

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Board of Fire Commissioners  
Cedar Hammock Fire Control District  
April 28, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Getman at 6:00 p.m. The following commissioners were present: Richard G. Findlay, Ronald D. Getman, Marnie E. Matarese, and John H. Stevens. Samuel A. Reasoner arrived at 6:09 p.m. before Old Business.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pastor Pavkovich gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**QUORUM**

Chairman Getman confirmed a quorum was present for the meeting. The meeting was properly advertised.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Getman asked if there was any discussion of the minutes or the Treasurer's report. There was no discussion.

**ACTION: Commissioner Stevens moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Matarese seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).**

**SPECIAL BUSINESS**

Chief Hoyle announced the following Years of Service awards to Fire Marshal Eric Center – 20 years; Firefighter Lenny Furst – 20 years; and Lieutenant Andrew Dudley – 15 years. He thanked all for their participation and support of the Safety Committee and displayed the Risk Management award presented by Preferred Governmental Insurance Trust to Chief Hoyle and the District. Firefighters John Eibe, Taylor Clegg, and Vincent Scaffedi were presented Phoenix Awards through Manatee County for successful CPR on a citizen. He announced the retirement of Firefighter Michael Sheets after 25 years of service. Firefighter Sheets was also recognized by the Manatee County Fire Chiefs' Association.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Proposed Legislation Update**

Chief Hoyle informed the proposed legislation is awaiting the Governor's signature. District Counsel Mooney will prepare referendum language after the governor signs and present to the Supervisor of Elections by August.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2020-2021 Audit**

Auditor Randy Dillingham of Christopher, Smith, Leonard & Stanell, P.A. reviewed the financial report for the District as contained in the exhibit. He noted the two letters contained in the report. He stated there were no changes in accounting practices, no significant difficulties with management, no disagreements, and all adjustments were typical year-end adjustments. The independent auditor's report expresses a clean, unmodified report.

**ACTION: Commissioner Stevens moved to approve the 2020/2021 audit of the Cedar Hammock Fire Control District's Financial Statements. Chairman Getman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).**

### **Station 2 Asphalt**

Deputy Chief Falcone reviewed the memo from Battalion Chief Whitfield, which recommends the selection of Hanna Asphalt Services to replace all asphalt at Station 2. He added that it was no longer cost effective to continue to repair.

**ACTION: Commissioner Reasoner moved to approve the vendor Hanna Asphalt Services to replace asphalt at Station 2. Commissioner Matarese seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).**

### **2022-2023 Budget Draft 1**

Deputy Chief Bradshaw reviewed the 2022-2023 Proposed Budget. In this draft, there are no revenue changes. He reviewed anticipated wage increases with consideration of upcoming retirements. Deputy Chief Falcone has met with personnel and this draft displays projected maintenance and repair costs along with additional gear. This reflects a net operating increase of 3%. He reviewed the Non-Ad Valorem summary noting the Florida Personal Income Growth rate of 6.78% The estimated revenue level is approximately 14 million dollars with the District's 5-year plan still on track to hire 6 additional firefighters. Discussion ensued.

### **Response Update**

Deputy Chief Falcone informed of the response trial period, which allows more personnel on scene by utilizing Engine 211 and Ladder truck 219 with Engine 212 as reserve out of Station 1. Through research and practice, this improves our efficiency. The new response model is fully implemented without any issues. As for the closest unit response, our new response model better

lines up with the Manatee County Closest Unit Response Matrix that is expected to be implemented in July 2022.

**CHIEF’S REPORT**

Chief Hoyle reviewed the departmental reports. He confirmed the Training Tower should be completed shortly and suggested a Grand Opening the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in October during Fire Prevention Week.

**COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS**

Chairman Getman announced he would be running for re-election.

Commissioner Findlay announced he would be running for re-election.

Discussion proceeded in regard to hiring the next fire chief within the District or search outside the District. Commissioner Reasoner suggested the process of screening within the District and then leave the door open to search outside the District as a two-way process. Chairman Getman suggested consulting District Counsel to eliminate the possibility of violating any rules. The Board decided to make a decision at the next meeting on May 19, 2022.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting of the Board is May 19, 2022.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION: Commissioner Findlay moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.**

**Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion passed (5-0).**

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED May 19, 2022

Chairman Ronald D. Getman