

BAYSHORE FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
March 8, 2011

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Ducrou

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation – Moment of Silence

Roll Call: Commissioner Ducrou – Present
Commissioner Hansen – Excused
Commissioner Cook – Present
Commissioner Griffin – Present
Commissioner Klos – Present
Chief Larry Nisbet - Present
Office Manager - Theresa Sharp - Present
Attorney Ian Mann –Excused

Others Present: Some public

Minutes – Review and Acceptance of the minutes of the February 8, 2011 Board of Commissioners Meeting. Motion made by Commissioner Cook to accept the minutes. Motion seconded by Commissioner Klos. Chairman Ducrou calls for questions or comments. With no questions or discussion and none opposed, motion carries.

Financial Report: Review & Acceptance of the February 2011 Financials. Commissioner Klos motioned acceptance of the February financials. Commissioner Griffin seconded the Motion. With no questions or discussion, and none opposed, motion carries.

Admin/Ops/Fire Marshal's-Report (attached) – Chief Nisbet reads Fire Marshal and Administration reports into the record. Chief Nisbet notes that call volume/type was unavailable due to computer issues; he will supply those numbers for the record next month. Chairman Ducrou calls for questions. None are noted. Chief Nisbet adds the announcement that Captain Underwood has had his second baby, a boy. Congratulations are expressed. Chairman Ducrou asks Chief Nisbet to go into more detail on item one of the Administration report, the development of Fire Call taking and determinant enhancement. Chief Nisbet states that they got the County to purchase the Fire Pro-QA system. They are presently using the EMS Pro-QA system with their medical priority dispatch to get more information for incident dispatches; and now they have been able to talk the County into purchasing the Fire side of that. In the last 30 years, there have been 17 different fire call determinants identified. He gives the example that if a gallon of gasoline is spilled on the road it is dispatched as a hazmat. If you have an ashtray on fire in the lobby of a building and the lobby is outside the building, it is dispatched as a commercial building structure fire. This system will more properly identify and dispatch the call. We are looking at the resource types that are needed for those incidents. Some of them won't change but it should actually be a lot better. We should actually have a lot better information as to what type call we are going to. Chief Nisbet states he and Chief Noble are sitting the committee for the north side; Chief Kinsey and Mark Walag is sitting for the south side, and a couple guys are sitting for the islands. Cape Coral is also involved since they are going to adopt the same system. We are trying to get to a standardized call taking system so that the right types of resources are being dispatched. We are also trying to ensure that enough

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apparatus is dispatched to handle the scene appropriately and that there enough personnel on scene to meet the NFPA1710 personnel requirements. Even if it takes us 20 minutes to get those resources on scene, we want to make sure we have the right number of people on scene. Commissioner Cook asks how that is going over with the fire chiefs, if everyone is happy with it. Chief Nisbet replies that they do not have a finished product yet, but the Fire Chief's Association that we have now is probably the most educated the county has ever had. He states that most everyone has their degrees, and the days of some saying they don't want to work with this guy or that guy, are over, that they are getting a lot of things done collectively. He adds that they are getting ready to put some things together on collective purchasing; such as gear, and uniforms, things along those lines. They are primarily working on dispatch first and those things will be addressed soon after. Commissioner Cook is pleased. Commissioner Ducrou also approves. Commissioner Ducrou inquires of the data loss and if we have an automatic backup system now. Chief Nisbet responds to the affirmative, but notes that we had a corrupt file in Firehouse that we are not exactly sure how it got there, possibly in moving information from the old to the new server. During that period is where we ended up with the corrupt data. We have all the calls and information on a separate system, but we don't want to import it into our clean system that we have now. So we have to transfer information from one screen to another. Commissioner Ducrou interprets that as the corruption is in the backup. Chief Nisbet replies that it's buried in there right now. Captain Underwood states that we were using doctor backup, and it has been working flawlessly, but the way that Firehouse installed on the new server, there's like a ghost file that you install Firehouse on but they didn't realize it was not going to work, they (Firehouse) has since sent repair disks and then they said that was not going to work and advised us not to use it, and then they had us change the way we installed it on the system. Doctor Backup didn't know, and didn't catch all the sensitive information, so we were losing patient and employee information. Chief Nisbet continues that we had all of our calls and run numbers, but mostly what we lost was activities. Commissioner Ducrou asks if they are referring to the daily log. Chief Nisbet responds "yes" that you could see the activity, but not who performed it. It's a Dr. Backup security protection to protect privacy rights. January 12th was the day the backup was corrupt, everything prior to that was ok. Captain Underwood goes on to add that we have since implemented an additional back up of the Firehouse file as an extra precaution, similar to what Theresa does for QuickBooks. The new back up will go directly to Firehouse so that if anything happens they have it. Chairman Ducrou seems satisfied and he goes on to call for further discussion. Hearing none, he calls for petitions.

