

BAYSHORE FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
June 11, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Griffin

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation – Commissioner Hansen

Roll Call: Commissioner Ducrou – Excused

Commissioner Griffin – Present

Commissioner Klos – Present

Commissioner Cook – Excused

Commissioner Hansen –Present

Chief Larry Nisbet - Present

Office Manager - Theresa Sharp - Present

Attorney Ian Mann –Absent

Others Present: None

Minutes – Review and Acceptance of the minutes of the May 14, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting. Motion made by Commissioner Klos to accept the minutes. Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman Griffin calls for questions or comments. With no questions or discussion and none opposed, motion carries.

Financial Report: Review & Acceptance of the May financials. Commissioner Hansen motioned acceptance of the May financials. Commissioner Klos seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman Griffin calls for questions or comments. With no questions or discussion, and none opposed, motion carries.

Admin/Ops/Fire Marshal's Report (attached) –Chief Nisbet states there is no Fire Marshall report as it had been a light month and we are awaiting further plans to review for the Love's Travel Plaza. He reads the Administration report into the record. He adds the addendum that we did receive approval of our amendment to utilize the remaining approximately \$5,400 of funds available from the 2010 SAFER. He continues, and then adds the addendum that brush 132 did go into service today as the rescue truck. Vice-Chairman Griffin calls for questions or comments. Hearing none Vice-Chairman Griffin calls for any Petitions before the Board.

Petitions before the Board – None

Union Petitions/Discussions – None

Old Business –

- **Chief's Performance Evaluation** – It is decided that the commissioners can drop them off at their convenience and get with Chief individually as they wish, to review the evaluations since the Board attendance is at minimum, some of them did not bring the evaluations with them, and Chief will be excused from the July meeting. With no further discussion, Vice-Chairman Griffin calls for the next order of business.
- **Engine 133** – Chief Nisbet states that he has received no interest in E-133 despite advertising through various venues, phone calls, and conversations in various circles,

BAYSHORE FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

June 11, 2013

and therefore requests the Board permit him to auction it next month. Commissioner Klos asks if he tried the Academy. Chief states they want it donated. Commissioner Klos suggests we trade it to them for training. Chief replies he has to have staff to utilize that and he would have to incur overtime to send staff to the training. He would rather sell it to them, but he is at the point he doubts we will get \$10,000 for it. He feels we should try to get as much money for it as we can in light of the budget issues facing us. If it doesn't sell at auction, he would then consider giving it to someone, as he wants to get it out of here and off the books. While we are carrying minimal insurance on it, it is still insured and costs us to hold on to it. Commissioner Hansen asks about the two schools that offer firefighter training, Ida Baker and East Lee. Chief Nisbet states they are all coordinating now through the Fire Academy, most of the kids go to the Academy for their practical training days. They have actually made some adjustments in that program, which is working out very well. He says it is up to the Board and what they want to do, we might get \$5,000 or we might get more; we got more out of the Chief's car than we thought we would. Someone may want it there, but he is still waiting on Bob Jones from Glades County to come see it. If he makes us a decent offer, if the Board authorizes, we can do that, or we can send it to auction, or if the Board wants him to take some other direction...Commissioner Hansen offers that Danny Ballard might want it. Chief replies he does not, it's not old enough for his collection. Commissioner Griffin asks if there is any specific dollar amount we need to get for it. Chief states we do not, he is just trying to recoup some of the cost we put in to the Chief's car this year that wasn't budgeted but needed replacement. We've made up \$4,200, but he is looking to make up more of that expense. Commissioner Klos would like to see us have the Academy come out and take a look at it, Rob Wall and Tracy, and Troy. Chief states he has already spoken to Tracy four times regarding it, he is not interested. Commissioner Klos concedes that it is probably good to just take it to auction then, to try to get rid of it. He asks if we take it to the auction up here. Chief Nisbet confirms and says Frank Land said he would take care of it, and he doesn't charge us a commission. Commissioner Klos suggests we go ahead and let the man from Glades take a look and then just go ahead to auction to get it out of here. Commissioner Griffin asks how much the insurance is. Chief doesn't know the dollar number for the current coverage, but it is at bare bones right now, for about \$10,000, if it were to catch fire or something. But there is really no equipment on it except for a radio we will remove. Commissioner Griffin was wondering if the premium was a couple hundred a month or what. Chief states it is more like \$500 a year, or something, but it is still an expense we don't need. Commissioner Griffin agrees. Commissioner Klos says if the man from Glades doesn't want it we should auction it. Commissioner Griffin asks if we plan on putting a reserve on it. Chief says he will try, and would recommend that if we do that, he would suggest about \$5,000. Commissioner Griffin agrees that is the number he was thinking. He doesn't want to see it go for anything like \$2,500 or \$2,000. Commissioner Hansen asks what the scrap value is on it. Chief Nisbet states that is hard to say, he was thinking of asking Garden Street to come out and take a look, because the motor is barely broken in, and the pump has a lot of brass in there. From what he understands, Garden Street will require the tires be removed, the fluids drained...Commissioner Klos asks about Red's Recovery, they will come out and tow it as it sits, and they make the money on the scrap. They might give us \$3,000 for it and then they might get \$3,500 or \$4,000. Chief says he will give them a call tomorrow. Commissioner Griffin suggests before we scrap it, we need to send it to auction to make sure we get the most for it. Commissioner Klos agrees. Chief Nisbet

