

SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2018

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

Commissioners Present: Tom Cooper, Charlotte Flynt, Maurice Gilbert, Thomas McGee, Mike Stange

Commissioners Absent: Brian Christenson, Jack Abbit

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Fire Chief Talbert presented SWFD's Fire Board Chairman, Maurice Gilbert, with a plaque in recognition and appreciation of his twenty years of service to South Walton Fire District.

Fire Chief Talbert presented each Fire Commissioner with a coin in recognition of SWFD's 35th anniversary.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Cooper and seconded by Commissioner McGee, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the January 8, 2018, Board of Fire Commissioners regular meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: Commissioner Flynt read the December 2017 cash report into the record.

Attorney's Report: Rene Youell

On a motion duly made by Commissioner McGee and seconded by Commissioner Cooper, the Board unanimously approved Attorney Youell's January 2018 billing statement.

Fire Chief's Report:

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

Chief Talbert thanked the Fire Commissioners for attending SWFD's Fleet Maintenance/Logistics Building and Training Tower groundbreaking ceremony.

Chief Talbert introduced SWFD's Customer Service Specialist Lori Brown.

Chief Talbert thanked the commissioners who attended SWFD's 10th Annual Awards ceremony in Sandestin on February 10, 2018.

Chief Talbert along with members of staff attended the Fire Rescue East Training Conference in Daytona Beach on January 16-19, 2018.

Chief Talbert attended a Florida Association of Special Districts Board meeting and Legislative Day in Tallahassee on January 16, 2018.

SWFD's Chaplaincy program was implemented in January 2018.

SWFD's staff attended the Walton County Tourist Development Council's (TDC's) beach season kickoff meeting. Staff reviewed SWFD's role as well as the new rules affecting the safety of Walton County beaches.

SWFD's Human Resource Coordinator and Fiscal Officer hosted a benefit showcase for all SWFD's personnel.

Chief Talbert previously sent an outline and status to the Fire Commissioners of several SWFD projects projected to complete in 2018. Chief Talbert stated that as SWFD recognizes its 35th year of existence, staff is embarking upon one of their most ambitious years in our history.

SWFD's Beach Safety Division began hiring and training for its 13th season. SWFD's current contract with Walton County/TDC will expire after the 2018 season.

Staff submitted SWFD's Fleet Maintenance/Logistics Building and Training Tower project to the Triumph Committee for consideration for Triumph/BP funds as a shovel-ready project. A letter from the Triumph Committee was included in the board packet that stated the project outlined in SWFD's pre-application meets the minimum requirements for further consideration. SWFD was invited to submit a full Application for formal consideration.

Chief Talbert reminded the Fire Board that SWFD Administrative offices will be closed February 19th for Presidents Day.

Chief Talbert reminded the Fire Board and Human Relations Committee that labor negotiations will begin in 2018.

The next SWFD Board of Fire Commissioners meeting will be held Monday, March 12, 2018, at 4:00 p.m.

Committee Reports: None

Unfinished/Old Business: None

New Business: Fiscal Officer Martin presented a Board Action Item whereas Staff recommended renewing SWFD's engagement of Warren Averett, LLC to perform its audits for the fiscal years 2018, 2019 and 2020 by signing the engagement letter presented to the Fire Board.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Flynt and seconded by Commissioner Stange, the Board unanimously approved to retain the audit services of Warren Averett, LLC for the fiscal years 2018, 2019 and 2020. Chairman Gilbert signed the engagement letter.

Public Comment: None

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.