

MINUTES
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE
FT. MYERS BEACH BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
TIME: 1:00 PM
DATE: March 17, 2009
PLACE: 3043 Estero Blvd., Station 31 Meeting Room
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

IN ATTENDANCE: Vice-Chairman Ted Reckwerdt, Sec./Treasurer Betty Goodacre, Commissioner Joe Schmid, Commissioner Carol Morris, Attorney Richard Pringle, Chief Mike Becker, Assistant Chief Larry Evans, Finance Director Jane Thompson, Administrative Director Margaret Banyan, District members and members of the public.

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt at 1:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence for our troops

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt called for a motion to approve the February 17, 2009 regular monthly meeting minutes. Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt motioned to approve. Sec./Treasurer Goodacre seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously 4 – 0.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt requested Sec./Treasurer Goodacre read the Treasurer's report.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre read the February 2009 Treasurer's Report for the record.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre reviewed the summary of bank and investment account activities for month ending February 28, 2009.

- A. Sec./Treasurer Goodacre asked for approval of department checks #034461 through #034574 for a total of \$166,507.99. Commissioner Schmid motioned to approve the department checks. Sec./Treasurer Goodacre seconded. Department checks were approved unanimously 4 - 0.
- B. Sec./Treasurer Goodacre asked for approval of capital projects fund checks #030089 for a total of \$4,623.00. Commissioner Schmid motioned to approve the CPF checks. Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt seconded. CPF checks were approved unanimously 4 – 0.

Chief's Report

Swearing In Ceremony

Chief Becker proceeded to swear in Tory Vagle into the rank of Captain.

Chief Becker recognized and presented Mike Charette with his 25 years of service plaque.

Chief recognized employees with years of service:

F.F. Kyra Adams	3 years
F.F. David Beers	3 years

Capt Jeff Adams	10 years
F.F. Shawn Campbell	18 years
F.F. Mike Charette	25 years

Chief Becker reviewed items on the Chief's report.

Chief Becker noted that the MDA Boot Drive raised over \$4,000.00.

Chief Becker stated Asst. Chief Evans is working on getting bids for the transfer switch for Station 31.

Chief Becker reviewed the Chief's recommendations for agenda items.

Chief Becker reiterated the decision to go to a smaller ambulance to replace ambulance 31. Chief Becker stated the replacement ambulance has been budgeted and the new ambulance finalized the revitalization elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

Chief Becker stated the primary goal with the AVL program is to assess the system and determine the benefits and costs for the District.

Commissioner Morris asked who sponsors the Traffic Committee.

Chief Becker stated it is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, participants of the town, and the Sheriff's office.

Commissioner Morris asked if it could be noted who the participants are and if the meetings are held at Station 32.

Chief Becker stated the Traffic Committee meeting is held at the Chamber. The Town of Fort Myers Beach and Bay Oaks has been using Station 32 for a separate meeting.

Commissioner Morris asked if other organizations could utilize Station 32 for meetings and if a fee was permissible.

Chief Becker stated the goal was to abide by the specifications of Homeland Security. The building is not very user friendly due to access restraints but certain accommodations could be made for meetings.

Commissioner Morris asked if there were any restrictions for charging for groups or organizations if they use the station for meetings.

Attorney Pringle responded that as long as county guidelines were followed; it would be permissible to charge a fee to use the facility for meetings.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt noted to keep in mind the operation of the station.

Commissioner Morris asked what size generator Station 31 had and if the purchase of a new generator would be more cost effective since they come with their own transfer switch.

Chief Becker stated it was a 50,000 lb. generator and recalled that the generator for Station 33 was approximately \$50,000.00.

Commissioner Schmid stated he had reviewed the budget revenue and expenses for the first five months of this year vs. the first five months of last year and expenses are up and revenue is down. Commissioner Schmid stated the District needs to do something to contain cost and he hopes this will be discussed during the workshop.

