

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

January 27, 2014 \*(AMENDED)

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

**Present were:**

Commissioners: Leroy Nottingham      Danny Ballard  
                         Michael Gatewood      Tom Mere  
                         Robert Hoke

Chief Chris Noble

Asst. Chief John Meredith

Asst. Chief David Rice

Fire Marshal Rick Jones

Office Manager Monique Brooks

Union Representative Hagie

**Absent:**              None

**Invocation:**      Commissioner Mere

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Commissioner Gatewood

**Minutes:**    **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept December 16, 2013, minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Mere, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was unanimous. (1)**

**Treasurer's Report:**    The December treasurers report was presented. Monique noted that the usual finance figures were not calculated and presented.

{\*However, At this time, we are 25% through the budget year, have received 87% of revenues (including cash brought forward) and have spent 32% of expenditures (less reserves).} There were no questions. (2)

## **PRESENTATION BY GSG REGARDING THE FIRE FEE ASSESSMENT. (3)**

Commissioner Hoke asked: (1) If there are two structures on one parcel, how would these be assessed? Answer was parcels will be treated just as the Property Appraiser has them listed.

(2) How is the track record for referendums? GSG has not instituted the fire fees, in an area which requires a referendum. They also added that since 2002, in Lee County, a referendum regarding fire districts, has not passed.

Commissioner Ballard noted that he would like to see additional information about the limits of square feet (5,000,000)

Commissioner Mere stated that this type of fee could possibly put people out of business, and people without places to live.

Commissioner Nottingham noted that the hardship exemption would allow people to be safe, if they really had a hardship.

Camille from GSG added: (1) You must be careful about the spending of funds, to educate the public. (2) ISO is getting very serious about raising the classification of fire districts, which in turn, raises insurance rates.

Chief Noble stated that this is a lot of information, and we should either schedule a special meeting or discuss it next month. He does feel it should be up to the public to make the decision, and something has to be done. We only have one option, either; lay off people or increase our revenues.

**Commissioner Ballard made a motion to place the Fire Fee Assessment issue, under Old Business, on the agenda, of the February 24<sup>th</sup> commission meeting. Commissioner Hoke seconded. The motion was put to vote, all were in favor. It was approved by the Board, unanimously.**

## **Chief's Report:**

By Chief Noble-

- Weekly reports and monthly run sheet is attached
- Upcoming meeting with the County about the criteria for dirt road evaluations. Chief Noble does not agree with current criteria. It calls for a Brush truck to evaluate the road.
- Upcoming meeting with EMS, regarding Alpha Omega calls. These are calls to a medical facility, where there is higher medically trained personnel there.

By Assistant Chief Meredith-

- Just finished hose and ladder testing. Only 2 pieces of hose failed.

Commissioner Ballard asked if we were going to give our own "Lifesave" award to the Phoenix Award recipients? Chief Noble responded that we are still trying to work on the details of an award ceremony. **\*\*Amendment – Chief Noble responded Yes we will, and will provide details.**

### **Training:**

Report is attached. Emphasis is currently on EMT refresher. Commissioner Ballard asked if we participated with Bayshore, on EVOC training, last week? Chief rice responded No. There were no other questions.

**Fire Prevention:** Report is attached.

Commissioner Mere asked what was the above ground tank at the new Rec center? Fire Marshal Jones responded that this was an after the fact issue; it is a diesel tank for their generator. There were no other questions.

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

**Union:** Union Representative Hagie noted that his last meeting as DVP, will be in February. After that, he is stepping down. Commissioner Ballard asked how he could get a copy of the current union contract? Hagie stated that it would be e-mailed out to the commissioners first thing tomorrow morning.

## **Old Business:**

Barrett Road Station- Almost complete. The backplash is the only thing that we are waiting on.

Union Representative Hagie wanted to thank Chief Noble for the remodel of the station, and stated that it is the best the facility has ever been.

Commissioner Mere asked about the fence around the station? Why was it placed where it was? The Chiefs said they would look in to costs associated with replacing it, moving it, etc.

## **New Business:**

Election of 2014 Officers:

### **Chairman -**

Commissioners Hoke and Gatewood nominated Leroy Nottingham for Chairman. Commissioner Mere nominated Mike Gatewood.

### **Vice Chairman –**

Commissioners Nottingham and Hoke nominated **Danny Ballard** as Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations.

### **Secretary/Treasurer -**

Commissioner Gatewood nominated **Robert Hoke** as Secretary/Treasurer. There were no other nominations.

An election by paper ballot took place to decide Chairman. (4)

Ballots were read aloud, by Monique.

The vote was: Nottingham – 3 votes

Gatewood – 2 votes

Commissioner **Leroy Nottingham** retains the office of **Chairman**.

**Commissioner Items:**

Mere – Recently visited the Barrett Road station, and the new wall is too big for the little TV; therefore, they need a new, bigger one.

**Public Input: None****Community Goodwill & Thank You:**

Lighthouse of Southwest Florida for Fire Marshal Jones

Donation by Old Bridge Village Co-Op

Littleton Elementary for Firefighter Rizzo

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

**Supportive Documents:**

1. December minutes
2. December Treasurers Report
3. GSG Presentation
4. Ballots for election of Chairman