes for September 21, 2020**

*Commissioner Cottiers moved to approve the Final Budget Hearing minutes as presented. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

**H. Fire Chief's Report**

Chief Schuldt presented report as submitted and added the following:

- The Fire Chief's Association will be holding an Award Ceremony. Captain Godette will receive the Fire Educator of Excellence Award for this year.
- After further research with Dr. Tober and a staff financial analysis, the District will utilize Advance Medical for COVID-19 testing.
- Staff continues to be in contact with Collier County Staff and Manager's Office regarding the CARES Act. Chief Schuldt has drafted a letter as discussed in last BOFC Meeting for the Chairman to sign when the timing is right. Staff will be



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prepared for the CC Board Meeting in November when the CARES Act is discussed again.

- FDOT Agreement – 2019-2020 fourth quarter payment was received in the amount of \$256,431.08. Staff is working with the District’s legal team, the County Manager’s Office, and the office of Senator Passidomo and Congressman Diaz-Balart to secure future funding. The District has not yet received formal notification of the FDOT’s intent to cease reimbursement for 2020-2021.
- The Operations Section continues to improve turnout times of apparatus dispatched to emergency incidents. Crews have made a significant impact on reducing these times. Operations Section staff continues to work on methods to overcome existing obstacles.

**I. Chapter 175 Firefighters’ Pension Plan**  
No Report Presented

**J. Local 2396 Report**

- President Brown stated the CBA was voted down by Union Members.
- Arbitration with B. Bunting is next week.
- Five grievances at mediation and Union has requested to bargain a new position created in training.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. AIW – Fire District’s Futers Growth Needs**

Assistant Chief Martin present information on the County Barn Rd. property. *Commissioner Cottiers made a motion to Authorize the District to sign a Letter of Intent to purchase 9.93 ± acres parcel #00403920004 on County Barn Road from Mary Armbruster Revocable Trust, and authorize the Fire Chief to negotiate a final purchase price subject to the same conditions within Letter of Intent, and authorize the release of deposits up to \$100,000 according to the Letter of Intent 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 Page seconded for discussion.*

Discussion continued among the Board included question about wetland, zoning, ecological survey, neighborhood support and more.

*Commissioner Cottiers rescinded his motion. Commissioner Stedman made the same motion as above and added a 90 day due diligence period to include zoning and community outreach. Commissioner Gerrity seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

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

None

**B. Comments by Commissioners**

None



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**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

*Commissioner Gerrity made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Stedman seconded.*  
*Meeting adjourned 6:12pm.*

Duly passed with a vote of 5 to 0 and adopted in session on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020.

  
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**Chairman Jeff Page**

  
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**Commissioner Tom Henning**

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**Commissioner Charles Cottiers**

  
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**Commissioner David Stedman**

  
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**Commissioner Kevin Gerrity**