Chief Becker stated Commissioner Schmid had brought this to his attention. Chief Becker researched the numbers and noted some items that impacted operating expenses; VEBA funding, bunker gear, furniture and fixtures for the new buildings. The other impact to consider is the operation of all the buildings. Once those figures were adjusted, the numbers were more in line. Several items such as this item need to be discussed in a workshop to get feedback from the Commissioners to make decisions for short term and the next fiscal year budgeting. Chief Becker asked that the Board consider the workshop to discuss these items along with management to make decisions in the best interest of the community due to economic conditions.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated if the meeting is too soon there may not be enough data to do a good analysis.

Chief Becker stated a workshop would offer the District an opportunity to discuss the areas of concern and determine what items may be adjusted and bring them before the Board at a regular meeting.

Commissioner Morris stated even though items have been budgeted does not mean they cannot be cut and there may be some items that are not budgeted that will be needed. If the District can cut some items this year without impacting the staff support, it would be easier to cut now with assessments dropping.

Chief Becker stated that would be an item of discussion during this workshop.

Commissioner Schmid asked what the 501 for CERT means.

Chief Becker stated it is an incorporation process where CERT becomes its own corporation and can raise money separate of the District and apply for tax exempt credits. Chief Becker will be working with Al Agathen to look at the impact and come up with the best solution.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated as the advisor to the Board for the construction of the new buildings after review of the change orders for the new buildings there may have been some change orders not needed but approved so the process was not delayed or stopped. There is \$20,000.00 in question and the Board should determine if they would want to do an audit of the change orders.

Commissioner Schmid asked Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt if he felt we did the best to our ability in reviewing the change orders.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated yes.

Chief Becker stated the \$20,000.00 was a retainer for the contract. Chief Becker explained that during Tuscan's audit they would pull change orders, etc. based on the agreement between the architect firm and the construction firm to see if they matched up and if not they would question. Change orders were actually reviewed by the architect, construction and engineering firm before Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt and Chief Becker received.

Commissioner Morris asked who reviewed the change orders before they were signed.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated himself and Chief Becker. Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt noted the audit may cost more than any discrepancies.

Commissioner Morris asked what the audit would say different than the change orders that was brought before the Board.

Chief Becker stated the audit would review the contract versus the change orders to assure they were consistent with the contract.

Commissioner Schmid asked if the change orders that are in question could be brought before the Board and reviewed.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated he would bring them to the Board at the next regular meeting to review.

Commissioner Morris asked what the total percentage cost was above the contracted amount.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated it was less than one percent, but Chief Becker noted it was approximately four percent.

Discussion continued between the Board and Administration.

Attorney Report

Attorney Pringle stated he had several items for discussion, after providing instructions for public participation. Attorney Pringle stated the first topic was related to Commissioner Scanlon that appears as agenda item I. Attorney Pringle related that the Governor has taken action and followed the standard policy, which is to temporarily suspend Commissioner Scanlon, who has a pending felony charge. The suspension will continue until the outcome of his cases. An executive order came to Attorney Pringle Friday confirming the temporary suspension. Under Florida Statutes Chapter 112.52 the Governor can take action to fill the position on a temporary basis. Attorney Pringle stated that after talking with the Governor's office if Commissioner Scanlon resigns or is found guilty, then an automatic vacancy becomes available. The Board would at that time appoint a replacement to sit until the next general election in 2010. The Governor's office has asked Attorney Pringle if the Board would like to suggest any names as a temporary replacement. The Governor's Attorney stated not to rank the list, to just provide a list if the Board so desires. The process of recommending names may be to submit names and take action and vote on each name. Names with a majority vote can then be sent to the Governor's Attorney, or the Board can give the appointment decision to the Governor. The public can also contact the Governor to be selected as well.

Commissioner Morris stated she thought there was an official letter from the Governor to fill the vacancy and asked which offices Chapter 112.52 deals with or just the Fire Dept. If someone resigns from the Board is there a statute for the Governor to fill and why would it be different because of a conviction situation versus a resignation.

Attorney Pringle stated he discussed this with the Governor's Attorney and it was determined that on a temporary replacement the Governor interprets Chapter 112.52 to say if an elected official is charged with a felony unless the governing body has a rule that governs the replacement, the Governor's office argues he has the authority to replace on a temporary basis. This is referenced in the executive order.

