

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
OF THE  
FT MYERS BEACH BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
TIME 7:00 PM  
DATE: October 09, 2007  
PLACE: Ft. Myers Beach Town Hall  
2523 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach, FL**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chairman John Scanlon, Sec./Treasurer Betty Goodacre, Commissioner Joe Schmid, Commissioner Carol Morris, Chief Mike Becker, Assistant Chief Larry Evans, Network Administrator Joe LaCroix, Administrative Director Margaret Banyan, Attorney Richard Pringle, Firefighters, and Interested Citizens

Meeting called to Order by Chairman Scanlon at 7:00 pm

Moment of silence for our troops  
**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion presented Chairman Scanlon to approve the regular meeting on September 11, 2007 seconded by Commissioner Goodacre, discussion on minutes per Commissioner Schmid, seconded by Chairman Scanlon. Commissioner Schmid discussed about military time and regular time, use just one form. On the treasurer's report check no. 031191 should be 031991. About mutual aid to Bonita should be automatic aid not mutual aid, page 2. About Chief of Bonita being present at October meeting but because no longer perusing matter of aid the chief did not need to be present. Discussion continued about under the attorney's part about price reduction of Stations 32 and 33 contracts, attorney will confirm amounts. Commissioner Schmid name spelled wrong. In the part about not liking structure, should be reporting structure, did not put who voted for or against when 3-2 vote on page 4, under commissioners remarks Commissioner Schmid recognized employee service, and said should consider hiring efficiency expert temporarily about reviewing administrative office staff workloads. All changes will be made and minutes amended. Chairman Scanlon motion to approve amended minutes Commissioner Goodacre seconded approved unanimously, 4-0.

Motion to approved September 4, 2007 tentative budget hearing minutes by Commissioner Schmid, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Discussion; Commissioner Morris, about passing millage rate on September 4<sup>th</sup> does it need to pass twice, yes, one tentative, one decisive. Motion to approve Chairman Scanlon, unanimous, 4-0.

Motion to approve Final Budget Hearing minutes on September 17, 2007, Commission Morris, Chairman Scanlon seconded. Attorney Pringle discussed the word tentative needs to be final under public input on page 1 and continuing under Commission Goodacres to adopt proposed millage should be final millage rate. Motion to approve amended minutes by Chairman Scanlon, approved unanimously, 4-0.

Sec. /Treasurer Goodacre read the treasure's report for the record. Motion to approve minutes Commissioner Schmid and seconded by Chairman Scanlon. No discussion approved unanimously, 4-0.

Approval of checks 032165 thru 032290 for a total of \$416,453.62, motion to approve checks presented by Chairman Scanlon, seconded by Commission Schmid. Discussion about voided check, Chief Becker clarified about Russ Baker from Iona helping out while Jane Thompson is out and that Russ inadvertently had wrong bundle of checks and first check was voided. Chairman Scanlon motion to approve. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

### **Chief's Report**

Chief Becker first recognized the district employee's anniversaries. Introduces Margaret Banyan, new Administration Director. Margaret introduces herself and gives her background to the Commissioners. On construction the projects are moving forward; Station 32 with demolition scheduled for Friday October 12, 2007 and Fire Marshall Collins will make daily visits and updates to Chief then will forward to board, if anyone wants to visit please obtain permission. As of October 1, 2007 temporary operations at the USCG station has begun and service continues at the temporary location of the Carousel Hotel. Also, on October 1, 2007 Fowler Construction took control of both properties to limit liability for the district during construction. Union negotiations are proceeding and a tentative agreement was reached with District 3 and District 15 has a meeting next week, all tentative agreements will be going to Attorney Hamet for legal review and opinions and should be before commissioners for November meeting for ratification. Ambulance committee is completing process on research of replacement of current ambulances, in November's meeting specification should be coming to board for consideration to take bids for consideration to purchase the new ambulances. Accident with Engine 32 received check for \$345,000.00 but still have outstanding issues, awaiting final report from State Fire Marshall and FHP criminal report once received will disperse reports to commissioner to conclude the process. Item on agenda request to waiver fees on Pirate Festival.

