

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
FT. MYERS BEACH BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
TIME: 7:00 PM  
DATE: October 19, 2010  
PLACE: 3043 Estero Blvd., Station 31 Meeting Room  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

IN ATTENDANCE: Chairwoman Carol Morris, Vice-Chairman Joe Schmid, Sec./Treasurer Betty Goodacre, Commissioner John Scanlon, Attorney Richard Pringle, Chief Mike Becker, Assistant Chief Darren White, District members and members of the public.

Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Morris at 7:00 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairwoman Morris called for a motion to approve the September 21, 2010 regular meeting minutes.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre motioned to approve the September 21, 2010 regular meeting minutes. Vice-Chairman Schmid seconded.

September regular meeting minutes were approved unanimously 4 – 0.

Chairwoman Morris requested Sec./Treasurer Goodacre read the Treasurer's report.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre read the September 2010 Treasurer's Report for the record.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre reviewed the summary of bank and investment account activities for month ending September 30, 2010.

- A. Sec./Treasurer Goodacre asked for approval of department checks #036260 through #036358 for a total of \$196,970.64 for September 2010.

Vice-Chairman Schmid motioned to approve the department checks. Chairwoman Morris seconded.

Department checks for September 2010 were approved unanimously 4 – 0.

Chairwoman Morris stated that there was a request at the last meeting to move the Union comments up on the agenda, but it cannot be done permanently until the Board considers changing the sequence in the Bylaws, but they can do it during public input. The Board will need to give a seven day advance notice to the Commissioner's if they request to make any changes to the Bylaws.

**Chief's Report**

Chief Becker recognized employees for their years of service to the Fire District.

Chief Becker reviewed the items on the Chief Report.

Vice-Chairman Schmid noted that if you annualize the overtime from September it would come to approximately \$420,000 for the year and asked if there was some way to reduce the overtime.

Chief Becker stated it is driven by minimum staffing which has been pushed down to 13. As peak season comes it will need to be pushed back up.

Chairwoman Morris stated the two highest paid were the officers and engineers and asked where the people were and what caused the need for the higher ranked paid employees.

Chief Becker stated the CBA allows several people off at a time and there has to be at least two officers on at a time and some people take unscheduled time off. If you have a staff of 15 and 3 are allowed to take off, that automatically creates an overtime spot. Other issues could be workers comp. and disability. This past month was mostly due to people taking days off.

Chairwoman Morris asked how TeleStaff would help to cut cost.

Chief Becker stated that depending on what kind of agreement is reached in the CBA, the definitions will be put into the program for accountability.

Chairwoman Morris stated that the negotiations are actually going to save the money, and the software will do the tracking.

Vice-Chairman Schmid noted that the ambulance fees were not included in the packet for September.

### **Attorney's Report**

Attorney Pringle stated that the County did approve the use of Impact Fees for part of Station 32 and Station 33. There are two resolutions that will be discussed during new business.

### **Public Input**

Beach resident Pat Smith asked how many hours a month would the District use the manikin. Ms. Smith asked if it could be shared with another district so the cost could be shared.

Chief Becker stated that currently the District does not have a manikin to train on cardiac respiratory, airway training and EMS related issues. The Medical Officer's report discusses the need for the manikin.

Beach resident Ted Schindler asked if "quite frequently for training" is daily or a high percentage of time. And, was the Dodge Durango surplussed in 2008?

Chief Becker stated EMS training could occur on a weekly basis, Monday through Friday. The Dodge Durango was not officially surplussed in 2008. It was discussed among the Board but no action was taken.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

- A. Approval of Resolution to Establish New User Fee Schedule** – Attorney Pringle stated he has prepared a resolution to approve the New User Fee Schedule. FS Chapter 191 gives the District authority to adopt fee schedules for different matters. The District is authorized by State law to establish a fee schedule and in some instances to lean property using the resolution format versus an ordinance format. The resolution covers all basis of the law regarding the fee schedule. Attorney Pringle discussed the contents of the resolution and the fee schedule.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre asked if this is the same fee schedule as the County.

Chief Becker stated it is updated with the most current Lee County fee schedule. The District has not updated its fee schedule in some time.

Attorney Pringle stated in the miscellaneous notes of the schedule the District can waive fees based on their discretion.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre motioned to approve the resolution to approve the User Fee Schedule. Vice Chairman Schmid seconded.

Vice-Chairman Schmid asked how much of an increase in revenue it would generate.

Chief Becker stated there would be a slight increase in revenue.

Communication continued between the Board and Chief Becker.

Motion approved unanimously 4 - 0.

Attorney Pringle stated the User Fee Schedule resolution is 2010-08.

**B. Approval of Resolution of NIMS (National Incident Management System)** – Attorney Pringle stated that the President some time ago adopted a requirement for Districts to participate in the National Incident Management System to make sure everyone is acting in similar form with regards to responding to incidences. The resolution states the District will be in compliance (which it has been doing) with the guidelines of NIMS. The document verifies it in the form of a resolution.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre stated she and Commissioner Scanlon has taken the class and asked if they were required to take the class again.

Attorney Pringle stated that they do not but the new Commissioners coming onto the Board is required to take the class. It is part of the national system to familiarize the new members on the NIMS requirements.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre motioned to approve the resolution. Commissioner Scanlon seconded.

Motion approved 4 – 0.

Attorney Pringle stated the NIMS resolution is 2010-09.

