

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

February 25, 2013

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 Mike Gatewood
 Tom Mere

Chief Christopher Noble
Asst. Chief David Rive Fire Marshal Rick Jones
Office Manager Monique Brooks
Members of the Public

Absent: Commissioner Robert Hoke
 Asst Chief John Meredith
 Union Representative James Hagie

Invocation: Chief Chris Noble

Pledge: Commissioner Gatewood

Minutes: **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept January 28, 2013 minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Gatewood, 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, have received 88% of revenues (including cash brought forward) and have spent 36% of

expenditures (less reserves). Actual revenues received (not including cash brought forward) is 48%.

Commissioner Mere asked why we are at 37% of expenditures on salaries? Chief Noble responded that it is probably due to an error that we found in the excel salary spreadsheet, used at the beginning of the budget year, which is submitted to the Board. The error had been occurring for several years, apparently; and we just used this spreadsheet as the template. Basically, the calculation in the bottom total column, was not including the top three lines. This error has been corrected. We will provide the Board with the current and correct salary spreadsheet. There were no other questions. (2)

Chief's Report:

By Chief Noble-

- Weekly reports and monthly run sheet is attached
- Currently the Lee County Board of County Commissioners is considering suspending the collection of Impact Fees. However, it appears they are going to exempt the Fire Departments from this suspension.
- Also being considered by the Lee County Board of Commissioners is the privatization of the Lee County EMS. The air service contract has already been outsourced to a private company. They will be discussing the issue of the ground units. Commissioner Nottingham asked if they have given a reason? Chief Noble responded yes, basically the issue is money. Commissioner Ballard noted if they were to go private, we should consider charging the new company a fee to continue to keep their unit here at Station 1. He would like the Chiefs to give recommendations on what rate to charge. Commissioner Mere asked what is the situation for other private companies and what they pay other Fire Departments. Chief Noble said we are not sure, but would look in to it.
- The Annual audit went very well. The auditors were here only a week. He thanked Monique for a great job on the audit, and in the preparation work done. He said this has been for two years in a row now.

- We are currently working on updating our inventory list. We have had to re-locate several items in the system, due to the closing of the Willis Road station, and the changing around of trucks; and that we will have some deletions soon.

Training:

Asst Chief Rice apologized, and said he was not sure what was wrong with his report, but handed out a correct January training report. Commissioner Mere asked if the batteries in hybrid vehicles were more dangerous? Asst Chief Rice responded No. Mere then asked if there was acid in the batteries? Rice stated No, they are dry. Commissioner Gatewood said he knows of a former instructor that would be willing to give classes for free to the Fire Department on hybrid vehicles. Chief Noble noted that we have a computer program on the Engines, which helps with these vehicles.

Commissioner Ballard asked Chief Noble if Bayshore Fire has their MDT's yet? Chief Noble said no, but should be in the next week or so. There were no other questions.

Fire Prevention: Report is attached. Commissioner Ballard asked when would the Race Trac gas stations be opening. Fire Marshal Jones said he was not sure.

Commissioner Mere asked if there was some new construction going on, across from his lawnmower shop? Fire Marshal Jones said not to his knowledge.

There were no other questions.

Public Education: Report is attached. Chief Noble noted that we are trying to enhance our CERT program, and that we are working on holding a picnic for them. Commissioner Ballard noted that Firefighter Rizzo approached him about some HazMat training for the CERT teams. There were no questions.

Union: Union Representative Hagie was not in attendance; however, Firefighter Slaybaugh noted there was no news. There were no questions.

Old Business:

Updates on projects:

Barrett Road Station-

Chief Noble stated that the metal building has been delivered. The lift station should be delivered soon also. We are still dealing with some permit issues (FDEP was holding it up, they were asking for some extra specs). He also noted that looking 5-10 years out, we are looking at ways to expand the Trail Dairy station, and that he would like to provide some space for us to grow.

New Business:

NONE

Commissioner Items:

None

Public Input:

None

Community Goodwill & Thank You:

LCEC

Habitat for Humanity

Chief Noble made mention about several local Chief positions that were being filled. Also, noted that we will need to re-do our Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Cape Coral.

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 5:46 p.m.

Supportive Documents:

1. January minutes
2. Treasurers Report