BAYSHORE FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

June 11, 2013

states that Frank said he would put it on his national site to see if we get any other Fire Departments interested in it. He feels \$5,000 is a good reserve as someone is going to have to low boy or haul it out of here. Commissioner Griffin asks if it's still driveable. Chief replies, yes, the tires are still good, and it still runs, and it will run out there, but...He explains what he did last year, when he had to replace tires on E-131, he took both trucks to GCR and had them take the tires off E-133 which was the old E-One, because we had just put new tires on that, and had those tires put on the new engine so it only cost us like \$110 per tire to change them around instead of buying new tires, we spent like \$800. Vice-Chairman Griffin calls for questions or comments. Hearing none he calls for any other old business.

- **Update on SAFER** – Chief Nisbet states he has reached out to Senator Nelson and Congressman Radel, to find out what the lag is on the new application period, and what the issue is about potentially getting us funded since there is still \$70 million in unspent funds according to their website. He received correspondence from Congressman Radel's office stating they are looking at August as the application period for the new SAFER. He also spoke to the IAFF and the IAFC today, their understanding was that the new application period was to be forthcoming in the next four weeks. Therefore in his opinion, he does not feel the left hand knows what the right is doing. He states he does not mean that disrespectfully, but it is getting frustrating and he wants answers, he wants to know where we are at on our application and how to proceed forward. He talked to Chief D'Armond over at Tice about it today, and reached out to Nat Ippolito, the retired Chief at San Carlos who volunteers here for us, and Nat gave him his information on someone to contact at the IAFC, and if everyone is not on vacation, he can get ahold of someone to talk to..., he states he may have to go up to DC and work the halls to get this taken care of. He will be working on this tomorrow, if it does appear that a trip would be in order, he would probably do that pretty quick, because he would like us to have an opportunity for the 2012 money before that disappears.
- **Property Values** – Chief Nisbet states he is not happy about the preliminary numbers we received. We had an increase last year and now a decrease this year, and everyone he has spoken to here has had their property values go up. The County is very unhappy with the numbers they are seeing since Collier County went up 7%, Charlotte County saw over 6%, why are we not also seeing an increase? We are going to wait to see what the July numbers look like, but if he is not happy with those numbers, if we don't see a significant swing or they are worse, he plans on doing a public records request to the Property Appraiser's office to inquire exactly how he assessed the Districts, the formula he used, and what he used as a compass. Commissioner Griffin asks who is over that now. Chief Nisbet states it is still Ken Wilkinson, which unfortunately it is a double edged sword, as he does assess the fire districts prior to the application of homestead which is a benefit he allows that many property appraisers do not. Chief is not saying he's doing something wrong, he just wants to know how he gets the numbers. Commissioner Griffin agrees, his view is a majority of everything has gone up. It doesn't make sense to him either. Chief states he was told by someone at the County that the appraiser did get a new computer program for setting up the assessments, and they were having some difficulty in that, so these numbers might have been put out as preliminary numbers to fill some legal requirement, allowing him time to work out the rest of the data; we'll wait to see what the July number looks like, but he's not happy about this set. Commissioner Griffin

