

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 **July 10, 2023, 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. Public Comment*
- III. Approval of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting: 06.19.2023
- IV. Secretary/Treasurer's Report
- V. Attorney's Report
Trademark Update
- VI. Chief's Report
- VII. Committee Reports
- VIII. Unfinished/Old Business
Board Action Item: Proposed Millage Rate and First Public Hearing Date for FY2023/2024
Fiscal Officer Carole Martin

Board Action Item: Request to Reschedule the September 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the South Walton Fire District
Fiscal Officer Carole Martin
- IX. New Business
- X. Public Comment*
- XI. 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 concerning 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 – July 10, 2023

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

Commissioners Present: Brian Christenson, Charlotte Flynt, Mark Foley, Phil Friday, Maurice Gilbert, Roger Hall, Mike Stange

Commissioners Absent: None

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Chairman Gilbert announced that there was a quorum present.

Public Comment: Members of the public were invited to comment. There was no public comment.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Friday and seconded by Commissioner Christenson, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the June 19, 2023, Board of Fire Commissioners' regular meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Flynt read the May 2023 cash report into the record.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Youell reported that no time frame has been provided for approval of SWFD's Trademark application.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Foley and seconded by Commissioner Hall, the Board unanimously approved Attorney Youell's June 2023 billing statement.

Fire Chief's Report:

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

David "DJ" Stone began new employee orientation on July 10, 2023, and holds the position of Division Chief of Training. Chief Stone has worked in the emergency services field for more than twenty-four years and recently retired from Fort Walton Beach Fire Department as a Battalion Chief. Chief Stone served as an instructor at several regional fire academies and taught at professional fire conferences around the nation.

Chief Crawford and SWFD's EMS Division leadership attended a ribbon cutting for the Walton County Sheriff's Office's new medical helicopter service on June 28, 2023. Walton Air Rescue will be based in DeFuniak Springs and is intended to provide critical access to healthcare supporting the northern parts of Walton County.

PIO McClintock attended a large-scale multi-day UAV/drone exercise in Tallahassee. The exercise was sponsored by Florida State University. Participants had the opportunity to collaborate with other public sector drone operators from around Florida as they roll-played in a simulated disaster response exercise.

The Walton County Sheriff's Office hired a new County 911 Coordinator. The County 911 Coordinator is primarily responsible for call routing procedures and procuring state funding to maintain all 911 infrastructure.

SWFD went "live" with the ESINET (Emergency Services IP Network). All 911 lines have been moved from legacy copper phone lines to fiber-optic lines. This enhanced infrastructure was funded through a state grant. Benefits include faster call transfer

times between public safety answering points (or call centers) and greater redundancy with the fiber networks hosted on both Century Link and Unity fiber networks.

Assistant Chief LaTour, Communications Director Perez, and a couple SWFD Communications Lieutenants are scheduled to attend the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Conference in Nashville the week of August 7, 2023. This conference is the premier event for public safety communications officials, frontline telecommunicators, comm center managers, and public safety communications equipment vendors and includes several days of educational sessions, committee meetings, and vendor exhibits.

The week of August 21, 2023, SWFD will host two Emergency Vehicle Operations Courses, three supervisory Risk Control for Mid-Level Managers for SWFD officers and supervisors, and a train-the-trainer course covering both Safe Trailer Operations and UTV/ATV operations. These classes are all offered through our insurer VFIS.

Chief Crawford is scheduled to attend the Florida Fire Chiefs Executive Development Conference and state committee meetings in Southwest Florida July 12-19, 2023. District Chief Kidder is also scheduled to attend and will be completing the final module of the Emergency Services Leadership Institute track.

SWFD will celebrate its 40th anniversary providing emergency services to the citizens and visitors of South Walton. The District was created on August 9, 1983, through County Ordinance with SWFD's charter later to be codified by a special act of the Florida Legislature. Throughout the rest of the year, the SWFD administration has planned several ways to bring public attention to the District's historical accomplishments in serving our community and honoring the past

SWFD's Proposed Budget Public Workshop is scheduled at 2 pm on Thursday, August 31, 2023.

The next regularly scheduled Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting will be on Monday, August 14, 2023, at 4 p.m. at SWFD's Administrative Office.

Committee Reports: None

Unfinished/Old Business: Fiscal Officer Martin presented a Board Action whereas Staff respectfully recommended that a millage rate of 1.0000 be set by the Board for inclusion in the required Truth in Millage (TRIM) notice. The DR-420 must be submitted with the proposed millage rate and a First Public Hearing date before the August board meeting. Staff recommends a First Public Hearing be held Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 5:01 pm and the Final Public Hearing be held Saturday, September 9 at 8:00 am.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Flynt and seconded by Commissioner Christenson, the Board unanimously approved a tentative millage rate of 1.0000 for inclusion in the required Truth in Millage (TRIM) notice with a First Public Hearing to be held at 5:01 pm on Tuesday, September 5, 2023.

Fiscal Officer Martin presented a Board Action for the Fire Board to consider moving their regular meeting from 4 pm on September 11, 2023, to September 5, 2023, at 4 pm to coincide with the First Public Hearing.

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Christenson and seconded by Commissioner Foley, the Board unanimously approved moving their regular meeting to September 5, 2023, at 4 pm.

New Business: None

Public Comment: Members of the public were invited to comment. There was no public comment.

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.