



**MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
July 12, 2022**

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 July 12, 2022 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Duffy, Biondo, Cottiers, Stedman (arrived at 5:31) and Gerrity. Staff in attendance: J. Nolan Sapp, Sal D' Angelo (Via Zoom), Chris Wolfe (Via Zoom), Nicole Chesser, Forrest Campbell, James West, Chris Diaz, Andy Krajewski, Kristy Ivanisevic, Jamie Popiol, Charles Heweker, Scott Hogan, and Attorney Laura Donaldson. Public in attendance: Vin Kurian (Via Zoom), David Caplivski (Via Zoom), Richard Cristini (Via Zoom), Dave Slovin (Via Zoom), George Danz, and Jerry Taricska. Others attended meeting 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 Duffy.

B. Consent Agenda

1. Treasurer Report

Commissioner Duffy moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

C. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Commissioner Duffy requested to add Chief's Contract under New Business H. *Commissioner Cottiers moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

D. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for June 14, 2022

Commissioner Duffy moved to approve the GNFD Board minutes for June 14, 2022 as presented. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

E. Fire Chief's District Report

1. Fire Chief Sapp presented his report as submitted.

Fire Chief Sapp Stated the County agreed to meet with the District regarding the Ochopee Interlocal Agreement on August 15, 2022.

Commissioner Biondo announced his appreciation that an email was sent out informing the District that Engine 70 was in an accident and was taken out of service for about 12 hours and is back in service. Fire Chief Sapp announced that Station 74 bids were opened on July 7, 2022.

2. Line of Duty Deaths Moment of Silence

Fire Chief Sapp announced 8 firefighter line of duty deaths for the month of June.

F. Local 2396 Report – President Chris Diaz

President Chris Diaz announced that the District is working through two grievances. Chairman Gerrity inquired about the grievances and Fire Chief Sapp stated one grievance is a payroll issue and one grievance is an overtime issue.

G. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan – Chairman Tim Sims



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175 Pension Board Member Scott Hogan spoke on behalf of Chairman Tim Sims and reviewed the document as provided.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Capital Funding Solutions – Commissioner Duffy

Vin Kurian and Sean White with Oppenheimer & Co. spoke regarding the Capital Funding Solutions and reviewed the packet as provided. Chairman Gerrity asked if there is a timeline to make this happen and Vin Kurian stated it's about a two-month process. James West introduced Ryan Ulrich and David Gordley with 1st Horizon Bank and presented their document as submitted. Commissioner Duffy inquired how long it would take to receive funds, and Ryan Ulrich stated about 3-4 weeks. Commissioner Stedman asked if the District has only spoke with one bond agency and Attorney Laura Donaldson suggested having workshops discussing this. Commissioner Biondo suggested the District complete an (RFP) Request for Proposal. Chairman Gerrity requested that the District create a list of all of the stations that need the most repairs and how much each would cost and discuss options at the next board meeting.

B. AIW – District Policies – Attorney Laura Donaldson

Attorney Laura Donaldson presented her policy recommendations.

Commissioner Duffy moved to support Staff and Legal Counsel's recommendations and approve:

1. Deleting policy numbers 1000-1010, 1012, 1014-1023, 1025-1041, 1043, and 1100-1107 from the policy manual;

2. The retention of the above referenced Standard Operating Guidelines;

3. Directing staff to develop/revise Standard Operating Guidelines and Employee Handbook as recommended;

4. Directing staff to finalize policies and submit to the Board for consideration no later than the September 2022 Board meeting the following: Patient Medical Record Security and Privacy (Policy 803), Records Management (Policy 906.1), Recruitment and Selection (Policy 1000), Conduct and Behavior (Policy 1011), Outside Employment (Policy 1013), and Anti-Retaliation (Policy 1042); and 5. Policies referenced in 4. above shall not take effect until September 30, 2022, or at the time that a policy is individually approved by the Board, whichever occurs earlier. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

C. Baby Boxes – Chairman Gerrity

Jerry Taricska inquired why the attorney is concerned with criminal liability. Attorney Laura Donaldson and the board discussed the issue of criminal liability. Attorney Donaldson suggested the District try and change the local bill, so it changes the District's protection with Baby Boxes.

Chairman Gerrity moved to take steps to develop a local bill, in order to install Baby Boxes and ask each fire district, fire department and EMS in the county if they want to join us in the bill and share the costs, and if not we will do it ourselves. Commissioner Stedman Seconded.