Petitions before the Board – None

Union Petitions/Discussions – None

Old Business – North Fort Myers' Engine 5 – Chief Nisbet concedes that what Commissioner Cook had stated last meeting was correct, North is not going to donate the engine, but rather are auctioning it as one of their commissioners feel they can get \$40,000 for the truck. Chief's recommendation is not to purchase it for \$40,000 as he could purchase a commercial pumper brand new and use that \$40,000 for 2 of the payments. He recommends we pass on it. Commissioner Cook asks if we aren't going to use it? Chief Nisbet states it is available to us as a backup engine. Chief Nisbet adds that Chief Noble was pretty apologetic, he felt pretty sure it would just be a quick, easy done deal, but it didn't go that way. Chief Nisbet states he understands since they are trying to buy a light/med. Duty rescue & want to use the funds for that. Commissioner Ducrou asks what is happening with the Captiva Truck.

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Chief Nisbet advises it is going to the auction, so they haven't done anything with it. Commissioner Ducrou asks when the auction is. Chief Nisbet replies "April", the first week. Commissioner Ducrou asks how often we check it. Chief Nisbet replies we don't. we start it once a week, if that. Commissioner Ducrou asks if they have records on the servicing. Chief Nisbet acknowledges that they do. Commissioner Ducrou reminds that they were only looking for \$2000, he asks if we could offer them \$1000 for it, and if it turns out we don't want to keep it we can put it on gov deals and make that and then some. Chief Nisbet states his biggest concern with that truck is the open jump seats. He feels that is also of concern to some of the guys. But the truck is in good shape, for its age, it has low miles. It's just a regular old pumper. Commissioner Cook interprets that as the Chief not being interested in it. Chief Nisbet states that between the two he would rather have engine 5. Chief Nisbet states he had priced out what it would cost to do a full conversion on it, to a full cab with Pierce, who wanted \$148,000. That was to do a full refurb on it, with paint, but in his opinion, if he's going to spend that kind of money he's going to buy a new truck. Chief Nisbet continues, to be honest, he wants the urban interface pumper. He feels that is our next best option truck. Chief states in his opinion if we were to purchase that truck, he would want to leave it sit until we either traded it in or sold it to get some money for the urban interface truck. Right now, we are running rescue out of the brush truck, which is not ideal for a rescue, but it works. We don't have our second tool out as readily, with the urban interface pumper is going to be our best option down the road. Then we could run rescue and have a second out engine, giving us the functionality of two pieces of equipment in one; thereby reducing fleet cost and fleet inventory. Commissioner Ducrou states that it is still the money though. Unless we have a five year plan and we've looked at the financials, he feels really uncomfortable trying to take on another payment like that. Chief states he is starting to work on that and we had spoke of doing a workshop, and he would like to bring that at the next meeting, once he gets a chance to get some of that set up. He states he has also approached some of the business people in the district to see if they would be interested in coming in and giving some insight and being involved in looking at some different things that we are looking at too. Chief Nisbet goes on to say that he can see if they are interested in \$1,000 for it and offers to check with some of the staff to determine their interest in putting it in service, and then if we don't, we can turn around and sell it. Chairman Ducrou passes the gavel to the Vice-Chairman and proposes we offer \$1,000 providing the pump and gauges and they have mechanical records on the vehicle, and we can wait for further meeting to decide what to do with it, such as putting it on govdeals to use the money for something else, or refurbish it . Commissioner Cook seconds the motion. With no opposed, motion passes. Chief Nisbet inquires if they do accept the offer of \$1,000 is he then authorized to proceed. Chairman Ducrou states, he is. Chairman Ducrou asks for any other old business. Hearing none, he asks about the five year plan. Chief Nisbet states that now that we have been confirmed for the SAFER grant, the five year strategic plan that we were to update in January, but held off on, pending notification of the status of the SAFER... Commissioner Ducrou states "no", he was inquiring of the five year financial study we discussed at the last session. Chief Nisbet states that he had been concentrating on getting the SAFER grant secured, but now that it is, we are going to need to sit down and do some projections to include benefits, salaries, taking care of the guys, and capital improvement costs. He states that we could have more than one commissioner sit down with him to go over some stuff in the form of a workshop, that we just can't make any decisions, but just more of an informational meeting, and then bring it back to the board in the form of budget workshops. He says he feels that would be beneficial. He advises the board that we begin our budget process April first when the employees start providing their cost estimates for their areas of responsibility. We will