**C. Surplus of 2003 Dodge Durango** – Commissioner Scanlon motioned to surplus the 2003 Dodge Durango. Vice-Chairman Schmid seconded.

Motion approved 4 – 0.

**D. Procurement for PDA STAT Manikin - \$8923.00** – Vice-Chairman Schmid motioned to approve the procurement for the PDA STAT Manikin for \$8923.00. Commissioner Scanlon seconded.

Vice-Chairman Schmid noted that one of the quotes was lower by approximately \$40.00 and asked why it was not considered.

Chief Becker stated the training was included in the recommended vendor quote. The on-sight training with the staff is to instruct the staff on how to care for and the upkeep of the Manikin. If

proper care is not given to the Manikin during training, it could eventually damage it and break it down.

Chairwoman Morris asked what the old manikin was used for. Is there a scheduled training for the manikin? Chairwoman Morris stated she would like to see what other Districts are doing and if it could be shared with other Districts if they do not have one. Chairwoman Morris stated she would like to see what the “15 things” are that they can do? Chairwoman Morris stated she would like to vote against it today, and find out more information before the District voted on the purchase.

Communication continued between the Board.

Chief Becker stated the manikin would be utilized to continue training and check skills and maintain competency levels. The manikins are not only used for aggressive training or formalized training, but for day to day preceptor or preceptee concepts to check off skills for a paramedic to get credentialed, etc. The District currently does not have the call volume to perform certain type services on a daily basis. The manikin would allow employees to continue to check their skills and levels of competency.

Communication continued between the Board and Chief Becker.

Motion approved 3 – 1

Chairwoman Morris – Nay  
Vice-Chairman Schmid – Aye

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre - Aye  
Commissioner Scanlon – Aye

Communication continued between the Board regarding the manikin.

Chairwoman Morris stated that she did not know the Manikin was a budgeted item because they did not go line item by line item on the budget. Chairwoman Morris stated it would be good to do a line item review when looking at the next budget.

#### **E. Commissioner Items**

Vice-Chairman Schmid stated he would like to recognize all the employees on their years of service, and he would like to see on the Medical Officer’s report be consistent with the numbers reported on BLS, etc. and the diagram. He appreciates his four years with the District.

**1) Reports from Union Reps Dist 3 and 15 Order on the Agenda** – Attorney Pringle stated that he reviewed the Bylaws and if the Board wants to legitimately discuss the item, under Article 12, it states you do not have to give the specific wording, you just need to give notice at least seven days in advance of the meeting that there may be an amendment proposed.

Communication continued between the Board and Attorney Pringle.

Attorney Pringle stated that the intent to amend the Bylaws needs to be sent out to the Board seven days prior to discussion.

#### **Reports from Local Union Representatives**

Troy Mesick – DVP District 3 stated he met with Chief Becker today and due to some issues going on regarding the grievance, the Union contract has expired and the Union will be working under the current contract until a new contract is agreed upon. It will be a while before a new contract will be

agreed upon and the Union will operate on overtime based on the current contract. Thanks to Commissioner Schmid and he hopes he will come to some of the meetings and sit with the public.

Tom Edge – DVP District 15 stated he would like to thank Commissioner Schmid for all his work on the Board and good luck to all the other candidates.

### **Commissioner Remarks**

Commissioner Scanlon congratulated all the firefighters on their years of service.

Sec./Treasurer Goodacre congratulated everyone on their years of service.

Vice-Chairman Schmid stated he has already made his comments.

Chairwoman Morris stated she wanted to wish Commissioner Schmid good luck and it has been a pleasure working with him for the last four years.

### **Public Input**

Beach resident Al Agathen noted he is running for Commissioner and he would like to thank Mr. Reckwerdt, Joe and Carol for their years of service. Mr. Agathen stated that one thing the fire department does not do is share equipment based on the warranties and upkeep of equipment. The only other District that transports is Lehigh Acres and they would probably not come to the District for training. From his past experience with the fire department each department used their own equipment and there was no sharing.

Beach resident Pat Smith asked if the District would consider providing statistics that would be more meaningful in average response time. The response time does not mean much without the range of the high and low which would be more meaningful for people. The numbers are there and the data, but the range with the high and low would provide more information.

Beach resident Ted Schindler stated he agreed with Pat Smith and he could dust off his degree in mathematics if the District needs any help. Mr. Schindler said he had questions on the user fees and the NIMS. Mr. Schindler asked if the fees were established county wide and do they have a similar resolution.

Attorney Pringle stated it depends on who wrote it. Some Districts may have a different form. Attorney Pringle added some changes to the language at the end, and some parts of the administrative costs which he added that is not a part of the basic schedule. The Chief's Association discussed adopting a fee schedule for permitting, inspections, fire alarms fees, etc. and those parts were provided to him by Chief Becker. Attorney Pringle stated the fee schedule is the part the other districts are using as the basis, but Attorney Pringle stated he worded the resolution to support the user fees legally, which he created.

Attorney Pringle stated regarding NIMS, prior to Administration taking action there's a laundry list of several things that Administration does and is generated and done by law by the Statutes, but when the Board says they want to adopt a policy, typically that is done by a resolution. At that point Attorney Pringle puts together the factual and legal justifications in the resolution to adopt the policy. The policy goes in one place and the resolution goes in another to substantiate the policy.

### **Adjournment**

Call for adjournment of meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM