

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

September 18, 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:**

Commissioners: Danny Ballard                      Suzanne Daggett  
                         Michael Gatewood              Leroy Nottingham  
                         Tom Mere (via FaceTime at 5:05 p.m.)

Chief David Rice                                      Assistant Chief John Meredith  
Office Manager Monique Brooks      Fire Marshal Rick Jones  
Union Representative Slaybaugh

**Absent:**

**Invocation:** Chief Rice

**Pledge:** Commissioner Ballard

**Minutes:** Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the August 21, 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 August treasurers report was presented. At this time, we are 92% through the budget year, received 108% of revenues (including cash brought forward) and spent 91% of expenditures (less reserves). There were no questions. (2)

## Chief's Report:

By Chief Rice-

- Extremely busy with Hurricane IRMA preparedness and the Hurricane. We lost power, internet and communications. The generators at all 3 stations need to be replaced. Fire Marshal Jones worked the Fire Desk at Lee County Emergency Management and was unbelievably helpful and resourceful and dedicated. Commissioner Nottingham asked if we have some type of plan for upgrades? Discussion followed about generators, and diesel versus propane versus fuel, and the different sizes to handle our needs.

**Commissioner Ballard made a motion to give the Chiefs latitude to purchase 3 new generators for the stations, as well as shutters for the 3 stations; with choosing generators that will be above 10% capacity of our needs, and the choice of fuel. Seconded by Commissioner Daggett. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The decision was unanimous.**

Commissioner Ballard asked if the garage doors at Station 1 (Trail Dairy) were hurricane proof? No, they need to be replaced also.

- Sent the LMTV out again to Lehigh for damage assessment

By Assistant Chief Meredith-

- Monthly runs attached
- Would like the Boards approval to finance the new Engine we are going to purchase. The purchase price is \$460,000, with \$210,000 down, a 2.44% interest rate, on a 5 year lease.

**Commissioner Ballard made a motion to finance the new Engine, with SunTrust, based on the terms above. Seconded by Commissioner Nottingham. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor, and the decision was unanimous.**

**Fire Prevention:** Report is attached.  
There were no questions.

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

**Union:** Copy of the changes to this years Union Contract were presented. It has been voted on by personnel, and accepted.

**Commissioner Nottingham made a motion to accept the changes to the 2017/2018 Union Contract. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor, and the decision was unanimous. (3)**

Commissioner Ballard asked if the \$4,500 annual pay increase equaled \$1.50 per hour for suppression personnel? Yes.

Commissioner Nottingham stated the Firefighters of North Fort Myers Fire District are really patient and should be commended.

#### **Old Business:**

- EMS Project – no new updates, delayed due to the Hurricane

#### **New Business:**

##### **Presentation of Plaque to Jamie's Towing-**

Chief Rice stated that Jamie's Towing was not able to be here tonight, however, they are always able to help us out, by towing our trucks and bringing us old wrecked cars for training, so we would like to present them with a plaque to say thank you for all they do for us. Chief Rice will take the plaque to them since they were not able to be here.

#### **Commissioner Items:**

##### **Ballard-**

- Would like to personally commend the Chiefs and personnel for an outstanding job during the hurricane.
- Communication needs to be better between the Firefighters and Administration – has been hearing there are several communication issues, and that he has been told some of the personnel were told not to talk to the Commissioners. Chief Rice replied he has never said that.

- Would like the Chiefs to investigate another organization for vehicle and equipment (generator) maintenance – feels there is someone else out there who will do a better quality job

**Nottingham -**

Had a recent fire in his neighborhood the other day, and the guys did a great job of putting the fire out. However, he had an incident with Law Enforcement over it, and feels that the Commissioners need something to identify themselves better

**Public Input:**

Great job by everyone recently

**Community Goodwill & Thank You:**

None

**Commissioner Ballard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Nottingham. All were in favor and it was approved by the Board, unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

**Supportive Documents:**

1. August 21, 2017 minutes
2. August treasurers report
3. 2017/2018 Union changes and Contract