

SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2019

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

Commissioners Present: Jack Abbit, Brian Christenson, Tom Cooper, Charlotte Flynt, Mark B. Foley, Maurice Gilbert

Commissioners Absent: Mike Stange

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Gilbert announced a change in the agenda order to discuss the 2017-2018 Audit report. Kevin Bowyer with Warren Averett presented the Board of Fire Commissioners with a copy of the 2017-2018 Audit Report and advised the Board of Fire Commissioners of SWFD's excellence in fiscal reporting. Mr. Bowyer also stated that the District is in sound fiscal condition. On a motion duly made by Commissioner Christenson and seconded by Commissioner Flynt, the Board unanimously accepted the 2017-2018 Audit Report as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cooper to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2018, Board of Fire Commissioners regular meeting. Commissioner Flynt requested that the minutes be amended to include her re-appointment to the Pension Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Christenson, the Board unanimously approved the amended minutes of the December 10, 2018, Board of Fire Commissioners regular meeting.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Abbit and seconded by Commissioner Cooper, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the December 17, 2018, Board of Fire Commissioners Special meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: Chairman Flynt read the November 2018 cash report into the record.

Attorney's Report:

There was much discussion regarding the upcoming Fire Chief's contract. Commissioner Flynt suggested that the Fire Chief's contract be brought before the Fire Board for approval prior to its execution. On a motion duly made by Commissioner Christenson and seconded by Commissioner Abbit, the Board unanimously agreed that the Fire Chief's contract be brought before the Fire Board for final approval before executing.

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

In December, SWFD hosted its annual holiday celebration at the Embassy Suites.

Chief Talbert and District Chief Hughes attended the Florida Firefighter Safety and Health Conference in Orlando on December 10-12, 2018.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Michael, Staff notified the Florida Firefighter Safety and Health Collaborative of the need to assist Springfield Fire Department in obtaining a storage shed for their equipment. SWFD received \$2,000 from the Florida Firefighter Safety and Health Collaborative and presented it to the Springfield Fire Department.

SWFD hosted its annual Polar Plunge at Ed Walline Public Beach Access on January 1, 2019. It was well attended and raised \$3,000.

Five new probationary Firefighters began orientation on Monday, January 7, 2019.

SWFD's Beach Safety Proposal was the sole submittal and was accepted by the Walton BCC to negotiate a contract. Staff attended a Walton County Board of County Commissioners meeting on January 19, 2019, whereas SWFD's contract was approved to include year-round guards for a four-year period.

SWFD's honor guard members represented SWFD at the Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service on December 7, 2018, at the Florida State Fire College.

SWFD is currently advertising for a communications supervisor.

SWFD provided dedicated EMS support at the New Year's festivities at Baytowne Wharf.

Various training initiatives are ongoing; trench rescue, rope assisted rescue and aerial operations training.

The Next Fire Board Meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2019.

Administrative offices will be closed January 21, 2019, in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

Committee Reports: The Audit Committee met January 11, 2019. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the South Walton Fire District's 2017/2018 Audit with Kevin Bowyer of Warren Averett, Certified Public Accountants and Consultants.

Unfinished/Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.