BAYSHORE FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

June 11, 2013

asks if no-one could give him any answers. Chief replies, of course not. He continues that the public records request will probably go through the Lee County Fire Chiefs because Tice took a 7% hit, Fort Myers Shores came up, Alva took a 2 ½% hit, North Fort Myers came up less than 1%, a majority of Fire Districts saw minimal increases or decreases, but Upper Captiva went down 12%. He states he can't imagine that a fire in 2 houses cost them 12%. It just doesn't make sense. Again, he states that when we get the information, it may be right, he's not saying it's wrong, but he feels he should have to tell us how he figures it. Chief Nisbet explains that Representative Caldwell's bill the assessment would not be strictly a fire assessment, it could be anything, it could be an operational assessment. Also, we don't have to step completely away from Ad Valorem. We could still assess a small Ad Valorem or we could just do away with Ad Valorem altogether and just do an assessment fee. He's not sure whether that would benefit us or hurt us, what amounts we would have to set. Commissioner Hansen asks if you would have to have a vote every time you wanted to change the assessment. Chief Nisbet replies no, you would have to have a vote by referendum to adopt that, so if we abandon Ad Valorem and move to assessment, or if we have a split system, we have to have a vote. He continues that, as he understands it, in the enabling documentation we can set an increase or decrease mechanism based on the personal income percentage within the county over the last 5 years. So if the average personal income in Lee County went up 2.5% in the last 5 years, then we could set a maximum increase or decrease of the assessment fees that we could decide to do, or not do, on a yearly basis. For areas like LeHigh, this is huge. They have something like 92,000 undeveloped lots. This is not set to rooftops, this is set to property lots, so on those lots they are currently collecting \$20 and if they went to say a \$150 assessment fee, and if their homeowners are paying \$350 to \$450, the homeowners are going to get a reduction down to \$150 and the vacant lot owners are going to have to pay \$150, which is going to take care of the budget issues. Best case scenario is that it would appear on the 2014 ballot, and take effect in 2015. Right now it is sitting on the Governor's desk, whether he signs it or not. The only thing that would stop it is if he vetos it; and it is tied to a lot of other stuff from the Fire Marshalls office. Chief really doesn't see that not passing. Hearing no further discussion or questions Vice-Chairman calls for anyother old business. Hearing none, he calls for new business.

New Business –

- **Chief's vacation** – Chief Nisbet states he's going on vacation – he is going to miss the July meeting.
- **Commissioner Klos asks what vehicles besides Chief's use regular gas.** Chief responds the service truck and the hand equipment, and asks if he is looking at the \$100 charge. Commissioner Klos states it looks weird to him, because it is every third day that we buy gas. He's not understanding why we buy gas every third day when we only have the service truck. Chief states we have the service truck and his vehicle and he doesn't go below ½ tank, and that 's about the same frequency as the last truck he had. Commissioner Klos asks how many miles is on Chief's vehicle now. Chief responds that it may be just below 4,000. Commissioner Klos asks if that is Chief's use then. Chief says it may be. Commissioner Klos states it just strikes him funny that the same shift is always getting fuel. He asks Chief if the \$103 charge is his. Chief responds that that is the service truck and station gas cans for the mower and hand tools. He states that a

BAYSHORE FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

June 11, 2013

majority, probably 95% of them are his. (Upon review by office manager, all use was B-1 Chief's vehicle, except the one for \$103). Commissioner Hansen asks what it costs Chief to fill up. Chief responds about \$40 and he fills up about twice a week. Usually he fills up the first of the week and then again about Thursday, unless we have a lot of calls.

