**Fire Commission Meeting**

**Immokalee Fire Control District**

**Board Meeting**

March 20, 2014

These Minutes are a summary of the meeting. Any further information can be obtained by the tape. The minutes will follow the order of the Agenda.

Present Commissioners: Deyo, Heath, Keen and Olesky; Chief Paul Anderson, Board Attorney Kenneth Thompson, Leo Rodgers, Alma R. Valladares and Members of the Public. Commissioner Anderson was not present but joined by phone.

1. Call Meeting to Order at 6:10pm by Commissioner Olesky
2. Pledge of Allegiance by Commissioner Olesky
3. Moment of Silence by Commissioner Olesky
4. Proof of Publication by Commissioner Olesky
5. Establish a Quorum by Commissioner Olesky. Commissioner Anderson is joining us by phone.
6. Approval of Agenda – Chief Anderson mentioned that he would like to remove item No. 7 under New Business and move to next meeting. **Commissioner Deyo motioned for approval for the changes in Agenda and Commissioner Heath seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**
7. Approval of the February 20, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes motion by **Commissioner Deyo and seconded by Commissioner Heath. Motion carries unanimously.**
8. Treasurer’s Report- **Commissioner Deyo motioned to approve and Commissioner Keen seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**
9. Consent Agenda - **Commissioner Deyo motioned to approve and Commissioner Heath seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

i) Chief’s Report

ii) Fire Marshal Report

1. Union Report – Tom Cunningham mentioned that they have scheduled another session for the contract. They are dealing with legal issues. Their local might be dissolving and they may merge with another local district. Just to let the board where we are at with this. This would mean we would be like EMS, like with 1826, it’s the master local and they have different locals under that. We would be a district under one local.
2. Business of the District
3. **Old Business**
4. None

**B. New Business**

1. Agreement with Collier EMS for housing an Ambulance at Fire Station 31 (Carson Rd.)- Chief Anderson mentioned that he and Chief Walter Kopka with EMS have been working together reviewing the average response time. In the future we want to have fire fighters in an ambulance. Chief Kopka mentioned about the average response time and they submitted a request to provide life support. We have a fantastic working relationship with the guys in the Immokalee Fire Control and have no issues with the working crew. They do a fantastic job. With two ambulances answering 3,000 medical calls in Immokalee verses 100 medical calls in Ave Maria. Back in 2008 Board of County Commissioners mentioned that there was a 12 minute response time for EMS East of Collier Blvd and West of Collier County Blvd is 8 minutes. Their goal is to improve the response time in this rural area to 8 minutes 90% of the time. Our goal is to put an ambulance where high volume of calls that we don’t meet 8 minutes time. Commissioner Anderson mentioned that we need an additional EMS ambulance in Immokalee. Discussion regarding payment by EMS such as utilities and rent. Chief Kopka mentioned that they have entered in agreement before with East Naples by splitting of the utilities but not the rent. Proposal to have EMS pay ½ utilities on a monthly basis plus half the cost of the required renovations to the station to accommodate the ambulance and additional staff. **Commissioner Deyo motions to approve the concept of moving an ambulance to Station 31. Commissioner Keen seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

* 1. Public Comment- None

1. Approval for station alterations at Station 31: Remodel bathroom to add shower; install reports area countertop and associated drawers and cabinets - Chief Anderson mentioned that the total for renovations is around $9,000 to $10,000. This in conjunction with Number 1. Chief Kopka would like to get the invoices monthly from the utilities so it would be fair for everybody. Chief Anderson mentioned that we are set for ½ of renovation costs and ½ for utilities. Chief Kopka mentioned that he would draw up the least and send it back to us to review. Attorney Thompson mentioned that the board should vote for the concept to start negotiating a contract.
   1. Public Comment - None
2. Approval to replace overhead door and door motor on rear apparatus bay door, Station 31 – Chief Anderson mentioned that the door is old and needs to be repaired. He has 2 quotes to replace the whole door and one is over $4,000 and the other over $5,000 still waiting on another. Action Automatic Door can repair it for $1,100.00 – 1,200.00. So, that’s the one we will go with. Commissioner Olesky in regards to the electrical part, to come and talk to him.
   1. Public Comment - None
3. Contract renewal for Auditor/CPA Tuscan and Associates – Chief Anderson mention on doing a 3 year contract with Tuscan and Associates. His overall experience with them has been outstanding, they are well educated. **Commissioner Keen motions to approve to accept the contract with Tuscan. Commissioner Deyo seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously.** Attorney Thompson mentioned to have a motion for Chief Anderson to authorize and sign $14,000 contract with Tuscan. **Commissioner Deyo motions for Chief Anderson to authorize and sign $14,000 contract with Tuscan and Commissioner Olesky seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.** Commissioners ended up signing the contract.

