

Minutes for the Meeting of
the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District Board of Commissioners

April 26, 2023 5:00 pm
Diamondhead Beach Resort
2000 Estero Boulevard

In attendance: Chairman John Bennett, Vice-Chairman Larry Wood, Secretary/Treasurer Jim Knickle, Commissioner Ron Fleming, Commissioner Jacki Lyszak, Acting Fire Chief Scott Wirth, Fire Official Jennifer Campbell, Finance Director Jane Thompson and District members.

1. **Meeting Called to Order** 5:01 pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Adoption of Agenda** [Discussion/Approval]

Item 9A was removed and pushed to a future meeting as the recipient was not present.

Commissioner Lyszak moved to adopt the agenda, Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion and the agenda was approved 5-0.

4. **Restate Agenda Items** [Information]
5. **Public Input on Non-Agenda Items**
6. **Consent Agenda** [Approval]

Items listed are considered routine and action will be taken by one motion; if a Commissioner desires discussion, the specific item will be removed during the Adoption of the Agenda and considered separately.

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 22, 2023
- B. Approval of Board Retreat Minutes from March 24, 2023
- C. Check approval 48023 thru 48076 total = \$172,669.78

Commissioner Fleming moved to adopt the agenda, Commissioner Knickle seconded the motion and the consent agenda was approved 5-0.

7. **Fire Chief's Report**

Chief Wirth reported on the tax rebate impact on the District, noting that numbers will continue to come in until June.

The District worked with Lee County EMS to make some adjustments and the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) was recently renewed.

Chief Wirth recently inspected new rescues at the factory and all looks good.

There was a brief update on facility repairs. Additional procurement discussion will happen under item 9B. Chief Wirth thanked Jane for all her work with FEMA and financial details following Hurricane Ian.

Chief Kraus has taken the existing supply request system and streamlined the process which will save the District money.

Life Safety Specialist Ben Noell is back from extended leave and there is an increase in permitting and inspections. Chief Wirth thanked Fire Official Campbell and the Life Safety team for their hard work.

Operations incident response times remain at about 7 minutes and will likely remain there until the temporary fire station is up and running. Call volume is down about 60% and about 40% of calls are run into our neighboring districts. Chief Wirth had a discussion with Lee County EMS regarding possibly running a unit at Station 32.

Staff recently went to Bonita Fire for live burn training. Chief Wirth thanked Chief Armiger and operations for participating.

Since discussion about selling the ladder truck at the Board retreat, the District has had two roof rescues and a rooftop fire. The rooftop rescue identified a training opportunity that did prove helpful in next rescue.

Dr. Pereira has been in District doing training with crews regarding cardiac emergencies. Chief Wirth recognized District anniversaries and advised that Driver Engineer Layne Tal had put in his notice with the District. Chief Wirth thanked him for his service.

8. Unfinished Business

A. Finalize details on the Fire Chief Job Description / Annual Evaluation Criteria

The Board and Chief Wirth went over changes in the Fire Chief job description and appraisal. The Board requested to make a Master's degree a preferred qualification and strike the 36-month completion requirement. The Board requested to remove the comment requirement for an assessment score of 5.

Commissioner Wood motioned to approve with the discussed changes and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Knickle, the motion was approved 5-0.

9. New Business

A. Presentation of District Patch and Recognition

This item was removed and moved to a later meeting date.

B. Procurement – Facility Restoration Project

Chief Wirth reviewed the facility restoration quotes for roofing and elevator repairs.

Commissioner Knickle motioned to approve the work as quoted, with additional authorization for the Fire Chief to expend up to an additional 5% per vendor/project, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Wood and the motion was approved 5-0.

10. Fire Chief Remarks [Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth highlighted the recent fire at Bay to Beach, 740 Estero Blvd, that occurred over the weekend and recognized crews and assisting agencies for doing a great job.

10. Attorney Report [Information/Discussion] - *none*

11. Commissioners Remarks [Information]

Commissioner Liszak extended thanks to assisting agencies and staff for fire over the weekend. She inquired if it is possible to send a notice to residents about the importance of checking wiring to prevent fires.

Commissioners Knickle, Wood and Fleming all echoed thanks to the crews and assisting agencies for a great response to the weekend fire.

Commissioner Bennett echoed the others' remarks and thanked community members who sat in on the meeting.

12. Adjournment 5:56pm