Commissioner Klos states he was just concerned that no-one else was using our account or filling up their boat. The office manager states we watch that very closely. Chief adds that we watch everything and a code is required at the pump. Chief asks how much it was this month. Commissioner Klos states \$400. Chief replies that it is actually less than when he was running the Expedition.

- **Commissioner Klos recalls that a year or so ago we had a discussion about using personal cards for the station and then getting reimbursed and we determined we were not going to do that.** He notes there is a reimbursement for a personal credit card purchase in this bill run. Chief Nisbet explains that it was an initiative that was taken by one of the employees that was good for the department and he did it on his own, and it very rarely happens, and we have put a stop to it. Commissioner Klos states he understands, but he doesn't want it to come back at us, because if he's using his Amazon credit card he's getting credits he can use for a purchase for himself. He knows because he has an Amazon Credit Card. Chief says OK. He asks Chief if he doesn't have a problem with that. Chief states he does not, because it was an isolated event and he did something that saved the department because we were looking at spending eighty or ninety dollars for those. Commissioner Klos interrupts asking "Don't we have a credit card?" Chief states we do but he did it on his own and he didn't ask for it (the reimbursement) but Chief didn't think he should have to pay them out of his own pocket when it was something we were going to do anyway. Commissioner Klos lets it go at this time.
- **Commissioner Hansen asks if Chief reviews the P&L Budget to Actual Report line usage percentages** – Chief Nisbet responds that he does, that he asks the Office Manager about them all the time. Commissioner Hansen notes that there are a lot of them over 100%. Chief Nisbet states that when we set our budget we set our best guess estimate of what it's going to be, and it's not uncommon for us to exceed some line items from year to year where we've had some additional cost. He explains an example would be contract training will be a large percentage over budget as we had a training program that came available that he felt was beneficial for a certain number of employees that the cost was much less than if he sent them for that type of training. He notes that a majority of the items are well within where they should be, and some are at 90% right now, for instance the insurances, because we are getting ready to make our last payment on some of those. And then there is one that is not which would be leave coverage overtime because we started the year out with someone on work comp, so that number is going to be over, but on some of the ones that are significantly over, (Kid's Christmas is excessively over but is directly proportionate to the donations we receive toward it in the form of checks that then must be deposited and then the money spent), but the one Commissioner Hansen is focussed on is the Printing and Binding which is reflecting the unanticipated promotional testing for Engineer Edwards' position which Chief Nisbet explains he opted to use a purchased program to prevent any grievances. He adds that Repair and Maintenance Building is at 120% or \$620 because we found some water damage in the shower, and it is strictly supplies and the guys did the work, and building improvements has not had a penny used there. Commissioner Hansen asks if that is operating supplies. Chief states no, operating supplies are extra items we need for daily operations. Commissioner Hansen notes we have gone over double that. Chief Nisbet

BAYSHORE FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

June 11, 2013

notes the biggest lines we are going to be over on are going to be the vehicle and the leave coverage overtime line. He anticipates we will be about \$10,000 over on leave coverage because of the work comp and we were double last year. Commissioner Hansen asks when we start fixing the line item categories. Chief Nisbet states that we do that right when we are getting ready to close out the budget. (It is after we have all expenses for the year recorded as the Board likes it zeroed out.) Chief Nisbet expects our payroll expenses to be less and our insurance expenses to be less because of transition of more senior people replaced by entry level. He also anticipates we will be under in vehicle maintenance as well. We are well below budget and we had no brushfire season so we didn't tear anything up, and engine 132 is under warranty, the brush trucks are in good shape, and his vehicle will be under warranty for 3 year. Commissioner Griffin asks what kind of mileage limit there is on Chief's vehicle warranty, or is that just 3 years, however many miles? Chief believes that state price is 3 years, and powertrain is like 10 years. Commissioner Griffin states he was wondering if it was any different than from the normal person's warranty. Chief states he believes that with the state bid they try to keep it at the 3 years even though emergency vehicle use is considered a higher wear and tear.

- With no further discussion or comments and no-one present for Public Input, Commissioner Klos motions adjournment. Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion and with none opposed, motion passes and meeting is adjourned at 7:37pm.