

**Minutes for the Meeting of  
the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District Board of Commissioners**

August 23, 2023 10:00 am  
Diamondhead Beach Resort  
2000 Estero Boulevard

In attendance: Chairman John Bennett, Vice-Chairman Larry Wood, Secretary/Treasurer Jim Knickle, Commissioner Ron Fleming, Commissioner Jacki Lyszak, Fire Chief Scott Wirth, Finance Director Jane Thompson, District members.

1. **Meeting Called to Order** 10:00am
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Adoption of Agenda** [Discussion/Approval]

Commissioner Lyszak motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Knickle seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

4. **Restate Agenda Items** [Information]
5. **Public Input on Non-Agenda Items** –*none*
6. **Consent Agenda** [Approval]

*Items listed are considered routine and action will be taken by one motion; if a Commissioner desires discussion, the specific item will be removed during the Adoption of the Agenda and considered separately.*

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 26, 2023
- B. Checks approval 48256 – 48307 total \$114,792.50

Commissioner Fleming motioned to approve the consent agenda, Commissioner Wood seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

7. **Unfinished Business**

- A. Fire Chief Agreement [Discussion/Public Input/Action]

Commissioner Wood motioned to approve the Fire Chief agreement, Commissioner Knickle seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

- B. Preliminary Budget [Introduction/Discussion/Public Input/Approval].

Chief Wirth presented the preliminary budget for fiscal year 2023/2024.

The Board had no questions. Chairman Bennett shared that each board member has had the opportunity to sit down individually with administration and review the proposed budget in detail. The Board thanked Jane Thompson for her hard work.

Commissioner Wood motioned to accept the presented Preliminary Budget as the District's official Proposed Budget for the September 13, 2023 Tentative Budget Hearing, Commissioner Fleming seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

## 8. **New Business**

### A. Fee Schedule Review [Introduction/Discussion/Public Input/Approval]

Chief Wirth presented the proposed changes to the fee schedule.

Commissioner Liszak motioned to approve the fee schedule changes,

Commissioner Knickle seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

### B. Surplus Capital Items [Discussion/Public Input/Action]

Chief Wirth presented the surplus equipment list with two proposed motions.

Commissioner Bennett motioned to donate one surplus engine to the Bonita Fire Academy, Commissioner Liszak seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Fleming motioned to surplus two ambulances, Commissioner Wood seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

### C. Board Policy Review [Information/Discussion]

The board agreed they would all review the policy individually and a most recent copy was requested.

## 9. **Fire Chief Remarks** [Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth along with District members recently attended the Firehouse Subs Grant presentation. The grant will replace extrication equipment and tools with a total value of \$61,000. Chief Wirth thanked Firehouse Subs and the local stores for their support.

Chief Wirth briefly discussed an issue with bunker gear containing PFAS and how that is affecting purchase of new gear. He thanked Captain Chilson for his work and research on the topic. The Safety Committee is in the process of enacting best practice regarding this issue.

Chief Wirth hopes to have information next month on the Town property assessments as well as a new station site.

Chief Wirth highlighted Life Safety Specialist Ben Noelle as August 30<sup>th</sup> is his last day.

The District thanks Ben for all of his hard work.

The Districts thoughts are with the residents and crews in Hawaii after the recent Maui fires.

## 10. **Commissioners Remarks** [Information]

Commissioner Fleming thanked Jane for her hard work on the budget and congratulated Chief Wirth on his contract. He is pleased with the fees not increasing and that some are going down and thinks this will help the island as it recovers. He looks forward to information on the property.

Commissioner Knickle congratulated Chief Wirth. He thanked LSS Genevrino for his help with Knox Boxes and was impressed with the service provided to the community. He remarked everyone did a great job on the budget.

Commissioner Liszak congratulated Chief Wirth and thanked Jane. She encourages everyone to share that the beach is open to increase tourism.

Commissioner Wood thanked Jane and Chief for their hard work on budget and thanked Chief and Fire Official Campbell for their work on fee schedule. He congratulated Chief Wirth on his contract.

Chairman Bennett congratulated Chief Wirth and shared that he is looking forward to working with him in the coming years. He thanked Jane and Chief Wirth for their work on the budget and thanked staff for work on the fee schedule. He thanked the Firehouse Sub Foundation for their grant. He extended congratulations to Ben Noelle and wished him the best. He concluded by thanking the on shift crew for attending the meeting.

**11. Adjournment** – 11:09am