

NORTH FORT MYERS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE SERVICE
DISTRICT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 27, 2023

Chairman Robert Hoke 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 Robert Hoke	Commissioner Michael Gatewood
Commissioner Danny Ballard	Commissioner Bill Schaible
Commissioner Tom Mere	
Chief Ronald Beecroft	Assistant Chief John Manson
Assistant Chief of Training Eric Klos	Fire Marshal Rick Jones
Office Manager Monique Brooks	Admin Specialist Emily Grgurich
Public Education Officer Christi Fulton	Union Representative Josh Ballard
Attorney Remotely: Dirk Smits	

Absent: None

Invocation: Commissioner Mere

Pledge: Commissioner Ballard

Public Input: None

Minutes:

Commissioner Gatewood made a motion to accept the October 16, 2023 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 5-0. (1)

Treasurer's Report: The October Treasurer's Report was presented. At this time, we are 9% through the budget year, received 56% of revenues (including carryover) and spent 9% of expenditures (less reserves). There were no questions or comments. (2)

Chief's Report:

By Chief Beecroft –

- Retired Lieutenant James Maguire passed away. He was currently residing in Rhode Island, and the services were held there.
- Two new Firefighters begin their orientation next Monday
- There is a lot of chatter and movement within the Legislative Delegations regarding mergers and consolidation of Fire Districts. Even though the initial proposal by Representative Botana to merge Fort Myers Beach and Bonita Springs Fire was shot down, he has now introduced a new bill that wants to split the Beach in half, giving half to Bonita Springs and the other half to Iona-McGregor. The Beach and Iona have agreed to voluntarily conduct a feasibility study on this. Commissioner Ballard noted that Botana tried initially and was shut down, what is he trying to do? We are not sure. Commissioner Mere asked if either District was lacking anything in regards to providing services? No
- County Commissioner Pendergrass has called a special county meeting (being held Wednesday) ahead of the Lee County Delegation meeting this Thursday. On the agenda for the meeting held by Pendergrass is: (1) An Elected County Manager (2) Single member districts for voting for your County Commissioner (3) Consolidation issues amongst independent special districts.
- Received our reimbursement from the State of Florida, for the lost Ad-Valorem revenue as a result of Hurricane Ian.
- Reminded everyone of the Annual Awards Banquet, on Thursday, December 7th, at 6:30 p.m.

By Asst. Chief Manson-

- Monthly run report attached
- PMI's on all vehicles are complete
- New Rescue 2 is complete. Commissioner Ballard asked if there was anything on a ladder truck yet? Not yet. Commissioner Hoke noted that the Cape moved a ladder truck to Station 5, which is closer to us.

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

Public Education: Report attached. There were no questions or comments.

Training: Report attached. Added that bus training begins this week. There were no other questions or comments.

Union: Everything is going well. NFMFD did put together a softball team and will be competing in a county wide Softball tournament on Saturday, December 16th.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- **Approval to change Financial Banking Institutions –**
We would like to change our Financial Everyday banking accounts to Fine Mark Bank.

Commissioner Mere made a motion to approve changing our Financial Institution to Fine Mark Bank. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

- **Interlocal Agreements with Cape Coral Fire Department –**

Chief Beecroft explained what the agreements were about and what they contained, and that they have been presented to the Attorney. The agreement says that if a property was to be annexed, we would receive compensation for 10 years, not the 8 years that the State Statute provides for. Commissioner Mere asked if they are currently paying us? No, because they have not annexed anything from us in years. Commissioner Schaible asked if they would be paying at the current Ad Valorem rate or the newer rate? Current. Commissioner Gatewood asked if we sign this, are we bound and/or would it interfere with what the County was trying to do with the Charter Amendment? The Attorney replied that it will be in effect until the county would change the Charter, and even then it does not complicate anything. Commissioner Ballard asked how this is different than our MAC coverage agreement? We request MAC coverage for the stations verses single unit closest response.

Commissioner Schaible made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement by and Between City of Cape Coral, Florida and North Fort Myers Fire Control and Rescue Service District, subject to Attorney review. Seconded by Commissioner Mere. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. (3)

Commissioner Mere made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement by and Between City of Cape Coral, Florida and North Fort Myers Fire Control and Rescue Service District providing for automatic and mutual aid of Fire Services, subject to Attorney review. Seconded by Commissioner Gatewood. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. (4)

Commissioner Items:

Schaible – Are there any arrangements for services for Maguire? Services were held two weeks ago, in Rhode Island.

Mere – When is the Christmas party? Thursday, December 7th at 6:30 pm at Sea Craft Tiki

Public Input: Debby Ballard asked if there was any update on a new property for a new station? Actively working on it.

Community Goodwill & Thank You:

Monique mentioned the brown bag project Christi put together between the Publix stores and the local elementary schools. It was an excellent idea and worked very well.

Letter for Blaize French

Letter for A Shift, Station 2

Commissioner Gatewood made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Mere. The motion was put to a vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Supportive Documents:

1. October 16, 2023 Minutes
2. October Treasurer's Report
3. Interlocal agreement with City of Cape Coral
4. Automatic and Mutual aid agreement with City of Cape Coral