

**Fire Commission Meeting
Immokalee Fire Control District
Board Meeting
December 17, 2015**

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: Anderson, Goodnight, Halman, Keen. Commissioner Olesky arrives at 6:15pm; Chief Paul Anderson, Board Attorney Kenneth Thompson, Leo Rodgers, Alma Valladares, Jay Roth

1) Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:03pm by Commission Chair Goodnight

2) Pledge of Allegiance

Lead by Commissioner Goodnight

3) Moment of Silence

Lead by Commissioner Goodnight

4) Proof of Publication

Copy of publication at the annual publishing

5) Establish a Quorum

Quorum established by Commissioner Goodnight

6) Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve the revised Agenda and seconded by Commissioner Halman. Motion carries unanimously.

7) Approval of the minutes of the following meeting:

A. November 19, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Halman motioned to approve November 17, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes and Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

8) Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve Treasurer's Report and Commissioner Halman seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

9) Consent Agenda

Commissioner Halman motioned to approve Consent Agenda and Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

A. Fire Marshal's Report

B. Chief's Report

C. Status on Current Contracts

10) Union Report

Derek Neuman, Vice President of the Union mentioned that Bryan Horbal is the new President for the Union and that he wanted to present himself to the board.

11) Business of the District

A. New Business

1. Presentations and Proposals from Fire Assessment Fee Consultants

Chief Anderson mentioned that we have 2 presentations. After the presentation the board can discuss if they have any questions.

- a. Bryant Miller (Chris Roe) Chris Roe gave a background presentation of himself. He mentioned that Fire Assessments are: calls for service, availability and readiness to serve and the cost. Readiness falls into 2 Tiers; Tier I is per parcel basis-fixed amount. Tier II balances of cost; Developed property. Example: \$75 per parcel + \$25 based on value. No ongoing maintenance requirements, consulting team to evaluate treatment

of vacant parcels, costs/expenses required. Single homes, duplex or 2 dwelling sq. footage home would pay less than a bigger sq. footage home. His firm created the readiness model and successfully defended it in both circuit and appeals court. He is an attorney and would be leading the fire assessment fee team. Preferable is to collect on the tax bill. The meeting requires legal advisors, data staff, data acquisition for budget analysis and workshop. Then the board makes a determination regarding the cost recovery level and methodology. Public outreach has to be done and educating the public. A public hearing has to be done. Chief Anderson mentioned that we need to determine the amount and lower the millage rate. That way everyone pays.

Break from 6:45-6:50

- b. Government Services Group (GSG) Jeff gave a background presentation of himself. He mentioned that they were the first to come up with Non-Ad Valorem fire fees. He is the single point of contact and a dedicated data analyst. They are already doing special assessments for Ft. Myers and Lehigh and Englewood. Single family homes pay one set rate, regardless of size. Do a study and advise the public, do a workshop and put on website so all the property owners can see everything in regards to assessments. Under the historical manner the division of forestry and the agriculture property here is changing all the land. They have a newer methodology to respond to all parcels. A ¼ acre pays the same as a vacant lot. The court recognizes their data analysis and fire assessment program and the department of revenue also can help them. He knows our needs, he grew up in Henday County. Commissioner Anderson mentioned if the notices are done in multiple languages. Jeff mentioned that they can translate the documents.

Break from 7:20-7:25

Chief Anderson mentioned that the historical data has to be validated in 2 to 3 years and has an on-going cost to hire a consultant to re-evaluate fees every few years. The availability is more equitable and improved property pays based on sq. footage. It gives us the option of getting more from a big structure than a smaller one. Commissioner Olesky asked how much was the cost for the consultant? Chief Anderson mentioned that we have \$35,000 in the budget for that. Commissioner Anderson mentioned that he doesn't have a preference.

