

SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2017

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

Commissioners Present: Jack Abbit, Brian Christenson, Tom Cooper, Charlotte Flynt (via phone conference), Maurice Gilbert, Thomas McGee

Commissioners Absent: none

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Chairman Gilbert read into the record the National Public Telecommunications Week Proclamation, proclaiming April 9 – 15, 2017 as Public Telecommunications Week in South Walton in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep the community, citizens and visitors safe.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Christenson and seconded by Commissioner Abbit, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the March 13, 2017, Board of Fire Commissioners regular meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: Commissioner Flynt read the February 28, 2017, cash report into the record.

Attorney's Report: Rene Youell

Attorney Youell presented an update from Beasley Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C. regarding Haliburton and Transocean Settlements. No action was required by the Fire Board.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Abbit and seconded by Commissioner McGee, the Board unanimously approved Attorney Youell's March 2017 billing statement.

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Talbert reviewed the 2017 Emergency Response Report which included Beach Safety Response and the False Alarm Fee History Report.

A copy of the 2016 Annual Report was included in the Board packet. Chief Talbert acknowledged Staff's time and effort to present the Fire District's annual report.

SWFD completed Sergeant and Lieutenant promotional testing for its 2017 eligibility list. Chief Talbert recognized Panama City Beach Fire, Ocala Fire Rescue and Gainesville Fire Rescue for their support during the testing process.

SWFD hosted a Florida Regional Technical Rescue Team meeting on March 15, 2017.

SWFD Staff and Local 3516 officers participated in SWFD's Strategic Focus meetings on March 28-29 and April 6, 2017.

SWFD conducted new member orientation for a Firefighter, a dispatcher, and two Customer Service Specialists.

Chief Talbert and Chief Crawford participated in a Strengths, Weakness, Threats and Opportunities (SWOT) Analysis session on March 14, 2017 hosted by the Walton County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) regarding the potential merger of WCSO and Walton County Fire Rescue (WCFR).

Chief Talbert met with Mr. Mike Flynt and a WCSO representative to answer fire services questions as part of WCSO assessment to merge WCFR with them

SWFD conducted a pinning ceremony for a newly promoted Sergeant and Lieutenant.

Chief Talbert informed the Fire Board that SWFD supported the Seaside half-marathon with no reportable incidents.

Staff met with DAG architects to finalize drawings and estimates for SWFD's Fleet Maintenance and Training Tower project.

Chief Talbert stated that uncollected impact fees that were brought to the Fire Board's attention in August 2015 were recently paid by Walton County Administration.

Included in the Fire Board packet were recognitions from citizens and visitors complimenting the excellent services they received from SWFD members.

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, May 8, 2017, at 4:00 p.m.

Committee Reports: None

Unfinished/Old Business: Assistant Chief Anderson presented a Board Action whereas Staff recommended the approval of the final project designs and to proceed into the final engineering phase and construction of a Fleet Maintenance and Training Tower. Staff recognized the challenges of forecasting the cost of construction and the timeframe specified and therefore recommended funding approval of the project not to exceed \$5 million dollars. On a motion duly made by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Christenson, and after a lengthy discussion, the Board unanimously approved the final project designs and to proceed into the final engineering phase and construction of Fleet Maintenance and Training Tower. In addition, the Fire Board requested Staff present finance estimates for the project at May's regular meeting. Commissioner Flynt was not eligible to vote as she was attending via telephone rather than in person.

New Business:

Habitat for Humanity currently leases South Walton Fire District's property located at 110 County Highway 393 South in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida. Steve Buffington, Vice President of Walton County Habitat for Humanity, informed the Fire Board that Habitat for Humanity is under contract to buy another location. However, Habitat for Humanity's desire is to remain at 110 County Highway 393 South. Mr. Buffington requested the Fire Board consider selling the property to Habitat for Humanity. A restricted appraisal

report was presented to the Fire Board. The discussion was tabled until the next Fire Board's regular meeting. The Fire Board requested a proposal from Habitat for Humanity be presented at the Fire Board's meeting scheduled for May 8, 2017.

Included in the Board Packet was a request from Regional Utilities to waive review fees for Parcel 29-2S-19-24000-010-0020 in Walton County, Florida.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Cooper and seconded by Commissioner Christenson, the Board unanimously approved to waive the review fees.

Public Comment: None

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.