

Minutes of the Virtual Regular Meeting of the
Board of Fire Commissioners
Cedar Hammock Fire Control District
January 21, 2021

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Getman at 6:00 p.m. The following commissioners were present in person: Richard G. Findlay, Ronald D. Getman, Marnie E. Matarese, Samuel A. Reasoner, and John H. Stevens. District Attorney Mooney was available virtually.

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pastor Pavkovich gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Getman asked if there was any discussion of the minutes.

ACTION: Vice Chairman Stevens moved to strike “Chairman Getman said that the Board was not to talk to union representatives.” under Commissioner Comments in the proposed minutes of November 19, 2020. Commissioner Findlay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Commissioner Reasoner moved to approve the consent Agenda with the edit to the Minutes. Vice Chairman Stevens seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Chief Hoyle announced the 2020 employee awards: Deputy Chief Joe Falcone – Exemplary Duty Award; Captain Matthew Rose – Fire Officer of The Year; Captain Billy Smith – Staff Employee of The Year; and Firefighter John Eibe – Firefighter of The Year.

He thanked the Board of Fire Commissioners for their support of the Firefighter of the Year award. He announced the recent promotion of Firefighter Blake Sullivan to Third Class. He announced the milestone of 20 Years of Service to Firefighter Bobby Wadsworth and Battalion Chief Doug Brett.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

OLD BUSINESS

USPS Issues Update

Deputy Chief Bradshaw informed the commissioners that mail service delivery has returned to normal. The District was prepared to purchase a mail receptacle in order to receive mail during business hours. Staff met with management of the postal service and was able to get mail delivery restored without this unnecessary purchase.

Training Tower Update

Deputy Chief Bradshaw is waiting on a final determination from the architect. He is preparing a Request for Proposals to hire a construction contractor. The RFP will be advertised; proposals submitted over 28-day period and a short-list committee will be formed. The committee will report to the Board with recommendations for approval.

The Zoom meeting was experiencing technical difficulties and Chairman Getman recessed for a few minutes while audio of the meeting was restored.

IT Services Update

Deputy Chief Bradshaw said that a new fire wall was installed for a greater level of security. We are in the process of migrating our email. He will reach out to commissioners with new sign-on information. Discussion ensued.

Regional Radio Grant Update

Deputy Chief Falcone informed the Board that Manatee County is not going to pursue the Regional Radio Grant. We were informed we were not a good candidate and the grant is no longer available to us. Motorola, however, is offering significant discounts through Manatee County's purchase agreement. Purchasing the Motorola radios will give us uniformity and provide improved features. Discussion ensued.

ACTION: Commissioner Findlay moved to approve \$176,974.30 to purchase Motorola radios with a 5% price variance. The Board acknowledges this purchase would require a budget adjustment to be made at the reconciliation of our audit or when they see fit. The Board also authorizes Chief Hoyle to execute documents for this purchase. Vice Chairman Stevens seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Thermal Imaging Camera Purchase

Deputy Chief Falcone reviewed the memo from Captain Rudrud to purchase six new thermal imaging cameras, lanyards, and chargers quoted at \$48,303.00 as contained in the exhibit. Fulfilling this purchase will satisfy our five-year plan for replacement of the thermal imagers. Discussion ensued.

ACTION: Commissioner Matarese moved to purchase the six thermal imaging cameras as presented. Commissioner Reasoner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SCBA Purchase

Deputy Chief Falcone informed the Board that a committee has been formed by personnel to review demonstrations from vendors to evaluate SCBA equipment. The committee will make a recommendation in the near future to bring before the Board for purchasing approval.

Station One AC Replacement

Deputy Chief Falcone reviewed the memo from Battalion Chief Billy Whitfield recommending AAP Air Services to repair and install new air conditioning equipment as outlined in the exhibit. Discussion ensued. Chairman Getman suggested getting an energy audit from FPL.

ACTION: Commissioner Reasoner moved to approve the quote of \$22,110 from AAP Air Services as presented to repair and replace air conditioning equipment at Station One. Chairman Getman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Hoyle reviewed the departmental reports.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Matarese thanked staff for being helpful in answering questions.

Commissioner Findlay proposed that the District provide a social media platform. Deputy Chief Bradshaw said that he had reached out to neighboring departments for recommendations on handling this project. He said that it was highly recommended to have some type of archival method. Each post/comment is considered a transaction. Archival companies bill per transaction with an average of \$150 per month on the low end and up to \$400 per month on the high end. Counselor Mooney reminded Commissioners that social media posts and/or comments are subject to Florida's Public Records and Sunshine Law. Discussion ensued. Chairman Getman asked to table this subject until the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Commissioner Findlay moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Commissioner Reasoner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

APPROVED FEBRUARY 18, 2021

Chairman Ronald D. Getman