

SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes – November 14, 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.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Abbit and seconded by Commissioner Christenson, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the October 10, 2016 Board of Fire Commissioners regular meeting.

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

Attorney's Report: Rene Youell

Attorney Youell updated the Fire Board regarding uncollected fire impact fees.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Abbit and seconded by Commissioner Flynt, the Board unanimously approved Attorney Youell's October 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.

SWFD's Annual Pancake Breakfast was a success serving about 400 visitors and raising approximately \$2,000.

Chief Talbert congratulated Firefighter/Paramedic Jason Cotton on his promotion to EMS Captain. A Pinning ceremony has been scheduled for November 17, 2016.

SWFD conducted Emergency Vehicle Technician interviews and will be extending a conditional offer soon.

The SWFD facility security system project is complete.

A conditional offer was extended for a firefighter position to fill the vacancy created by Captain Cotton's promotion. The new firefighter will begin orientation on November 28, 2016.

Several SWFD members attended the State of Florida's Live Fire Instructor Course and have taken the state test for certification in anticipation of using our Conex boxes for live fire training by the end of the year.

SWFD's Angel Tree program began November 7, 2016.

Staff continues to monitor as well as work on County programs and projects that have an impact on the Fire District such as Event/Special Event Management, Beach Activities and the Parking/Traffic plans.

The next SWFD Board of Fire Commissioners meeting will be held Monday, December 12, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

Committee Reports: Finance and Investment Committee

Chairman Gilbert presented a Board Action Item that listed several options to clarify Fire Commissioner compensation. After the options were presented, Chairman Gilbert and Vice Chairman Abbit recused themselves from voting. Chairman Gilbert asked Commissioner Flynt to chair the issue. After much discussion, on a motion duly made by Commissioner Stange and seconded by Commissioner McGee, the Board voted that under Florida Statute 191 each Fire Commissioner is allowed a \$500 monthly salary / honorarium with the option to decline. In addition, each Fire Commissioner shall be entitled to participate in the District's health insurance program. Commissioners wishing to participate in the health insurance program are liable for 100% of the cost of said insurance. The Board unanimously approved the clarification of the Fire Commissioners compensation.

Unfinished/Old Business: A Better South Walton Request for Letter

Chief Talbert and Attorney Youell provided the Fire Board with a draft letter and fact sheet including issues related to the incorporation of the area commonly known as South Walton into a new municipality within Walton County, Florida. After much discussion, the Board directed Chief Talbert to respond to A Better South Walton's request to include the following language: *At this time, due to the lack of clarity regarding details of the new municipality, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the South Walton Fire District are unable to render a commitment as to whether or not the District's costs will increase or decrease while maintaining South Walton Fire District's current level of service.*

New Business: Board Action Item: South Walton Fire District Firefighters' Retirement System - Resolution 16-06

Brian Flanagan, SWFD FF Retirement System Chairman presented a Board Action Item with regard to Resolution 16-06. The adoption by the Florida Legislature of Chapter 2015-39, Laws of Florida, and recent changes to the Internal Revenue Code and its associated regulations created a need to amend the South Walton Fire District Firefighters' Retirement System to remain in compliance. The changes are mostly definitions and will not have a financial impact to the Fire District. On a motion duly made by Commissioner Christenson and seconded by Commissioner Cooper the Fire Board voted to adopt Resolution 16-06, amending the South Walton Fire District Firefighters' Retirement System as adopted by Resolution 11-02.

Public Comment: None

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.