Public Comment - None

1. Discussion and possible approval of inter-local agreement with East Naples/Golden Gate Fire Districts for mechanic services. Chief Anderson mentioned that our contract with Corkscrew is ending in April of 2014. He talked with ITECH but they can only work on staff vehicles and not on the fire trucks. He also talked with Collier County Fleet Maintenance and North Naples Fire, but neither one was in a position at this time to take on the additional work load and both commented that they would be open to discussions in the future. If we go with East Naples/Golden Gate was the other option, their rate would be $50/hr. We would be sharing reserve fire apparatus. The light work would be done at Station 71 and the heavy work will be done at East Naples shop. We will have 4 mechanics total on this agreement. Commissioner Anderson mentioned that he has a problem with entering into a contract with East Naples. Commissioner Olesky mentioned that a six month deal is good for now. **Commissioner Deyo motions to approve a 6 month contract with East Naples/Golden Gate for mechanic services. Commissioner Heath seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**
   1. Public Comment- None
2. Approval to replace FirePup costume for public education in day care centers, schools, etc. Leo Rodgers mentioned that we need a new FirePup costume due to the head getting smashed. The total cost is $2,900.
   1. Public Comment – Tom Cunningham mentioned that when he started he wore the FirePup and as new guys came on they would wear it. It’s a little piece of tradition that’s gone. Chief Anderson mentioned that in Pre-K and Kindergarten programs we start going in and getting the children accustomed to seeing a firefighter in his air pack gear and mask. The purpose of that is getting them accustom to seeing a fire fighter in that suit. So, if there’s a fire in the house and this thing comes crawling in their bedroom asking them to come with it, then they are not afraid. FirePup goes in first and plays with the kids and says he is going to bring his friend and his friend is a fireman. **Commissioner Keen motioned to purchase FirePup costume for $2,000**

**and Commissioner Heath seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

1. ~~Approval for purchase of equipment from Impact Fee fund for new fire apparatus on order~~
   1. ~~Public Comment~~
2. Repairs to Engine-32 at Hall-Mark Fire Apparatus – Chief mentioned that the initial quote for the repair from E-One is $10,900. They took the pump apart but it’s worse than what they thought. The total cost is now $14,000 for disconnecting the cab system is part of the cost.
   1. Public Comment – Tom Cunningham mentioned that everybody that’s bought the cab system is disconnecting the cab system. Chief Anderson mentioned that he got two quotes and waiting on another quote for a hose tester.  **Commissioner Heath motioned to repair Engine 32 with**

**not to exceed more than $15,000 and Commissioner Deyo seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

12) Concerns of Commissioners – Commissioner Keen mentioned that she and Ms. Deyo won’t be here for the June

19th Board Meeting. Commissioner Anderson as well as Attorney Thompson won’t be here. **Commissioner Keen**

**motions to move it to the 12th of June at 6:00pm and Commissioner Deyo seconded the motion. Motion**

**carries unanimously.** Attorney Thompson mentioned that he would recommend that all the Board

Commissioners attend the Florida Association of Special Districts Conference. Commissioner Olesky asked

Chief Anderson to apply for scholarship and if FASD doesn’t cover it, then will pay.

13) Public Comment – Chief Anderson mentioned that he has some updates on the latest negotiation with East

Naples/Golden Gate concerning their consolidation. In November it will be East Naples/Golden Gate, Isle Capri

and possibly Ochopee Fire Districts merging into one, that they will call “Greater Naples Fire District”. Also, on

the November ballot will be the consolidation of North Naples and Big Corkscrew Fire District, which will be

“North Naples Fire District”. In November it could go down from seven to three fire districts; Greater Naples,

North Naples and Immokalee Fire District. The other activity is with the Fire Codes Office that North Naples

wants to do their own plans review and east Naples/Golden gate are looking at moving from the fire code office to Collier County growth management for plans review. The Fire Codes Office will be left with Immokalee and Big Corkscrew and with Big Corkscrew merging with North Naples, that leaves Immokalee. The revenue generated from Immokalee alone cannot support the Fire Code Officials Office. So, that will be dissolved.

His recommendation is for Immokalee do our own plans review. Last year the plans review fees out of Immokalee was $43,000. Proposed for the agenda for next months’ meeting is to vote on leaving the Fire Code Officials Office, hire a Plans reviewer/Inspector, and do our own plans review. That employee would be able to do another $50,000 in routine inspections. We would also have another inspector in Immokalee to be doing the routine existing building inspections that haven’t been done in a while because one person can’t keep up with everything. His proposal would be to have that person certified as a fire fighter so we have another fire fighter available during the week.

Tom Cunningham mentioned that he doesn’t agree with hiring new people when the Union members haven’t been made whole. Fire and rescue is needed more. Staffing is set by a union contract. We need to consolidate with other fire districts. Commissioner Olesky mentioned that he would not vote to consolidate. Chief Anderson mentioned that the board would have to approve for a new position and the budget amendment to fund that position. We would get the revenue to pay the cost for that position. He would estimate that the position would generate from $80,000 to $90,000 a year in revenue from fees. The cost of that position in salary and all the benefits wouldn’t be more than $70,000.

Chief Anderson mentioned it appears that he would not be able to apply for the safer grant to retain the six people that we currently have because we would be able to pay them without a grant. We are not going to lose anyone. His proposal is to apply for the safer grant for additional people.

He also has a meeting with the Chief of the Seminole Tribe within the next few weeks. He will be scheduling a meeting with him and the chief financial officer of the University to discuss the University paying for fire protection. His proposal in looking at the property that the Ave Maria University owns. The Seminole Tribe Reservation currently pays $125,000. That was going to be his proposal for the Ave Maria University to pay $125,000. He will ask the Seminole Tribe for $75000 more. In the process of getting the contracts that the Seminole Tribe has with St. Lucie County, Hillsboro County, Hollywood and Coconut Creek, see what they are paying. He knows that Hillsboro County pays $300,000. He is going to negotiate with them.

The last thing is that one of the spokesmen from Sweets Sparkman/Owen Kimball is here and has been here since the beginning of the advertisement. They will be meeting with them in a couple weeks.

Commissioner Keen mentioned that she might not be there on that date.

14) Adjourn Meeting at 8:40pm

**Next Scheduled Meetings:**

**Next Regular Board Meeting: April 17,** **2014 at 6:00 pm at Ave Maria Community District Board Meeting Room, Annunciation Circle**