### **Attorney's Report**

Attorney Pringle provided updates about boundary legislation, he will be attending local delegation meeting on November 29, working on sponsor for Senate and House of Representatives for legislation, preparing draft, then will be ready to go for regular legislative session in the spring. Contracts for Station 32 and 33 are complete and Fowler Construction has started work in both locations. Wachovia loan documents should be ready for approval in the November meeting.

### **Public Input**

William Van Duzer representing the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce Chairman and Pirate Festival, also representing Fort Myers Beach Lion's Club and Florida's Lions Camp. Reconsider action taken by board on fees for the Pirate's Festival, the special events fee charged for \$1922.56, in the past fire board has exempted fees. The income made from festival will go to the Florida's Lions Camp (Lake Wales) for disabled children, no cost to children to attend the camp. Mr. Van Duzer explained about the camp and asked for consideration of fees to be waived.

Chairman Scanlon restated the agenda items:

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Item #1 Pirate Festival Waiver of Fees

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

**1. Pirate Festival Waiver of Fees**

Motion made by Chairman Scanlon to waive fees to Pirate Festival. Sec. / Treasure Goodacre seconded. Discussion Commissioner Morris question about doing the waiver of fees automatically why it cannot be done; Chief Becker answered with as the board changes this board cannot commit the boards in the years to come to continue to a specific action. What expenses do the fire department incur for festivals, Chief Becker explained that fire inspectors need to inspect and provide extra ambulance for festival, fees based on overtime rates, resources and staffing, which generates invoice, which is where the fee comes from, it is what policy calls for. Commissioner Morris asked if the fee is that the district is making a donation to the festival, Chief Becker stated the fee is to reimburse the district for costs incurred, because any costs do come from budget. Commissioner Schmid asked why extra ambulance needed; Chief Becker explained that population determines how much staffing is needed and expenses are incurred for any special event, the district can bill for any expense. Commissioner Morris asked why we just cannot be available from station instead of being on site; Chairman Scanlon explained that it is like having a first aid station available because you do not want to take services away from say a heart attack victim that is home while you are doing first aid at the festival. Sec. / Treasurer Goodacre asked if inspection was needed before start of festival, Chief Becker said yes part of the permit process. Chairman Scanlon

explained that normally fees are not waived but because it is charitable organization consideration of to waiver fees. Commissioner Morris just wanted to be sure that the costs needed to be incurred, or if there was any way to eliminate or reduce the costs. Chairman Scanlon motion to approve the waiver of fees for Pirate Festival passed unanimously, 4-0.

Mr. Van Duzer commented to say thank you, and will make sure the district is recognized for donation.

## **Other Business**

### **Reports from Union Representative**

Tom Edge said great progress on union negotiations. Station 32 closed and has moved to the Coast Guard Station and everything is moving along in a positive direction.

### **Remarks of Commissioners**

Commissioner Morris had question for chief's report about getting a new fire truck due to other vehicle being totaled. Chief answered that a new truck will cost more now then the original truck purchased, also which type of new truck will be purchased, need research to find what will meet district needs. The check for the totaled truck was at market value and not replacement value. The commissioner also asked about the scanning of documents and about hiring someone to do all the scanning, and which documents need to be scanned and not keeping all the paperwork that date back to the beginning. Chief answered that once program is installed will research which documents need to be held on to and how far back they have to be held. Attorney Pringle remarked that seven years is rule of thumb for keeping documents, and certain records that district may want to keep and you can choose to keep certain ones, should consider which ones want to be kept and what to do with other ones. Once information is together who can search it online. Joe LaCroix answered that web access that is security based, where some documents can be available to anyone and certain documents only available to people who have access. Anything that is public record will be available. We are working as fast as we can to get program active and once design base done but should be ready in about a month.

Commissioner Schmid welcomed Margaret, and recognized employees for service, and the crew who delivered the baby in the ambulance. Checked with Chief about activities for Fire Prevention Week, the chief answered about Lynn Hall Park and different things at the school.

Sec. /Treasurer Goodacre recognized employees for service, glad to have Margaret on board, great to have baby girl, and stated that she was having lunch at the beach school and the kids loved Sparky (Randy Fowlides) at event held at school, will bring pictures from event at school.

Chairman Scanlon recognizes employees for service, glad to help the Lion's Camp and welcome to Margaret.

**Public Input**

No Public Input

**Adjournment**

Call for adjournment of meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm on October 9, 2007.