

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

February 27, 2017

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

Present were:

Commissioners: Danny Ballard Suzanne Daggett
 Michael Gatewood Leroy Nottingham
 Tom Mere

Chief David Rice
Office Manager Monique Brooks
Union Representative Slaybaugh

Absent: Assistant Chief John Meredith Fire Marshal Rick Jones

Invocation: Commissioner Mere

Pledge: Commissioner Ballard

Minutes: Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the January 23, 2017, minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Daggett. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was unanimous. (1)

Treasurer's Report: The January treasurers report was presented. At this time, we are 34% through the budget year, received 87% of revenues (including cash brought forward) and spent 41% of expenditures (less reserves). Audit just completed, and went very well. Commissioner Daggett asked if we bid out the audit, and if so,

when and what is the cost? No, we have not bid it out, because they are few firms in the area that do public accounting, and we have lowered the cost of the audit during the past 10 years. Commissioner Mere thanked Monique for her hard work. There were no other questions. (2)

Chief's Report:

By Chief Rice-

- Monthly runs attached.
 - Thank you to Monique for great job on the annual audit.
 - Began our annual hydrant maintenance
 - Start a new CERT Basic Training class tomorrow
 - EMS construction project – they have submitted for a fire flow test
 - Thank you to A Shift for the work on repairs on the classroom
 - Handed out a very rough draft of his future goals/plans.
- Commissioner Mere asked how many businesses require an annual inspection? And a semi-annual? And what makes a business require a semi-annual? We do not have that figure, we will have to wait and ask Rick.
- Commissioner Mere said he would like to see dollar figures by the ideas on this plan.
- Commissioner Ballard asked if we receive our gross taxable value property value number in July? Yes
- Commissioner Daggett asked when we get our increase in the millage rate? Next fiscal year. She said she does not like the salary budget, she feels some are getting paid more than they should, and that we need to pay our firefighters more and hire more. She also added that she recently rode with a shift for a few hours, and there were some calls that we should not have responded to, in other words, we should have been cancelled. She gave information on a particular call, and Chief Rice replied that this is our community, and we are first responders, and we are responsible for responding to calls. Commissioner Ballard added that we might want to contact Lee County EMS to discuss the issue of the medics cancelling us, when we are not needed.

Fire Prevention: Report is attached. Very lengthy discussion regarding prevention division.

Commissioner Daggett – On average there should be 116 annual inspections completed per month. Feels annual inspections are very important.

Commissioner Nottingham feels the Inspectors help to protect our Firefighters.

Commissioner Gatewood asked if we have any other staff qualified to do inspections? Yes, however it is not that simple.

Commissioner Ballard asked approximately how many other staff do we have that have their inspectors incentive? Probably 4 or 5. Do we offer an incentive for that? Yes. Is it in union contract? Yes.

He mentioned that he has brought up this issue for many years now, and it is still not resolved. He told Chief Rice that if the report did not show improvement by April, he was going to make some requests for changes.

Commissioner Mere – suggested Chief Rice get Fire Marshal Jones back on track.

There were no other questions.

Public Education: Report is attached. There were no questions.

Union: Getting ready for upcoming MDA boot drive.

Commissioner Mere asked if we were doing anything extra to get attention for the firefighters out collecting money? Union representative Slaybaugh said he would look in to it.

Commissioner Daggett asked if we make the firefighters go? Yes, they participate while on duty.

Old Business:

- EMS Project – discussed under Chiefs Report

New Business: None

Commissioner Items:

Commissioner Ballard just wanted to let everyone know that the State no longer sends the Commissioners, a card to carry in their wallet, which states you are an elected official.

Also, asked what happened with the sign project, for each station? Chief Rice said for now, it is on the back burner.

Public Input:

Mrs. Ballard asked if we could get advertising set up on the billboards for the MDA boot drive?

Community Goodwill & Thank You: Donation by the Old Bridge Village Social Alliance, Crafty Ladies club.

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mere. All were in favor and it was approved by the Board, unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Supportive Documents:

1. January 23, 2017 Minutes
2. January treasurers report