

NORTH FORT MYERS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE SERVICE
DISTRICT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 16, 2023

Vice 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 Robert Hoke	Commissioner Michael Gatewood
Commissioner Danny Ballard	
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
Attorney Remotely: Dirk Smits	

Absent: Commissioner Bill Schaible (unexcused)
Commissioner Tom Mere (unexcused)
Public Education Officer Christi Fulton
Union Representative Josh Ballard

Invocation: Assistant Chief Manson

Pledge: Commissioner Gatewood

Public Input: None

Minutes:

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the Tentative Budget Hearing Minutes of September 18, 2023 minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (1)

Commissioner Hoke made a motion to accept the September 18, 2023 Regular Monthly Commission Meeting 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)

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the Final Budget Hearing Minutes of September 25, 2023 minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (3)

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 85% of expenditures (less reserves). (4)

Monique added that the Annual Public Depositor Report was signed by Commissioner Hoke. There were no questions or comments.

Chief's Report:

By Chief Beecroft –

- We offer our condolences to Commissioner Hoke whose sister passed away this past weekend.
- Lee County Commissioner Pendergrass is trying to amend the Lee County Charter in regards to Voluntary Annexation. There is a meeting of the Charter Review Committee and we would like as many in attendance as possible to show support for the Amendment.
- The City of Cape Coral Fire Department is working on a draft agreement with the Cape in regards to Mutual Aide and the agreement also discusses annexations. We will be bringing this to the Board once a draft has been provided and the Attorney has reviewed it.
- Recently met with Florida Department of Transportation regarding the installation of an emergency traffic control device for the proposed Crescent Lake Property. Due to the astronomical price of the construction involved, we would like to cancel the contract on the property. Commissioner Ballard asked if either party can withdraw the contract without penalty or money? Yes. He feels it is good to get out before any more money is spent.
- Administration has been busy with closing out Fiscal Year 2023 and Beginning Fiscal Year 2024.
- Representative Botana has presented a bill to be considered that would consolidate Fort Myers Beach Fire District and Bonita Springs Fire District. Both Districts are opposed to the bill. There is a public meeting on the topic on Monday, October 30 at FSW.
- This years Annual Awards Ceremony will be on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at Sea Craft Tiki.

By Asst. Chief Manson-

- Monthly run report attached
- Bay fans have been installed at Station 2 (Barrett Road)
- PMI's on Engines has begun
- Working on Budgeted Purchases for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year

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

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

Training: Report attached. Commissioner Gatewood asked if there was any update on the school bus training? Working with Bayshore to get it lined up. There were no other questions or comments.

Union: None

Old Business: Property at 1526 N. Tamiami Trail was covered under Chiefs Report

New Business:

- **2022/2023 Budget Line Item Transfers –**
Monique presented the two line item transfers. Commissioner Ballard asked if we should have 4 Commissioners present to vote on this? Attorney Smits replied no, because we were not amending the budget, only transferring funds between line items, and that was a Statutory TRIM meeting, not substantive.

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to approve the 2022/2023 Budget Line item transfers, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (5)

- **2022/2023 Inventory Disposition –**
Monique presented the Inventory Disposition list.

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to approve the 2022/2023 Inventory Disposition, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0. (6)

- **Transfer of General Funds to Florida Prime -**
Monique asked the Board if Administration could transfer \$1,000,000 from the Truist Account to the Florida Prime account, because they are currently offering 5.6% interest on their accounts. **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to allow Administration to transfer One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) from Truist to Florida Prime. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0.**

- **Purchase of New Rescue Truck and Service Truck –**

Asst. Chief Manson said we would like to purchase a new Rescue Truck. It would be a Dodge 5500, with a 60” wheel base. **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to allow Administration to purchase a new Dodge Rescue Truck. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0.**

Asst. Chief Manson said we would like to purchase a Service Truck to be used in daily operations, not to be used on emergency calls. **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to allow Administration to purchase a Service Truck. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 3-0.**

Commissioner Items:

Ballard – How did we notify the retirees of the Anniversary luncheon? Invitations were mailed out. Commissioner Gatewood asked how many attended? 23

Public Input: Debby Ballard asked: (1) Is all our money in Truist? Yes, she suggested we be looking at other banks. (2) What is the deal with the News Story that just came out about two districts merging? It was discussed under Chiefs Notes. (3) Fox 4 did a news story on the school and traffic issues on Littleton Road.

Community Goodwill & Thank You:

Anonymous letter from Naples regarding our personnel who recently were there on standby.

Letter for Battalion Chief Dunn

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Supportive Documents:

1. September 18, 2023 Tentative Budget Hearing Minutes
2. September 18, 2023 Minutes
3. September 25, 2023 Final Budget Hearing Minutes
4. September Treasurer’s Report
5. 2022/2023 Line Item Budget Transfers
6. 2022/2023 Inventory Disposition