Commissioner Morris asked if someone is appointed from the Board's suggestion or by the Governor's choice would it be for the temporary situation and if then convicted, a permanent opening would come up and the Board would fill the position.

Attorney Pringle stated that is the position of the Governor's Attorney. Today it is the Board's discretion to give a list to the Governor's office or do nothing.

Commissioner Schmid asked if there is anyone in the audience today, they should announce their intent.

Attorney Pringle stated when the agenda allows that individual can make their intentions known. Even if they are not present today, they can still send their name into the Governor's office for consideration.

Attorney Pringle stated the Board could recommend to the Governor's office that the Board run as is for the time being.

Attorney Pringle stated he has amended the Medical Director's contract to extend the term and made sure the amendment provides that all other terms and conditions remain in full force and effect with the approval of the addendum.

Request for qualifications for insurance consultants and the five responses have been reviewed and they seem to be in order and can be considered based on their merits.

Only one response for the Ambulance RFP for services was received and it has all affirmations signed and is sufficient for the Boards consideration.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt restated the agenda items.

Public Input on Agenda Items

Beach resident David Saunders provided public input. Mr. Saunders asked if the public can speak on all of the agenda items now or as they come up. Mr. Saunders asked what the Medical Director does.

Chief Becker stated the Medical Director's responsibilities.

Mr. Saunders asked what document dictates the procedure for the Board to replace the current vacancy.

Attorney Pringle stated there is none. Attorney Pringle stated the Governor will fill the temporary position. If it becomes permanent there is not a stated procedure or policy for the District to use. The Board will create the procedure at that time, putting it in the newspaper, etc.

Beach resident Al Agathen asked the Board for consideration to fill the vacant Board position on a temporary basis.

Beach resident Martin Palijan asked the Board for consideration to fill the vacant Board position on a temporary basis.

Mr. Saunders asked how long the public had to add their name to the list.

Attorney Pringle stated he tried to get more time from the Governor's office, but was it was not allowed. Attorney Pringle stated if the Board wants to say they do not want to make a decision today, Attorney

Pringle can relay that to the Governor's office. Individuals can also contact the Governor's office and add their name.

Mr. Saunders asked if there was a way to keep it open for a week so if there are any interested parties they could respond.

Attorney Pringle stated the Governor could make a selection at any time without the Board's direction. The Governor's Attorney stated he had to catch the Governor when he is available so there is no guarantee of time.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre noted the District is not dictated by the Town of Fort Myers Beach.

Commissioner Morris asked if the Governor's office contacted Attorney Pringle or if Attorney Pringle contacted the Governor's office about filling the position.

Attorney Pringle stated while he was on the phone with the Governor's office he asked the Governor's office what to do next.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt noted the Governor may have already appointed someone to fill the temporary position.

FF Troy Mesick – District 3 stated it was communicated to the staff that a process in the form of an RFQ for the Medical Director's contract coming up June 1, 2009 was going to be used. The District would like to see an RFQ created to assure the most qualified candidate for the medical direction in the same process as the engine and the insurance. FF Mesick noted the current broker did not get their quote in for the insurance RFQ. The contract states the District is not open for renewal of insurances until 2010. There is concern that the premium will increase to get similar insurance due to the discount our current agent is allowed and the District needs to make sure the coverage is the same if changing brokers.

Old Business

- A. Health Insurance RFQ** – Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated there are five participants that will be allowed to discuss their qualifications today.

Sharon Gall stated that Brown and Brown of Fort Myers is rescinding their RFQ since they are the sister company of Brown and Brown PRIA.

- 1) Sharon Gall Vice President of Employee Benefits discussed their qualifications as an agent which was outlined in their RFQ.

Commissioner Morris asked Ms. Gall why the agent would be an advocate of the District if they would only get the "\$10.00" fee and the commission from the insurance company or no commission if the District goes with the County.

Ms. Gall stated as an agent it would be their goal to give the facts and options from all the carriers for the District to consider and determine what company to choose.

Commissioner Schmid asked what companies PRIA represents.

Ms. Gall stated that PRIA represents Great West, Aetna, United Health Care, Cigna, and all other major health care providers. Ms. Gall continued to discuss their qualifications as an agent.