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also begin talking to insurance companies trying to find out what's available and forecast health insurance costs. Chief states it would appear that things have slowed down on the decline and maybe leveled out, or improving in some areas, but not enough, so he feels our rebound is going to be painfully slow since 78% of our homes are homesteaded, which on a banner year, would be a 3% increase, and on a very slow year it would only be 1% and that's not even taking into consideration what portability is going to do to us. He goes on to say that new construction adds to the gain but once things start breaking ground, it's eighteen months before we see it on the tax roll. Commissioner Cook states that that is going to be slow. Commissioner Ducrou states that even with new growth, while you get the impact fees, the portability might hurt you very much in the kind of tax revenue you're getting. Chief agrees. Commissioner Cook states that that's even going to be extremely slow and this fuel situation isn't going to help either. Chief Nisbet offers that if there are a couple of commissioners that wish to sit with him and start to do strategic planning so we can start building a five year strategic financial plan, we can get started this month or next. Commissioner Cook states that would be a good job for a Chairman. Chairman Ducrou states he would be happy to help out. Hearing no other offers at this time Chairman Ducrou asks that any other commissioners interested in participating, please contact Chief Nisbet and we will set dates that work for everyone involved. Chief Nisbet states that when we get to the actual budget workshops, we can schedule those on the same night as the board meetings if the commissioners wish, or we can schedule them for a different night under more relaxed environment, whatever pleases the commissioners. We just need to make sure that we advertise them and that we don't make any decisions or policies. He states that he would like to include the DVP when we do them to make sure that we are addressing any of the bargaining unit concerns as we proceed. Chairman Ducrou agrees wholeheartedly and adds that it also helps avoid rumors.

New Business –

- **Forestry 50/50 Grant** - Chief Nisbet advises that on the front of brush 131 we have a nozzle that articulates 180° that we can attack fire off the front of that vehicle. That nozzle is a Santa Rosa nozzle which was an old crash truck nozzle. They went out of business in 1974. The chain broke on it and we have been trying to get parts for three months. To Chief it is a safety issue and he wants a nozzle back on the front of that truck. He had Mac McGarry from Elkhart Brass quote him for a new nozzle which has a 95 gpm flow, joystick, 2" valve, and electric wiring; the total was \$5,114.28. He adds that Johnny Bryson from Forestry informed him that he could apply for a 50/50 grant for that. Chief applied for the grant and we were approved, so he asks the board to accept this grant that will take the cost of the nozzle down to \$2,606.00. Commissioner Klos asks if that is installed. Chief Nisbet states that we do the install. He says Captain Underwood has already looked at it and its going to be easy. He adds that all three nozzles on the fronts of our brush trucks will be identical with the exception of the 95 gpm nozzle on that truck because of the larger tank on it. Commissioner Cook asks for our cost to be repeated. Chief responds \$2,606.00. Commissioner Cook makes a motion to accept the 50/50 Forestry Grant and to spend no more than \$2,700 on the acquisition of the nozzle. Commissioner Klos seconded the motion. Chief notes freight will be approximately \$100 additional and a friendly amendment is made to \$2,800 to cover freight. With none opposed the motion passes.
- **Forestry 50/50 Grant (#2)** – Chief Nisbet notes his concern for safety and our ability to communicate with Forestry when we are away from the brush truck. He advises that we have a

