

SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2019

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

Commissioners Present: Jack Abbit, Brian Christenson, Charlotte Flynt, Mark B. Foley (arrived 4:04 pm), Maurice Gilbert, Mike Stange (arrived 4:04 pm)

Commissioners Absent: Tom Cooper

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Chairman Gilbert announced that there was a quorum present.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Christenson and seconded by Commissioner Abbit, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the February 11, 2019, Board of Fire Commissioners meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: Commissioner Flynt read the January 2019 cash report into the record.

Attorney's Report:

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Abbit and seconded by Commissioner Christenson, the Board unanimously approved Attorney Youell's February 2019 billing statement.

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Crawford reviewed the Emergency Response Report which included Beach Safety Response and the False Alarm Report.

Chief Crawford reported that SWFD experienced a significant commercial fire the morning of February 13, 2019. When the first SWFD units arrived on scene, the structure was found fully involved with partial collapse. Conditions were challenging with strong winds from the north that effectively pushed fire onto the adjacent residences. Firefighters were able to keep fire from destroying the adjacent residences. Chief Crawford stated that he was extremely proud of SWFD's men and women for the job they performed by extinguishing the fire and preventing any additional loss of property.

Staff facilitated former Fire Chief Rick Talbert's retirement celebration on Friday, February 22nd at Sandestin Resort. The event was well attended. Chief Crawford thanked the Fire Commissioners that were able to attend. Chief Crawford reported that Chief Talbert expressed his gratitude to the team for a celebration that exceeded any expectations he had.

SWFD provided dedicated event support and incident management for the Seaside Half Marathon on Sunday, March 3, 2019.

Chief Crawford attended the Grand Opening of the Walton County Government Center in Freeport, Florida on February 27, 2019.

Lifeguards completed their initial 104-hour training and resumed their seasonal responsibilities at 14 tower locations. SWFD's Beach Safety season kicked off on Friday, March 1, 2019.

On March 12, 2019, Staff will be attending a regional FFSHC meeting that has been

facilitated by District Chief Brian Hughes (Collaborative Regional Coordinator) and hosted by Walton County Fire Rescue at the DeFuniak Springs Community Center. The State-Wide Peer Coordinator will be providing the presentation which is focused on Fire Service Peer Support Programs.

Chief Crawford provided an update on the Truck 2 incident. SWFD's Fleet Director met with Pierce (manufacturer of vehicle) Engineers to attempt to identify what caused the issue with the aerial malfunction. The after action identified a component defect inside one of the hydraulic valves that was described as a bur from machining when the vehicle was assembled. The component has been replaced while conducting further bench testing on the suspect harness. Ten-8 has repaired all damage to the apparatus and Staff is awaiting the completion of independent ladder testing to ensure structural integrity of the repairs. Once completed Ten-8 will return the apparatus to SWFD's fleet.

SWFD's annual employee Benefits Showcase is scheduled for March 14-15, 2019. Fire District employees will be rotated through HQ throughout these dates to afford them an opportunity to ask questions about our group health insurance, AFLAC, retirement planning and other benefits.

Chief Crawford announced the promotion of District Chief Brian Hughes to Assistant Chief of Operations to become effective Monday, April 1, 2019 and the promotion of Lt. Chris Kidder to District Chief effective Monday, April 15, 2019.

Chief Crawford stated that there are a significant number of proposed residential developments that have been processed through the Technical Review Committee. Cut sheets were provided in the board packets reflecting nearly 800 proposed residential properties. Most of these properties are proposed for the eastern area of South Walton.

Chief Crawford stated the he scheduled a strategic focus meeting with SWFD staff and Labor members for Friday March 29, 2019.

SWFD will be receiving a complete E-911 system replacement valued at \$385,000 as a result of a grant received through the State of Florida E-911 revenue.

A few upcoming items of note:

SWFD's Fire Chief Swearing In and Annual Awards Ceremony will occur March 16, 2019, 5:30pm at the Linkside Ballroom on Sandestin Resort. An invitation is included in the board packet.

Chief Crawford, Chief Hughes and Chief Kuehner will be attending the Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis - April 9 –13, 2019.

The next Board of Fire Commissioners meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2019 at 4pm.

Committee Reports:

Firefighter Pension Board Quarterly Report The pension fund lost 7.57% in the first quarter of the fiscal year. This is in line with the market and our loss was less than the average. Most of this loss has been made up in the first 2 months of the second quarter.

Unfinished/Old Business:

Board Action: Impact Fee Resolution 19-02

Fiscal Officer Carole Martin presented a Board Action whereas staff recommended the impact fees imposed on all new construction within the geographical boundary of South Walton Fire District shall be as follows:

- a. Single Family Residential new structures \$0.25 per square foot total under roof with a minimum of \$500
- b. Single Family Residential additions \$0.25 per square foot total under roof (with no minimum)
- c. Commercial new structures (including multi-family) \$0.75 per square foot total under roof with a minimum of \$1,500
- d. Commercial structure additions (including multi-family) \$0.75 per square foot total under roof (with no minimum)

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Abbit and seconded by Commissioner Flynt the Board unanimously approved Resolution 19-02 with an effective date of June 10, 2019.

Board Action: 235 S. Geronimo Street Property Assistant Chief Marc Anderson presented a Board Action whereas Staff recommended to allocate the funds for the purchase of 235 S. Geronimo Street property from the SWFD Building Reserve. The property purchase of \$360,000.00 with the associated surveys and assessments would total approximately \$375,000.00. The negotiated contract was included in the Board packet for the Fire Board’s final approval.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Flynt and seconded by Commissioner Christenson, the Board unanimously voted to allocate the funds from the Building Reserve and authorized Chairman Gilbert to execute the contract for South Walton Fire District.

New Business:

Board Action: Surplus Equipment Resolution 19-03

Assistant Chief Marc Anderson presented a Board Action whereas Staff recommended the approval of Resolution 19-03 Surplus Equipment and to proceed with disposition of one (1) 1999 Ford F350 (Ambulance) apparatus to the Northwest Florida State College.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Abbit and seconded by Commissioner Christenson, the Board voted to approve Resolution 19-03. Commissioner Flynt recused herself from the discussion and vote.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.