Commissioner Morris asked if PRIA was the agent of any other fire districts.

Ms. Gall stated they are not at this time.

- 2) Anna Maria Studley of Gehring Group discussed their qualifications as an agent which was outlined in their RFQ.

Commissioner Morris asked if Gehring services any other fire districts.

Ms. Studley stated yes.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt asked if Gehring had locations close by.

Ms. Studley noted they are located in Palm Beach Gardens, but they service many locations throughout Florida.

- 3) Dan Thompson - Gulfshore discussed their qualifications as an agent which was outlined in their RFQ.

Commissioner Morris asked what other fire departments they represent and what companies they go with.

Mr. Thompson stated currently they represent Bay Shore Fire District and North Fort Myers.

Commissioner Morris asked if the District went with Gulfshore would it benefit the three districts to go with one company.

Mr. Thompson stated it would not; they would be treated individually based on their risk profile.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt asked if there was a difference with transport, non-transport and fire.

Mr. Thompson stated the job titles do not play into a major role. The disability program would have a specialty definition for each job description.

- 4) Ken Hess – Oswald Trip (OTC) discussed their qualifications as an agent which was outlined in their RFQ.

Commissioner Morris asked if OTC services any other fire districts.

Mr. Hess stated they do not service any at this time. Mr. Hess stated OTC is locally owned and operated.

Commissioner Morris asked about the contract renewal regarding FF Mesick's comment about the contract renewal in 2010.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated the renewal comes up April 1, 2009.

FF Mesick stated the actual contract itself does not come open to negotiate for insurance until the 2010 union contract and if coverage is changed it has to be apple for apple coverage.

Commissioner Morris asked what the Board's role has been in the past.

Chief Becker stated the Board has never been in the position to ask what agent would best serve the District to negotiate the best insurance product. Today what is before the Board is the agent of record to work on behalf of the District to get the best possible price. Chief Becker noted there has never been a competitive process to select an agent of record.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated the past Board elected a carrier and the agent was assigned.

Chief Becker stated the labor contract is not in question; the only item for the Board today is the agent of record.

Chief Becker stated the Board has three options:

- 1) Move this process forward,
- 2) Table until next month; or
- 3) Reject the motion entirely

Attorney Pringle stated in the RFQ he prepared he gave as much latitude as possible to the Board for making a decision. Choices are to select one of the responders; not to select a responder, reject the process and do something different, or not complete the process and continue with the process the District has been doing in the past. The goal of the RFQ was to bring a competitive process to the Board.

Mr. Hess with OTC asked Chief Becker if the District still has a contract with GreatWest with a claim run out agreement.

Chief Becker stated the District is self funded with the run out claim agreement.

Commissioner Morris stated the Board should have asked the agents what their commission rate would be.

Attorney Pringle stated that is why in the RFQ it stated the \$10.00 commission paid by the District even if the District went with Lee County. The District could ask that each of the agents disclose their commission.

Commissioner Morris asked if the Board should get input from the staff since they are the ones getting the service. Commissioner Morris relayed her disappointment that the representative missing the deadline by eight minutes was rejected by the staff.

Chief Becker stated his hands were tied.

Attorney Pringle stated the staff could not make the decision; it would have to be brought before the Board to allow the late RFQ.

Commissioner Morris stated she was disappointed the decision was not brought before the Board.

Chief Becker stated the RFQ stated specifically how to deal with late respondents.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated the Board has three options they should vote on.

Attorney Pringle stated the Board has been given a sheet to rank the responses submitted and if the Board wants to proceed with the ranking of the respondents, they would be totaled and ranked.

Commissioner Schmid asked if the Board is still not sure, then the Board should table to the next meeting.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated someone on the Board would need to make a motion to table until the next meeting.

Attorney Pringle stated he called the Governor's Attorney and asked for more time to gather a list of interested parties for the temporary seat and it was approved. If the Board is going to motion to table this item, then the Board could schedule a special meeting and include both the temporary Board position and the agent of record for insurance.

Commissioner Schmid motioned to table the agent of record decision until the next meeting. Commissioner Morris seconded.

Commissioner Morris asked to amend the motion and consider some other agents that may want to come into the process.

