



**MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
December 14, 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 December 14, 2021 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Duffy, Stedman, Biondo, and Gerrity. Commissioner Cottiers was not present. Staff in attendance: Nicole Chesser, Shawn Hanson, Sal D'Angelo, Forrest Campbell, Janice Monteagudo, Sharon Sickels, James West, Chris Diaz, Tim Sims, Jamie Popiol, and Charles Heweker. Public in attendance: Mason Minnich (Vertical Bridge), Brandon Cooper (Davidson Engineering), Jeff Davidson (Davidson Engineering), George Danz, Michael Ramsey, Randy Ward, and Wayne Martin. District Attorney Laura Donaldson was in attendance. Others 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.

B. Consent Agenda

1. Treasurer Report
2. Disposition of Fixed Assets 22-001

Commissioner Duffy moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Commissioner Stedman arrived at 5:33 p.m.

C. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Deputy Chief D'Angelo requested Item III. A. AIW – 2022 Board Seat Elections to be deleted from Agenda until next month per policy approved by Commissioners.

Commissioner Biondo moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

D. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for November 9, 2021

Commissioner Duffy moved to approve the GNFD Board minutes for November 9, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

E. Approval of the GNFD Commissioner Workshop Minutes for November 9, 2021

Commissioner Duffy moved to approve the GNFD Commissioner Workshop minutes for November 9, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

F. Fire Chief's Report

Deputy Chief D'Angelo presented Fire Chief Sapp's report as submitted.

1. Line of Duty Deaths Moment of Silence

Deputy Chief D'Angelo announced 9 firefighter line of duty deaths for the month of November.

2. Awards and Recognition

Deputy Chief D'Angelo announced the Service Awards for the month of December.



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G. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan – Tim Sims

No Report was given.

H. Local 2396 Report - Chris Diaz

President Chris Diaz reported the Christmas party was a success and the Foundation lawsuit is still ongoing and he will report once it's complete.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Station 71 Cell Tower – District Attorney Laura Donaldson

District Attorney Laura Donaldson presented the Board with options regarding Station 71 Cell Tower with Vertical Bridge. Discussion ensued with the Board, Levin Czubaroff from Vertical Bridge and Mason Minnich regarding Option Agreement, Marketing Rights, locations for future towers, and replacement leases for Station 71 Cell Tower.

Chairman Gerrity announced there will be no action by the Board.

B. District Policies – Deputy Chief D'Angelo

Deputy Chief D'Angelo presented and clarified an incorrect motion being approved by the Board on June 8, 2021 of 151 new policies, some of which conflicted with existing guidelines and the expectation of policies to take effect not until the end of January 2022. Laura Donaldson, District Attorney explained protocol on adopting new policies, and board procedures. There was open discussion with Commissioners, Laura Donaldson, and Deputy Chief D'Angelo regarding implementation of these policies.

Commissioner Stedman moved that the policies adopted on June 8, 2021, which the Board always intended to have a delayed implementation, shall not take effect until May 31, 2022, or at the time that a policy is individually approved by the Board, whichever occurs earlier. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed 3-1. (Gerrity)

C. Lake Park Blvd. Property – Deputy Chief D'Angelo

Deputy Chief D'Angelo explained Collier County offered \$690,000 for the Lake Park Blvd. property. The Board gave direction to Deputy Chief D'Angelo to start negotiations.

D. Strategic Planning – Commissioner Duffy

Commissioner Duffy thanked staff for everything from last month's Strategic Planning meeting. Chairman Gerrity nominated and recommended Commissioner Duffy to be on the Strategic Planning Committee.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Write-Off Aged Accounts Receivable – Finance Manager James West

James West, Finance Manager discussed the aged accounts receivable records that are no longer deemed collectible. James West does not recommend collection agency for false alarms billing.

Commissioner Stedman moved to approve writing off \$24,855.15 of accounts receivable as they are no longer deemed collectible. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.



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B. Goals & Objectives - Deputy Chief D'Angelo

Deputy Chief D'Angelo presented the FY2022 District Goals and Objectives. Commissioner Stedman made a statement that he did not see the District's most important goal of response times in the document.

Commissioner Duffy moved to approved the fiscal year 2022 district goals and objectives. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

C. August 23,2022 (Primary Election Day) Referendum

Deputy Chief D'Angelo presented Primary Election Day Referendums; Resolution 2021-2018 GNFD Election Referendum and Resolution 2021-2019 GNFD Millage Referendum along with Project List/Exhibit A options. There was open discussion on capital projects, tax increases, special election bond issue, and millage rate increase. One resolution is not contingent upon the passage of the other resolution. George Danz requested clarification on how the bond is paid and Laura Donaldson provided clarification.