Commissioner Duffy asked how much a local bill would be and Attorney Donaldson informed around \$17,500 and \$2,000 expenses. Commissioner Duffy said that he would



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like more fire departments in the state of Florida installing the Baby Boxes first, before the District moves forward. Fire Chief Sapp and Assistant Chief Alan McLaughlin both discussed the issue of Baby Boxes not having a hurricane rating. Chris Diaz stated that until the Union Members have the proper protection, the Union cannot support the Baby Box Program. *Motion failed 2-3 (Cottiers, Biondo, Duffy)*

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. AIW – FY 20-21 Audit Presentation – Finance Manager James West

Finance Manager James West introduced David Caplivski as a CPA of Grau & Associates Audit Agency and David Caplivski presented Audit Report as provided.

Commissioner Duffy moved to accept the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2021 into official record as presented by Grau & Associates dated June 28, 2022. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0

B. AIW – FY 21-22 Amended Budget – Finance Manager James West

Finance Manager James West presented the amended budget as submitted. Chairman Gerrity stated Finance Manager James West and the finance team is doing an amazing job and the audit speaks words.

Commissioner Cottiers moved to approve the FY 21-22 Amended Budget in the amount of \$49,816,835, consisting of \$40,372,692 of appropriations of expenditures and a projection of \$9,444,143 in reserve fund balance at September 30, 2022. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Chief Sapp recognized James West and the finance team and their hard work. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

C. AIW – Adoption of Strategic Plan – Deputy Chief D'Angelo

Deputy Chief Sal D'Angelo presented the Strategic Direction as submitted. Deputy Chief Sal D'Angelo acknowledged the team that worked on the document and stated the Strategic Direction assists in the future planning of the District and requires annual monitoring.

Commissioner Duffy moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2023-2027 strategic direction and plan. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Chief Sapp recognized Deputy Chief Sal D'Angelo for all the hard work he has completed throughout his tenure. Commissioner Stedman stated that this document is a blueprint for future planning purposes, and does not bind or commit the District into annual appropriations. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

D. AIW – FY 22-23 Budget Meeting Schedule – Chief of Staff Nicole Chesser

Chief of Staff Nicole Chesser recommended the following budget meeting schedule:

Budget Workshop: August 9th at 4:30

Tentative Public Budget Hearing: September 13 at 5:05

Final Public Budget Hearing: September 27 at 5:05

Commissioner Cottiers moved to support Staff's recommended budget meeting schedule as presented. Commissioner Stedman seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

E. AIW – T-Mobile Generator Proposal – Chief of Staff Nicole Chesser

Chief of Staff Nicole Chesser presented T-Mobile Generator Proposal as submitted.



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Commissioner Stedman moved to approve T-Mobile installing a 48kW emergency backup diesel generator on the existing T-Mobile concrete pad at Station 71. Commissioner Cottiers seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

F. AIW – Special District Performance Review – Chief of Staff Nicole Chesser

Chief of Staff Chesser stated Florida Statue requires all special districts have a performance review this year beginning October 1, 2022. Commissioner Cottiers asked if there is a penalty if the District does not participate with the required Performance Review and Attorney Laura stated there is no penalty but she wouldn't recommend us not having a review. Richard Cristini with BJM stated that this review should be a source of information rather than a compulsory penalty.

Commissioner Cottiers moved to approve the contract for professional services with BJM CPA, Inc. to conduct the required performance review for \$75,500 and authorize Chief of Staff Nicole Chesser to execute necessary documents. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-1. (Stedman)

G. AIW – MOU-BC Title Change

Fire Chief Sapp stated since he took office and the District developed the CBA, the District had addressed the BC's as Battalion Chiefs and not Battalion Commanders and the MOU presented provides clarification.

Chairman Gerrity stated that this title change would need to go through PERC and there was discussion regarding waiting for PERC's ruling.

Commissioner Biondo moved to support Staff's recommendation and approve the MOU-Battalion Commander Title Clarification as ratified by the IAFF Local 2396. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-1. (Gerrity)

H. Fire Chief's Contract – Commissioner Duffy

Commissioner Duffy stated the Fire Chief's contract is up for review after a year and requested this topic be kept under New Business for next month's meeting.

I. Public Input for Issues Not Listed on the Published Agenda

None

J. Comments by Commissioners

Chairman Gerrity stated that the District can eliminate a lot of the overtime and proposed that the District only opens the third Battalion as staff permits. Fire Chief Sapp stated he understands his concerns, and the District is having Lieutenant testing soon to have acting positions available to alleviate some of the overtime.



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IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Stedman made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0, meeting adjourned.

Duly passed with a vote of _____ to _____ and adopted in session on the 9th day August, 2022.

Chairman Kevin Gerrity

Commissioner Al Duffy

Commissioner Charles Cottiers

Commissioner David Stedman

Commissioner Nick Biondo

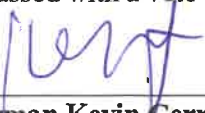


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