Commissioner Schmid stated he would not amend his motion to consider any other agents who came in after the deadline.

Motion approved unanimously 4 – 0

Attorney Pringle restated the motion to table the item and when a meeting date is set Attorney Pringle will send out a notification to all the responders of the date and time.

Mr. Hess asked if the responders would have another opportunity to answer questions.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated there would be an opportunity for the agents to answer any other questions that may be posed.

Commissioner Morris asked to make another motion to request the general commission rates from the agents. Commissioner Schmid seconded.

Attorney Pringle stated the Board can request the rates, but the agents do not have to respond.

Motion approved unanimously 4 – 0.

- B. Ambulance RFP** – Chief Becker stated the Board has one RFP for the ambulance. Chief Becker noted that he contacted other vendors and they informally relayed that due to the specifications they did not want to respond. Chief Becker stated the one RFP is up for consideration if the Board chooses or they can reject it and start over. Chief Becker continued to discuss the decision process for the ambulance choice.

Chief Becker turned over the ambulance specifications to JR Curley with Elite Fire and Safety. Mr. Curley stated they took the current ambulance specifications and put a smaller chaise on the new design.

Commissioner Morris asked what the costs of the big ambulances were.

Mr. Curley stated around \$187,000.00 and the new ambulance would cost \$27,000.00 less.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre motioned to approve the vendor's proposal. Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt seconded.

Discussion continued between the Board.

Commissioner Morris suggested the District ask for a 10% discount since the economy is so tough.

Commissioner Schmid stated the Board should wait and see how the economy rebounds before making the purchase.

Chief Becker reminded the Board that the ambulance has been budgeted for.

Discussion continued between the Board.

Chief Becker asked the Board to give him some direction with the ambulance procurement. Chief Becker asked the Board to consider all the variables before making a decision and the impact it could have on the District if an ambulance goes out. Chief Becker is asking the taxpayers to remember the District has completed its revitalization and there would be no more costs to the taxpayers and the District is set for future demands. Any other fleet purchases would be at least six years away.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre stated she was involved with and worked on the Comprehensive Plan for the District and she feels the District should go ahead with the purchase since it has been budgeted. Chief Becker asked that the Board select a vendor and allow Attorney Pringle and himself to negotiate the pricing. Chief Becker stated he could supply the data if the Board would allow him to move forward with the vendor. Chief Becker noted if he cannot negotiate the pricing, then he can bring that back to the Board for consideration.

Commissioner Schmid asked if the specifications were too tight.

Chief Becker stated the specifications were very tight. The proficiency of the paramedics required the tight specifications to go from one truck to another and it is a benefit that cannot attach a cost to it. Chief Becker stated the District gave the other vendors the option to make substitutions, but the vendors chose not to respond.

Commissioner Schmid asked what amount was approved in the Comprehensive Plan.

Chief Becker stated the approved cost in the budget was \$200,000.00.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated the Board should not jeopardize the community's health and welfare because an ambulance is down for maintenance.

District's best interest to go forward with Dr. Lemmons' contract and continue the RFQ with the understanding there is a 45 day "out" clause.

Commissioner Schmid motioned to renew the Medical Director's contract. Commissioner Morris seconded.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated Dr. Lemmons is very strict and has a lot of cliental. If the District renews the contract the best direction would be to renew and then put the RFQ out.

Chief Becker stated the process is what needs to be scrutinized and benchmarks determined. Chief Becker noted it is important to identify the selection process to use with the understanding the District will use this process going forward.

Commissioner Morris asked how Lehigh Acres does their process.

Chief Becker stated Lehigh Acres and Lee Counties is using Dr. Lemmons and the District felt Dr. Lemmons was capable to handle the District.

Commissioner Morris asked how long the renewal is for.

Chief Becker stated it is for one year, to 2010. Chief Becker noted the contract allows for a 45 day clause to change the medical direction without any penalties. Chief Becker stated he feels the University of Miami is the direction the District should go to identify the benchmarks for the District. Chief Becker stated he could negotiate with the University of Miami the cost to define the selection process and Chief Becker could bring it to the Board.