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couple of VHF portables now, one in his vehicle and one in the engine, but there is not one for the brush truck. He calls their attention to the flyer which pictures the ones just purchased by Forestry for all of their rangers, which are quite inexpensive at \$183 per radio. They are 99 channels and 5 watt with military spec. impact resistance. He has applied for another 50/50 grant to help in the purchase three of these radios. He estimates the total cost to be under \$800 and includes the programming software and cable, and an extra battery; with the grant, about \$348-\$350.00. Commissioner Cook asks how Forestry likes theirs. Chief replies that they love them. And if one breaks, it will only cost about \$90.00. He has already sent the paperwork to Tallahassee and should hear back in the next couple of days. Commissioner Cook states that we can wait until next meeting to make the decision, but Chief Nisbet reminds that brushfire season will be in full swing by that time. Commissioner Cook states Chief is always in a hurry. Commissioner Ducrou calls it efficient. Commissioner Klos asks if Forestry doesn't usually get them for us. Chief responds that they do not, the VHF portables we have come from EOC Cache, from USAR. He adds that USAR currently has all of their radios up at camp landing for several weeks of training. Commissioner Ducrou asks if we will be able to program them ourselves. Chief confirms we will. Commissioner Ducrou asks how much we expect it to cost us. Chief replies that our share would little enough that the budget would absorb it, so he is really asking the board to accept the grant so we can get the 50% assistance. Commissioner Cook makes a motion to accept the 50/50 grant for the radios. Commissioner Griffin seconds the motion. Chairman Ducrou calls for further discussion. Hearing none, he calls for opposed, with none heard, motion passes.

Recess: 7:31

Executive Session: 7:31 - 8:03

Reconvene: 8:03

Additional New Business –

- Chief states he has no more new business, just a couple points of information. Friday, Saturday & Sunday is the MDA boot drive. Chief invites anyone interested in participating the hours will be 8:00-10:00 in the morning and 4:00-6:00 in the afternoon. Commissioner Griffin asks where we are doing it. Chief responds that Bayshore & I75 is our spot.
- Chief announces that we went to Upriver Campground Monday for their annual Fire Department appreciation day. A gentleman there that Mike and Heather had helped when he was having a heart attack took a donation collection for us which totaled \$7,000. The board is duly impressed.
- Chief Nisbet announces that March 11 marks the 40th anniversary of the death of Abe Whidden who was killed in the line of duty responding to a false alarm when his brush truck rolled over at Nalle and Palm Creek. He was our First Founding Fire Chief of the Bayshore Fire Department. The Department will be flying the flag at half mast that day and one of Chief Whidden's family remaining in the area may come and place a wreath on the pole. His niece works at Lawhon's. Everyone agrees that would be nice.

Commissioner Ducrou mentions a thought for next year's MDA boot drive; it might be a good idea to schedule it during the fair. Chief says he tried to get our dates moved this year for the fair dates, but they were locked in. Chairman Ducrou calls to attention the Fire Chief of the Year Award letter that he had requested be put in the commissioner's packets this meeting.

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Public Input - None

Motion to Adjourn – Commissioner Cook motions adjournment. Seconded by Commissioner Klos. Vote called & passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.