2. Selection of Consultant for Fire Assessment Fee
Discussion on benefits of consultant also being an attorney. **Commissioner Halman makes a motion to choose Bryant Miller and Commissioner Olesky seconded the motion. Commissioner Olesky makes a motion to choose GSG in case Bryant Miller doesn't go through and Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion.** Chief Anderson mentioned to the 2 candidates that the board selected Bryant Miller and they will go over with the board in January.
 - a. Public Comment
None
3. Reschedule January meeting to January 14th due to Fire-Rescue East Conference
Chief Anderson mentioned that he is requesting to reschedule the January meeting to January 14th. **Commissioner Keen makes a motion to approve rescheduling the meeting and Commissioner Olesky seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**
 - a. Public Comment

None

4. Renewal of Contract for Auditor

Chief Anderson mentioned if we wanted to continue with Tuscan Auditors. **Commissioner Keen motions to approve the renewal of the contract with Tuscan for Auditor and Commissioner Olesky seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

a. Public Comment

None

5. Approval to apply for FY 2015 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant

Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve to apply for FY 2015 FEMA and Commissioner Olesky seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

a. Public Comment

None

6. Approval of Turnout Gear for new part-time Firefighter positions (Impact Fee Funds)

Chief Anderson mentioned that we took the people who applied for the part time positions and they will be on board to help maintain staffing. **Commissioner Keen motioned to approve of Turnout Gear for new part-time Firefighters and Commissioner Olesky seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

a. Public Comment

None

B. Old Business

1. Status of Fire Code Official's Office

Chief Anderson mentioned that Greater Naples received our request to change the language and their board didn't want to change anything. Our vested interest is not worth battling it. Our share is \$76,000 and we will take that and put it in the bank to collect interest.

Commissioner Anderson motioned to accept the \$76,000 and Commissioner Halman seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

a) Public comment

None

2. Status of Collier Emergency Services Task Force (County-wide Fire and EMS Merger/Consolidation)

Chief Anderson mentioned that the group discussed the Regional Fire Training Center again. The organizers of the group want to have a straw ballot vote to ask of the voters want all fire and EMS in the county to consolidate. The organizers of the group stated that North Naples and Big Corkscrew voted for consolidation and it resulted in more efficient service without an increase of Ad Valorem taxes. That's misleading. They have no way to tell people that taxes won't increase. Chief Anderson indicated that the language that they want to use is misleading and that it should simply ask if the voter wants county-wide consolidation of fire and EMS; yes or no; and not try to mislead the voter by adding "if it will result in a higher level of service and decreased taxes".

a) Public comment

None

3. Status of Fire Station 32 property and Construction

Chief Anderson mentioned that we are still waiting for Barron Collier to provide us with the land. Commissioner Anderson mentioned that we need to have an open house at Ave Maria. Commissioner Halman agreed.

Chief Anderson mentioned that they will meet in March or April with EMS, Sheriff's Office and the Collier County Growth Management and talk about the design of Station 32. We are at a stand-still. Battalion Captain Bauer mentioned that we would have a great turnout if we did an open house. They don't realize that the station is on a dirt lot. Battalion Captain Cunningham mentioned that the trailer is falling apart. The bathroom needs repair. Commissioner Halman mentioned that we need to get a reporter out there to see that.

a) Public Comment

None

4. Status of Fire Station 31 Construction

Chief Anderson mentioned that we are moving forward with Station 31 construction. We have another meeting on Monday at 9:30 am with the artist rendition.

a) Public Comment

None

12) Concerns of Commissioners

Commissioner Anderson mentioned that he received an email on SR82 and why not join in and have a press release and they mentioned that they don't want to work with us. Chief Anderson mentioned if we want a letter from the board. He is contacting the county about the meeting and asking why it was postponed so long. He got the report for road projects and he needed to meet with them before those projects got started. Attorney Thompson mentioned that Hendry County is building a passing lane. Commissioner Anderson mentioned that everyone does the talking and we just listen.

13) Public Comment

Thomas Anderson mentioned if the Fire Pup can be taken to the Christmas Party. Division Chief Rodgers mentioned that he can take care of that.

14) Adjourn Meeting at 8:37pm

Next Scheduled Meeting(s):

- **Regular Board Meeting: January 14, 2015, 6 p.m.; Immokalee Fire Control District Station 30, 502 New Market Rd. E, Immokalee, FL 34142**