Commissioner Schmid stated he didn't see the need to go out for a quote for the Medical Director and asked what benefit would the District see from it.

Chief Becker stated with the transition of Dr. Sharkey to Dr. Lemmons it was discussed with the Board that the District would go through a selection process and to date the District has not done this. In the past a group of paramedics and the medical officer interviewed the medical director. Chief Becker stated he could bring back to the Board a quote from the University of Miami with the cost outlined and the Board could choose that direction or determine another direction to take.

Motioned passed 3 - 1.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt - Nay
Sec./Treasurer Goodacre - Aye
Commissioner Morris - Aye
Commissioner Schmid - Aye

- C. Permission to Conduct AVL System Pilot** – Chief Becker introduced Ken Craft and Captain Warren to discuss the need for the pilot program. Chief Becker stated the request to run a 30 day pilot would give the District a change to monitor the system and review the pros and cons and determine the best fit for the District. The exchange of service would provide the closest response to the District and surrounding districts.

Sec./Treasure Goodacre asked if the system would be utilized only for life threatening events.

Commissioner Morris noted she and Chief Becker visited with Kim Dickerson and they communicated they have data to review the services. Commissioner Morris noted the service

should only be limited to high priority and life threatening instances as Sec./Treasurer Goodacre noted and then look back at the data to assure it is the most efficient system.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt asked what benefit it would be to the District and the District's taxpayers.

Chief Becker stated it is critical calls only and the idea is that if the District's transports are out then Lee County would move in based on location. If the District does the pilot then the District can determine after data is accumulated if it is the best fit for the District.

Discussion continued between the Board and Chief Becker.

Chief Becker asked Ken Craft to interject.

Asst. Chief Ken Craft stated Bonita Springs has been doing this for over 2 years and he feels the District owes it to the taxpayers and to the District to proceed with the pilot. The focus should be on EMS and fire suppression standpoint and the patients. The District may want to extend the pilot to 60 or 90 days to get better data.

Commissioner Schmid suggested the District may want to extend the pilot to 60 days.

Chief Becker stated once the District gets the technology piece up then the Board can determine the 30 day pilot or extending the pilot for 60 days.

Commissioner Schmid made a motion to approve the 30 day pilot for the AVL to begin April 1, 2009. Sec./Treasurer Goodacre seconded.

Motion approved unanimously 4 – 0.

D. Spreader Procurement – Chief Becker requested the budgeted funds from IT be utilized to purchase the spreader.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre motioned to approve the spreader procurement. Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt seconded.

Commissioner Schmid asked if it takes too much time to wait for the truck with the spreader on it.

Chief Becker stated response time is critical when the equipment is needed, but the old equipment would be utilized until the truck arrived with the spreader on it.

Motion approved unanimously 4 – 0.

E. Fixed Asset Surplus – Chief Becker stated the District had the option to put the surplus on E-Bay to sell.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre stated if the District could not utilize the equipment we should see if any other companies or fire departments could use and donate the equipment.

Conversation continued between the Board and Chief Becker.

Commissioner Morris motioned to declare the items surplus on an individual basis and dispose of them the best possible way on an individual basis. Commissioner Schmid seconded.

Commissioner Schmid noted he has seen the items and they are not useable to the District.

Motion approved unanimously 4 – 0.

F. Manikin Reclassification – Chief Becker stated the manikins were misclassified as capital.

Commissioner Morris motioned to reclassify the manikins. Commissioner Schmid seconded.

Motion approved unanimously 4 – 0.

G. Addition of Wells Fargo to Authorized Financial Institutions – Chief Becker stated Attorney Pringle has some documentation the Board will need to sign if Wells Fargo is authorized.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre motioned to add Wachovia Bank.

Attorney Pringle stated to clarify the motion it should read; to add Wachovia Bank a Wells Fargo Company to the list of approved banks to the District and authorize the opening of accounts.

Commissioner Morris seconded.

Motion approved unanimously 4 – 0.

H. Workshop Discussion – Chief Becker stated the District talked about a special meeting related to the insurance agent of record. Chief Becker noted at the special meeting you are allowed to make decisions at that meeting and he would like the Board to consider two items for the agenda; the selection of the insurance agent and the ambulance purchase.

