

NORTH FORT MYERS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 21, 2024

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:

Commissioner Michael Gatewood

Commissioner Bill Schaible

Chief Ronald Beecroft

Assistant Chief of Training Eric Klos

Fire Marshal Rick Jones

Public Education Officer Christi Fulton

Office Manager Monique Brooks

Union Representative Josh Ballard

Attorney Remotely: Janette Smith, Esq.

Commissioner Danny Ballard

Assistant Chief John Manson

Admin Specialist Emily Grgurich

Absent: Commissioner Robert Hoke

Commissioner Tom Mere

Invocation: Commissioner Ballard

Pledge: Commissioner Schaible

Public Input: Commissioner Ballard stated that since we are starting a new fiscal year and he knows that we have been doing things for years a specific way, but he feels that the only time the Chairman should vote is during a tie and he wants this changed and to begin now. Attorney Smith replied that she needs to research the by-laws and see how it needs to be done because every entity is different. With the consent of the Board, she will research it but does not recommend changing it this meeting without the research being done. The Board said she could go ahead and do the research and she said she would have an answer by next meeting.

Minutes:

- 1. Tentative Budget, September 16, 2024: Commissioner Schaible made a motion to accept the Tentative Budget September 16, 2024 minutes, as written.** Commissioner Ballard has an issue with the minutes, because the minutes reflect that he voted yes, and he says he voted no. Chief Beecroft said he was sure he voted yes, and Office Manager Brooks stated she was sure he voted yes. Monique said she would listen to the minutes again and verify. **Commissioner Schaible rescinded the motion. Commissioner Ballard made a motion to table the tentative budget meeting minutes till next month, and the recording can be reviewed. Seconded by Commissioner Schaible. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0.**
- 2. September 16, 2024 Minutes: Commissioner Schaible made a motion to accept the September 16, 2024 minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (1)**
- 3. Final Budget, September 23, 2024: Commissioner Schaible made a motion to accept the September 23, 2024 minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (2)**

Treasurer's Report: The September Treasurer's Report was presented. At this time, we are 100% through the budget year, received 101% of revenues (including carryover) and spent 97% of expenditures (less reserves). There were no questions or comments. (3)

Chief's Report:

By Chief Beecroft—

- Hired a new Firefighter to fill the vacant spot. He begins tomorrow.
- The Firefighter that has Cancer has received his Cancer Benefit Payment
- Inspector Brooks will be going to the Fire Academy and EMT School, beginning in January 2025.
- We are having a legal issue with LAMAR regarding the removal of their sign on our new property.

- The position of Technology Director has been filled, and he will begin in November.
- Sent an Engine crew to Cedar Key to assist with their disaster from Hurricane Helene.
- Busy monitoring Hurricanes.
- Merchants Crossing has made their payment of \$50,000 to the District, to go towards a Ladder Truck.
- This would have been Commissioner Robert Hoke's last meeting. Chief thanked him for his 30 years of service to the District and the Community.
- Attended a luncheon at the Elks Lodge where we were the recipient of a grant from them which purchased the equipment called "Aqua Eyes". It will be used in our water rescue team. Battalion Chief Westra gave a summary of the equipment and its use.

By Asst. Chief Manson-

- Monthly run report attached.
- New Rescue is in service.
- The back bathroom and kitchen cabinets have been replaced at Station 3.
- Busy with Hurricanes.

Prevention: Report attached. There were no questions or comments.

Public Education: Report attached. Getting ready for Fire Prevention Month (October) and CERT. There were no questions or comments.

Training: Report attached. There were no questions or comments.

Union: Everything is going good.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- **2023/2024 Budget Line Item Transfers** – Office Manager Brooks went over the line item transfers. Commissioner Ballard asked if these would cause us to over budget in Fiscal Year 2024/2025? No, these have nothing to do with next years budget. **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the 2023/2024 Budget Line Item transfers, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Schaible. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (4)**

- **2023/2024 Inventory Disposition** – Office Manager Brooks went over the inventory disposition. **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the 2023/2024 Inventory Disposition, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Schaible. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (5)**
- **2024/2025 Union Contract Ratification** – Commissioner Ballard noted that he was in attendance for several negotiations and he was happy that everyone bargained in good faith. **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to ratify the 2024/2025 Union Contract, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Schaible. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (6)**
- **Purchase of New Engine and Training Chief Vehicle –**

New Engine - Chief Manson said we would like to order a new Engine, since they are taking several years to come in and the prices will increase again at the end of this year. We are going to order another Pearce Engine. **Commissioner Schaible made a motion to allow Administration to order a new Pearce Fire Engine, not to exceed price of \$1,300,000.00. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0.**

New Training Chief Vehicle – **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to allow Administration to purchase a new vehicle for the Training Chief, not to exceed \$75,000. Seconded by Commissioner Schaible. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0.**

- **Resolution 2024-008, Performance Measures** – Office Manager Brooks read the Resolution. **Commissioner Schaible made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-008, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (7)**

- **Resolution 2024-009, Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement** – Office Manager Brooks explained that in order to receive reimbursement from the State for mutual aid assistance, this agreement has to be signed and submitted. She read Resolution 2024-009. **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-009, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Schaible. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (8)**

Commissioner Items: None

Public Input: Member from the Community in attendance and asked how he could get the monthly meeting materials in advance? Attorney Smith replied that he would need to do a records request, meeting by meeting.

Community Goodwill & Thank You:

Operations Deputy Chief of Fort Myers Shores Fire District
Troop 263

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Schaible. The motion was put to a vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Supportive Documents:

1. September 16, 2024 Minutes
2. September 23, 2024 Final Budget Hearing Minutes
3. September Treasurer's Report
4. 2023/2024 Budget Line Item Transfers
5. 2023/2024 Inventory Disposition
6. 2024/2025 Union Contract
7. Resolution 2024-008
8. Resolution 2024-009