

NORTH FORT MYERS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE
SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 16, 2019

Chairman Michael Gatewood called the North Fort Myers Fire Control and Rescue Service District Board of Commissioners to order at 5:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Present:

Commissioners: Mike Gatewood	Danny Ballard
Leroy Nottingham	Robert Hoke
Thomas Mere	

Chief David Rice	Asst. Chief John Manson
Fire Marshal Rick Jones	
Office Manager Monique Brooks	

Absent: Public Education Officer Kulwicki
Union Representative Slaybaugh

Invocation: Commissioner Mere

Pledge: Commissioner Ballard

Public Input: None

Minutes:

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the November 18, 2019 minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Nottingham. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. (1)

Treasurer's Report: The November treasurers report was presented. At this time, we are 17% through the budget year, received 53% of revenues (including cash brought forward) and spent 17% of expenditures (less reserves). There were no questions or comments. (2)

Chief's Report:

By Chief Rice-

- SCBA Annual testing – we have several that are out of date, their average life expectancy is 15 years. The cost is approximately \$1,200 per cylinder. Commissioner Ballard noted that you can buy re-certified bottles at half the cost.
- Thanked Christi and Monique for their time and work with the Toy Drive
- Our Edward Jones Rep was here doing the semi-annual 457 reviews
- Remember the Christmas party is this week
- B shift recently had a fire in Ridgeway, and did a great job

By Chief Manson-

- Run report attached
- Thanked everyone for their support during his time away with the death of his brother.
- Thanked BC Westra and Monique for their long hours working on FireHouse issues, due to the new system the County switched to

Commissioner Ballard asked if we had anything new regarding the apron at Slater Road? Chief Rice replied nothing yet.

Fire Prevention: Report attached.

Commissioner Mere noted that he would like the inspections listed by names, not a grand total. Fire Marshal Jones asked why?

Commissioner Mere stated it gives more accountability for each person, however after a show of hands (3-2) regarding the change to the report, the report will not be changed. There were no other questions or comments.

Public Education: Report attached. Commissioner Gatewood asked about Teen CERT? Monique replied that North High School was not interested, so that is not going anywhere. There were no other questions or comments.

Union: No report

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Commissioner Items:

Nottingham – The Lieutenants got \$1.25 more in hourly pay than anyone else, which now changed their pay closer to the Battalion Chiefs, and would like to re-consider adjusting the Battalion Chiefs pay. They are not in the bargaining unit, therefore this can be done by the Board. Commissioner Ballard stated that we need to go back to percentage raises, and that a 5% difference between the ranks would create and keep separation between the ranks. He realizes this is going to be expensive, however it is needed. He would like to suggest a \$2.00 per hour raise for the Battalion Chiefs.

Commissioner Hoke said he had mentioned it in a previous meeting for their pay to be looked at. Commissioner Gatewood said he had as well, and that once everything was balanced correctly, it will work properly from here forward.

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to increase the Battalion Chiefs Hourly rate by \$2.00 per hour, retroactive to October 1, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner Nottingham. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Mere – Feels Monique needs her salary adjusted and also needs an assistant. Asked her to bring her wants and desires to the Board in January. Monique said okay, and also discussed the January meeting date being changed, due to her being out of town in a class. The Board agreed to change the meeting date to Tuesday, January 21, 2020.

Ballard – Would like to see a 5% differential between ranks.

Assistant Chief Manson stated that by giving the Battalion Chiefs their raise, now they would be getting close to him, and he feels his pay, as well as the Chief needs adjusted. Commissioner Ballard stated that this has to be fixed or we keep the problem going, and that it is going to take money, a lot of money, but it has to be done. Asst. Chief Manson asked what happens when the union gets upset and comes to the Board with a complaint? Commissioner Nottingham replied that the Board can not legally negotiate with the Union, that is the Chief who does that. Commissioner Gatewood said they have already bargained, and theirs is set, and they will have to wait till next year. He also stated that he will not allow this to happen in the future.

Community Goodwill & Thank You:

Lee County Housing Authority
Carrie D. Robinson Littleton Elementary

Commissioner Hoke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Supportive Documents:

1. November 18, 2019 Minutes
2. November Treasurers Report