Commissioner Morris noted she made a motion on the ambulance purchase and it was voted down and asked for direction from Attorney Pringle.

Attorney Pringle stated since no action was taken and the District has a qualification and a response it would go back on the agenda as old business at the next regular meeting. If the District would like to discuss at the special meeting it could be added to the agenda.

Commissioner Morris reiterated her motion which was voted down earlier.

Attorney Pringle stated the item could be revisited as an agenda item for the special meeting along with the health care agent and possibly names for the temporary board position.

Chief Becker asked the Board to select a date for the special meeting noting the District would need 10 days to publish.

Chief Becker stated he wanted to separate the workshop from the special meeting so the Board can review some policies and strategies at the workshop that would allow the Board some time to think about budget amendments, financial constraints, policies and directives.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre asked to clarify that the first meeting would be the special meeting and the second would be the workshop.

The Board agreed to have the special meeting on Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at 10:00 AM.

Attorney Pringle stated clarification was needed for the special meeting. The motion should state the special meeting scheduled for March 31, 2009 in the morning at 10:00 AM is to discuss two topics: further discussion of the healthcare insurance agent selection process and the ambulance selection process. Attorney Pringle noted he may have another item to add to the agenda before the end of the meeting.

Commissioner Morris motioned to have the special meeting Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at 10:00 AM to discuss two topics: discussion of the healthcare selection process and the procurement for the ambulance. Commissioner Schmid seconded.

Motion approved unanimously 4 – 0.

Chief Becker stated if the Board could choose a date for the workshop discussion could be on management policies or directives and budget amendments and cost containment.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated he felt the workshop is premature because the tax bills will not be out and it he felt the District should wait until the regular meeting in August.

Commissioner Morris motioned to have the workshop Tuesday, April 7th on Budget Finance Issues. Commissioner Schmid seconded.

Motion approved unanimously 4 – 0.

I. Possible Recommendation to Governor Crist for Temporary Commission Appointment –

Attorney Pringle stated he has been in contact with the Attorney for the Governor and he verified the District can have more time.

Commissioner Morris stated it is not known if the position will last 6 months, etc. and asked if the Board has to have a motion to discuss the topic. Commissioner Morris stated it would make more sense not to fill the temporary position, but if the Board feels there is a necessity then she would like to proceed in the same manner the Fort Myers Beach Town does to be sure the person filling the position has no desire to become a permanent board member. If the District gets to the point of a permanent appointment then the advertisement etc. could be done.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated the Board doesn't need to submit anyone.

Attorney Pringle stated the Statute states the Governor may fill the position. The Board could relay to the Governor that the Board had given consideration to fill the temporary position and ask the Governor not to fill the position on the temporary basis. The Governor will then determine the direction to take.

Conversation continued between the Board.

Attorney Pringle stated one scenario the Board could consider is a list of names; send out a notice for others to respond and make the decision at the regular Board meeting. Unless the Board goes to the Governor and asks that the Governor not fill the temporary position, the Governor will then proceed to make an appointment.

Commissioner Schmid motioned to defer any decision and discuss it at the special meeting on March 31, 2009 at 10:00 AM. Commissioner Morris seconded.

Attorney Pringle stated the motion would be to add it as an agenda item at the special meeting.

Motion approved unanimously 4 – 0.

Reports from Union Representatives

FF Mesick noted his disappointment with the District with due processes and stated the District is not being consistent. All information is not disseminated as it should be. There are always two sides to the information and it should be heard from both sides.

Remarks from Commissioners

Commissioner Morris congratulated everyone who received recognition awards.

Commissioner Schmid congratulated everyone on their years of service. Commissioner Schmid thanked the District for providing the upcoming budget workshop.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre congratulated Mike Charette on his 25 years of service and everyone else on their years of service.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt congratulated everyone on their years of service. Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated he was disappointed in today's meeting and the ambulance was budgeted for and the District should not put a price tag on residents of the Beach.

Public Input

Beach resident David Saunders asked if the workshop was open to the public.

Adjournment

Call for adjournment of meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:13 PM on March 17, 2009.