

SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT

911 North County Highway 393, Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 32459

"Prompt, Competent, Caring Response in Time of Need"



The Board of Fire Commissioners of the South Walton Fire District will hold a regular meeting on **February 8, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.** at the South Walton Fire District Administration building.

The agenda will include, but not be limited to the following:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting: 01.11.2021
- III. Secretary/Treasurer's Report
- IV. Attorney's Report
- V. Chief's Report
- VI. Committee Reports
Audit Committee Recommendation
Committee Chair Mike Stange
- VII. Unfinished/Old Business
Board Action: Fleet Maintenance and Logistics Building Closeout
Assistant Chief Marc Anderson
- VIII. New Business
Board Action: Surplus Equipment
District Chief Daniel LaTour
- IX. Public Comment*
- X. Adjournment

***Note:** Persons who wish to be placed on the agenda must contact the Administrative Assistant within five days of any meeting and provide the name of the person who will be speaking and the subject to be addressed. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the South Walton Fire District with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2021

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

Commissioners Present: Tom Cooper, Charlotte Flynt, Mark B. Foley, Maurice Gilbert, Mike Stange, Rick Talbert

Commissioners Absent: Brian Christenson

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Gilbert announced Assistant Chief Anderson's upcoming retirement and acknowledged his hard work and dedication to SWFD and its community. Fire Chief Crawford presented Assistant Chief Anderson with a shadow box of items representing his years of service.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Talbert and seconded by Commissioner Stange, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the January 11, 2021, Board of Fire Commissioners regular meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Flynt read the December 2020 cash report into the record.

Attorney's Report:

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Cooper and seconded by Commissioner Flynt, the Board unanimously approved Attorney Youell's January 2021 billing statement.

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Crawford reviewed the Emergency Response Activity Report which included Beach Safety Responses.

Chief Crawford reported that SWFD employees desiring a Covid-19 vaccination were given an opportunity to complete their vaccination. In addition, the Division Chief of EMS made arrangements through the Walton County Health Department should additional employees decide to receive the vaccination.

Annual Life-Scan employee physicals were conducted at SWFD Station 2 (WaterColor). These physicals are required of all high-risk personnel and available to full time support staff that elect to participate.

Fire District members attended the funeral services for Ocean City-Wright Fire Captain Lloyd Losinger on January 16, 2021.

As directed in the Fire Board's regular meeting in January, Fire Chief Crawford and Fire Board Chairman Gilbert interviewed Linda Edwards of Rumberger Kirk for consideration of SWFD's union negotiator position then proceeded with the execution of an engagement letter for services. An executive session shall be scheduled to introduce Ms. Edwards and provide an opportunity for the Fire Commissioners to share their priorities and direction with respect to the upcoming collective bargaining process.

Chief Crawford met with Walton County Administration to negotiate the interlocal agreement renewal to provide ambulance services in Walton County. This agreement includes a 2% increase in county funding for year one (1) of the agreement and

continues with the traditional annual escalator of 2-4% based upon consumer price index (CPI) for years 2-5. The proposed agreement is essentially a status quo renewal for another five-year period. Following counsel's review, the agreement will be placed on the Fire Board's March agenda for consideration.

Chief Crawford and staff attended the Walton County Board of County Commissioner's (WCBCC) meeting on January 26, 2021. The WCBCC continue contemplating revisions to Walton County's Beach Activities Ordinance that directly affect SWFD operations. SWFD staff addressed the WCBCC to reiterate SWFD's continued support to increase the double red flag penalty from the current \$100 to \$500 per occurrence. SWFD staff also shared concerns on proposed changes to the ordinance's definition of what constitutes a double red flag violation and recommended that the definition should continue to prohibit any contact with the wet sand. A public hearing was scheduled for February 16, 2021, at 9am at the South Walton Annex to proceed with formally amending the Beach Activities Ordinance.

In addition, Chief Crawford addressed the WCBCC to share SWFD's position that the beach bonfire permitting process was codified through a Fire Board adopted ordinance and resolution. The WCBCC directed its staff to work with SWFD to present an interlocal agreement to be considered that provides for the collection of a Walton County bonfire permit fee of \$50 in addition to the \$50 fee the SWFD currently collects. Following execution, this agreement would result in consumers paying \$100 for a beach bonfire permit; \$50 of which would be retained by SWFD and \$50 transmitted to Walton County. Chief Crawford met with County Administration to identify their expectations on the periodic transmittal of any permitting fees collected between the Fire District and Walton County and to identify solutions intended to keep administrative costs neutral. Following counsel's review, the agreement will be placed on the March meeting agenda for Fire Board consideration. Commissioner Talbert stated that he was opposed to collecting Walton County's bonfire fee without charging an admin fee.

Chief Crawford reported that SWFD's Beach Safety Division is preparing for the 2021 lifeguard season by actively recruiting new lifeguards and providing candidates with all training necessary to return seasonal lifeguards to Walton County beaches on March 1, 2021.

SWFD's EMS Division completed in-service training on LUCAS devices which will assist its crews by delivering high-quality, consistent chest compressions to sudden cardiac arrest patients. SWFD is excited to obtain this state-of-the-art medical equipment which will ultimately result in enhanced patient care for its community.

Chief Crawford informed the Fire Board that the approved remodel of the showers and kitchen area of the Station 3 crew living quarters is well underway and anticipated to be completed in late February.

In January, Chief Crawford attended a Florida Association of Special District's regular board meeting and quarterly general membership meeting and stated that staff will be tracking items in the legislative process that affect SWFD and will keep the Fire Board informed.

SWFD Administrative Offices will be closed February 15, 2021, in observation of President's Day.

The next regularly scheduled Board of Fire Commissioners meeting will be at 4pm on Monday, March 8, 2021.

The next Pension Board meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2021, at 2:30pm.

Committee Reports: The Audit Committee met February 8, 2021, to discuss the South Walton Fire District's contract renewal with Warren Averett, Certified Public Accountants and Consultants. Committee Chair Stange informed the board that although the committee has been pleased with Warren Averett, they voted to move forward with a Request for Proposal.

Unfinished/Old Business: Assistant Chief Anderson presented a Board Action Item to discuss a final change order totaling \$34, 585.00 for the Fleet Maintenance and Training Facility project.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Stange and seconded by Commissioner Flynt, the Board unanimously approved the final change order payment.

New Business: District Chief LaTour presented a Board Action whereas Staff recommended the approval of Resolution 2021-01 Surplus Equipment and to proceed with disposition of the following:

1. 2001 Freightliner Ambulance/Medic Master
VIN 1FVABPAL92HJ73914

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Talbert and seconded by Commissioner Cooper, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2021-01.

Public Comment: None

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.