

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
FT. MYERS BEACH BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
TIME: 10:00 AM
DATE: November 16, 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, Attorney Richard Pringle, Acting Chief Darren White, District members and members of the public.

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt at 10:12 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence for our troops

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt noted there were 3 Commissioners present, along with Acting Chief Darren White from administration.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre stated she did not see how the Board could hold the meeting with the Finance Director Jane Thompson absent.

Commissioner Schmid stated the Board could review the line items of the budget and get some different ideas i.e., closing the admin building or closing a fire station. Commissioner Schmid stated the Board could still do some brainstorming to look at options as well as going through the budget line item by line item.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt asked Attorney Pringle what authority the Acting Chief has in making any decisions in the meetings.

Attorney Pringle stated Acting Chief White has authority to make decisions on the Districts behalf.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated that should be discussed when there is a full Board along with the Financial Director. The subject could be added to a regular meeting as an agenda item.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre stated that the Board has been working on a station at the south end of the island for over 12 years to cover that area since it is the most populated during season and she feels that the closing of a station should not be discussed without a full Board.

Communication continued between the Board on manning and response time for the District.

Public Input on Agenda Items

None

Attorney Pringle stated he has noted the items Commissioner Schmid stated that needs to be discussed between the Board and management which are: closing of the admin. office, closing a station, other expenses that need to be verified, Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt manning of the stations, use of reserves, what level of service to be provided response times throughout the District. Attorney Pringle stated he

would pass these items along to Acting Chief White and Finance Director Jane Thompson so they can be prepared to discuss these particular items.

Commissioner Schmid asked if these items could be a part of the agenda for January.

Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt stated Commissioner Schmid could request it as an agenda item.

FF Troy Mesick – DVP District 3 stated he had a list of items for Jane Thompson that he would like to share with her on some budget items with the Board’s permission.

Commissioner Schmid noted it was okay to pass the information along to Jane Thompson.

Public Input

Beach resident Bob Miller stated he has had a hard time contacting the Board and suggested that their numbers be published on the website, so the community can contact them. Mr. Miller stated he will be more accountable to the Commission and the situation the District is currently in is critical. As a citizen he feels the service should be reasonably taxed and affordable for the taxpayers.

Adjournment

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chairman Reckwerdt seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 10:34 AM, November 16, 2009.