Commissioner Duffy moved to approve Resolution 2021-019 and change wording up to 2.0 mills on Official Ballot. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion failed, 1-3. (Gerrity, Stedman, Biondo) Commissioner Duffy moved to approve both Resolutions on the ballot. Seconded by Biondo. Motion failed 2 -2. (Gerrity, Stedman)

D. ALS Agreement – Deputy Chief D'Angelo

Deputy Chief D'Angelo explained that the District has started the research process in obtaining a COPCN and he made the recommendation to temporarily cease the ALS program and provide BLS while the District proceeds through the COPCN process. District Attorney, Laura Donaldson informed the Board that her and Fire Chief Sapp were working with Chief Butcher on an alternate solution and she provided her opinion regarding legal ramifications. Commissioner Stedman stated he believes it is legal to work under County's license and the District has no risk under the County's license. President Chris Diaz expressed support for the District to rectify this situation because not only is the District liable, but the Paramedic's licenses are liable.

Commissioner Duffy moved to cease ALS effective immediately. Commissioner Biondo seconded.

Public Comment made by George Danz; he questioned why the agreement with the County expired. He expressed concern about the citizens not getting ALS and the fact that Paramedics will lose their skills. He requested the District get the agreement back in place as soon as possible and obtain a COPCN. Laura Donaldson provided clarification on why the agreement was cancelled and stated the District will keep up with ALS training.

Motion failed 2-2. (Stedman, Biondo)

Commissioner Stedman moved to cease ALS services in the short term that it takes to put interlocal in place while the District aggressively pursues the certification of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) as a permanent solution.

Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.



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- E. MARC-6 Unit – Transfer of CODAN Radios – Deputy Chief D’Angelo**
Deputy Chief D’Angelo explained the Fire District accepted responsibility for the statewide Region 6 MARC-6 communications equipment and associated assets. The District received Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) states we shall accept the equipment “as-is” and be fully responsible for the maintenance repair, and other costs associated with the Equipment. *Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the MOA between the Florida Division of Emergency Management and Greater Naples Fire District for transfer of CODAN Radios and associated equipment as listed in the attached MOA. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Commissioner Biondo moved to table the agenda item. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.*
- F. Heart Monitor Purchase – Division Chief DiSarro**
Division Chief DiSarro explained the pricing, purchase and warranty of the eight new cardiac monitors. *Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the purchase of eight (8) new Zoll X Series Monitors including a four (4) year extended warranty and annual maintenance plan for the total cost of \$288,214.00, payable in five (5) annual interest free payments of \$57,642.80. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.*
- G. 2022 BOFC Meeting Schedule – Chief of Staff Nicole Chesser**
Chief of Staff, Nicole Chesser presented the 2022 Board of Fire Commissioners schedule of meetings. *Commissioner Biondo moved to approve the 12 listed GNFD 2022 regular BOFC meeting dates. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.*
- H. Equipment Vendor List – Assistant Chief McLaughlin**
Assistant Chief McLaughlin introduced Scott Johnson with over 15 years of Purchasing experience who presented and facilitated this purchase of Fire Equipment for the District. *Commissioner Duffy moved to approve the Bid 21-101 for Fire Equipment for three (3) years. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.*
- I. Public Comment Requests for items not on Agenda**
Former Employee, Wayne Martin spoke about his formal complaint against Deputy Chief Tobin and would like a response. District Attorney, Laura Donaldson explained to Mr. Martin he needs to complete a Public Records Request.

Todd Nugent, resident of the District addressed the Board from Zoom on ALS and recommends pursuing COPCN for the community. Chairman Gerrity responded we will be pursuing the COPCN.
- J. Comments by Commissioners**
Commissioner Stedman commented everyone did a great job tonight. Chairman Gerrity wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and encouraged everyone to take care of each other as this time of year is hard for firefighters.



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IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. There was no second. Motion passed unanimously 4-0, meeting adjourned.

Duly passed with a vote of _____ to _____ and adopted in session on the 11th day January, 2022.

Chairman Kevin Gerrity

Commissioner Al Duffy

Commissioner Charles Cottiers

Commissioner David Stedman

Commissioner Nick Biondo



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IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. There was no second. Motion passed unanimously 4-0, meeting adjourned.

Duly passed with a vote of 5 to 0 and adopted in session on the 11th day January, 2022.



Chairman Kevin Gerity



Commissioner Al Duffy



Commissioner Charles Cottiers



Commissioner David Stedman



Commissioner Nick Biondo