

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
FT. MYERS BEACH BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
TIME: 7:00 PM
DATE: April 19, 2011
PLACE: 2523 Estero Blvd., Town Hall – Council’s Chamber
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

IN ATTENDANCE: Chairwoman Carol Morris, Sec./Treasurer David Brower, Commissioner Betty Goodacre, Commissioner John Scanlon, Attorney Richard Pringle, Chief Mike Becker, Asst. Chief Darren White, District members and members of the public.

Absent: Vice-Chairman Schindler

Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Morris at 7:05 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chief Becker swore in Joe Reed to the rank of Captain.

Chairwoman Morris called for a motion to approve the March 15, 2011 regular meeting minutes.

Commissioner Goodacre motioned to approve the March 15, 2011 regular meeting minutes.

Commissioner Scanlon seconded.

Chairwoman Morris – minutes approved.

Chairwoman Morris requested Sec./Treasurer Brower read the Treasurer’s report.

Sec./Treasurer Brower read the March 2011 Treasurer’s Report for the record.

Sec./Treasurer Brower reviewed the summary of bank and investment account activities for month ending March 31, 2011.

- A. Sec./Treasurer Brower asked for approval of department checks #036753 through #036852 for a total of \$250,700.58 for March 2011.

Commissioner Scanlon motioned to approve the department checks. Commissioner Goodacre seconded.

Check approved unanimously 4 – 0.

Chief’s Report

Chief Becker recognized employees with years of service.

Chief Becker reviewed the items on the Chief Report.

Chief Becker stated that the primary reasons for bringing the surveillance system to the Board was 1) the need to bring security issues to the Board’s attention; and, 2) recommendation to correct the issues.

Chief Becker stated that the reimbursement policy the District currently has will cover the FASD reimbursement.

Chairwoman Morris recommended that the Chief's Performance Appraisal be postponed until November so the new members of the Board would have at least one year to evaluate the Chief's performance prior to filling out the evaluation.

Attorney Pringle stated that the contract provides that it will be done, but there is no specific timeframe, so no action is needed.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Pringle stated he has prepared, noticed in the paper and released the RFQ for professional services to approximately eight (8) different prospective respondents. The deadline for submittal is April 29, 2011. It should be an item for Board consideration at the next meeting.

Chairwoman Morris asked Chief Becker if the "canceled calls" went in the response time averages.

Chief Becker stated they are part of the valuation. Chief Becker stated he separates the calls with a zero or less than one-minute and puts it up front.

Reports from Local Union Representatives

FF Troy Mesick – DVP District 3 stated he understands why the District wants cameras if equipment is disappearing at Stations. The list of missing equipment is questionable, but he does understand the need for cameras at the exits of the Stations or the bays or bay doors for security and safety reasons. The District may get a break in insurance if the stations have the equipment installed. The letter from Assistant Chief White states that there is a hostile working environment and he does not see that at the Stations.

DC Tom Edge – DVP District 15 stated that if the District needs to put cameras in the Station bays and parking lots that is okay, but the District is trusted to go into resident's houses, etc. and common sense should be used to determine where they go.

Public Input

Beach resident Bob Miller gave public input on his disappointment of the April 8th coverage of the fire incident on the beach.

Chairwoman Morris stated there was a letter that Vice-Chairman Schindler sent via e-mail regarding the fire incident. Administration will make sure the Board gets a copy.

Chairwoman Morris restated the agenda items.

Old Business

- A. Purchase of Surveillance Equipment** – Chief Becker stated the primary purpose is to increase security and safety to the employees, District property and employee's personal property while on duty.

Chairwoman Morris asked Chief Becker what the cost for each station would be and if there would be some kind of reduction in our insurance.

Chief Becker stated the cost for each station would be \$6000.00. There would be a reduction if the system was placed only on the outside doors, but Station 32 should place a camera at the Medical room, since there are tight controls for that room.

Sec./Treasurer Brower motioned to place the surveillance systems in the bays of the stations, the parking lots and the medical room and make sure the system is expandable.
Commissioner Scanlon seconded.

Motion approved unanimously 4 - 0.

New Business

- A. Ambulance Billing Write-off** – Sec./Treasurer Brower motioned to write-off the full amount of the bill. Commissioner Goodacre seconded.

Motion approved unanimously 4 - 0.

B. Commissioner Items

- 1) Board Member Reimbursement for FASD 2011 Conference** – Chairwoman Morris stated that whatever the Board determines to do, it should be uniform for the reimbursement.

Chief Becker stated that the mechanism for reimbursement is in place and no additional policy is needed.

Discussion continued between the Board.

No action required.

- 2) Development of Website so All Districts Can Easily Share Information** – Chairwoman Morris stated that this item came up at the Commissioner's Forum to allow a website for all Districts to easily share information.

Discussion continued between the Board.

Commissioner Scanlon motioned to support the development of the website.
Commissioner Goodacre seconded.

Motioned approved unanimously 4 – 0.

Reports from Local Union Representatives

FF Troy Mesick – DVP District 3 noted that District 3 has come back to the table to negotiate with the District and it is a slow process. The next negotiation date is scheduled for May 4, 2011. DVP Mesick stated he was at the structure fire and there were some hindrance to the fire, downed power lines and propane tanks on the patio, which blew up. There was no one hurt, and no exposure to nearby residents and the fire was handled correctly.

FF Mesick noted that the Union will be doing the "Egg Stuffing" at the Red Coconut for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Wednesday, April 20th beginning around 5:00 PM. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Everyone is invited.

Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Goodacre congratulated the employees on their years of service, and note that the District has a great group of employees.

Chairwoman Morris stated she feels we have a great group of firefighters as well. At the Commissioner Forum, another group was formed to start researching and evaluating the formation of a county wide service which would share resources within the Districts to help reduce overtime.

Commissioner Scanlon congratulated Joe on his promotion to Captain and the employees for their years of service and good job to the firefighters who fought the structure fire.

Sec./Treasurer Brower congratulated the shift that was at the structure fire for a job well done. The only down side was the editorial comments from the press that are not always 100 percent accurate.

Public Input

No input

Adjournment

Call for adjournment of meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM