

SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2016

*****PENDING APPROVAL*****

Commissioners Present: Jack Abbit, Brian Christenson, Tom Cooper, Charlotte Flynt, Maurice Gilbert, Thomas McGee, Mike Stange

Commissioners Absent: None

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Chief Talbert introduced Sterling Strickland as SWFD's Communications Director. The Fire Board welcomed Director Strickland.

Chairman Gilbert read into the record the National Public Telecommunications Week Proclamation, proclaiming April 10 – 16, 2016 as National Public Telecommunications Week in South Walton.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Christenson and seconded by Commissioner McGee, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the March 14, 2016 Board of Fire Commissioners regular meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: Commissioner Flynt read the March 31, 2016 cash report into the record.

Attorney's Report: Rene Youell

Attorney Youell reported that she continues to correspond with Walton County Attorney Davis regarding building permits issued without verification that South Walton Fire District impact fees were paid. Attorney Youell further reported that the Walton County Building Department has corrected its permitting process to ensure these fees are paid prior to issuing future building permits. After lengthy discussion among the Fire Commissioners, on a motion duly made by Commissioner Christenson and seconded by Commissioner McGee, the Board unanimously authorized Commissioner Gilbert and Fire Chief Talbert to negotiate a settlement with Walton County. If no settlement is reached with Walton County, commencement letters shall be issued.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Christenson and seconded by Commissioner Abbit, the Board unanimously approved Attorney Youell's March 2016 billing statement.

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Talbert reviewed the 2016 Emergency Response Report which included Beach Safety Response and the False Alarm Fee History Report.

Fire Chief Talbert thanked Chief Crawford for his participation in the Fire Board regular meeting in March while he was attending the National Fire Academy.

A copy of the 2015 Annual Report was included in the Board packet. Chief Talbert acknowledged Administrative Assistant Lund's dedication to the Fire District's annual report.

SWFD staff secured an EMS agreement with Walton County that will take effect October 1, 2016 and for a duration of 5 years. The contract remains virtually unchanged and preserves the parameters as well as CPI factors as in the previous contract.

Staff conducted an operational assessment of our current budget expenditures and status at the fiscal “mid-year” mark and have no financial concerns or adjustment requests at this time.

In March, Sergeant John Adams was promoted to fill a Sergeant vacancy made by a member who resigned.

SWFD’s apparatus committee concluded its research and recommendations for a Squad 3 replacement. The Squad has been ordered and there is an approximate ten month build time.

During Spring Break 2016, SWFD experienced an increase in our calls for service.

Staff purchased an enclosed trailer to transport SWFD’s EMS Event Cart with a portion of Walton County’s State EMS grant which only required an obligation of approximately \$1,500 from SWFD.

In Mid-March, SWFD experienced a serious outage of our internal recordkeeping, time entry/payroll and document storage system. Staff is researching alternatives to hopefully provide a recommendation to the Board for the 2016/17 budget cycle.

Promotional eligibility testing and evaluation for the position of Lieutenant and Sergeant are being conducted April 11-15, 2016.

SWFD’s WaterColor Station 2 addition project is complete. Chief Talbert invited the Commissioners to visit the station.

Staff continues to monitor as well as work on County programs and projects that have an impact on the Fire District such as Business Registration, Event Management, Beach Activities, Beach Vending Ordinance and the Parking Ordinance.

The next SWFD Board of Fire Commissioners meeting will be held Monday, May 9, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

Committee Reports: None

Unfinished/Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.