

BAYSHORE FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
March 12, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Ducrou

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation – Commissioner Hansen

Roll Call: Commissioner Ducrou – Present

Commissioner Griffin – Present (7:06)

Commissioner Klos – Present

Commissioner Cook – Excused

Commissioner Hansen –Present

Chief Larry Nisbet - Present

Office Manager - Theresa Sharp - Present

Attorney Ian Mann –Present

Others Present: Some Public

Minutes – Review and Acceptance of the minutes of the February 12, 2013 Board of Commissioners meeting. Motion made by Commissioner Klos to accept the minutes. Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion. Chairman Ducrou calls for questions or comments. With no questions or discussion and none opposed, motion carries.

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

Admin/Ops/Fire Marshal's-Report (attached) –Chief Nisbet reads the Fire Marshall and Administration reports into the record. Commissioner Ducrou inquires as to whether we do anything with Upriver. Chief Nisbet responds that we highly value their support and whatever they want, they pretty much get. He states we hold CPR training, as well as participate in their chili cook-off and just last week he and his wife attended a barn dance with square dancing, at their invitation. There are comments from DVP Lemieux and Commissioner Ducrou about how well they take care of us. Chief Nisbet states that every year it is more and more; and he finds it very humbling when he sees how much they truly care about us. With no other questions or comments, Chairman Ducrou calls for any Petitions before the Board.

Petitions before the Board – None

Union Petitions/Discussions – None – Chairman Ducrou states how nice it is to see the staff present this evening.

Chief Nisbet takes this opportunity to introduce Brandon Andersen to the Board; stating that Brandon has been a volunteer with Bayshore for about 10 years and is now our newest full time member, taking the position FF Garretto vacated. He adds we have another starting on Monday to fill Justin's spot, another volunteer, Josh Gollither. The Board welcomes FF Andersen warmly.

Old Business –

- **SAFER Update** Chief Nisbet updates the Board on the status of the SAFER Grant stating that either due to the sequester or the performance periods, we have received a denial on the SAFER. He continues that he has been in contact with the IAFF, the

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IAFC, the AFG, and FEMA, and that while he has not received a straight answer on the denial yet, he's discovered that there is \$50 Million set aside for the Vow to Hire Hometown Heroes Act, and if that money is not allocated or utilized by March 27th, there are going to be some additional awards, and we and Tice are possibly looking at being awarded some of those funds. If that does not take place, at that point, we will wait for the SAFER 2013 application period, which there is every indication that once the appropriations take place, hopefully the end of March, they will immediately release the guidance documents on the 2013 SAFER. He continues that there is the ability for us at that point to be fast-tracked, like what happened to Fort Myers last year. He adds that he is not worried yet, though he is being cautious and staying on top of it. We have the positions budgeted until October, at which point we will know what our Ad Valorem looks like so we can figure what we have to keep our staff working at least until the end of the 2011 SAFER Grant cycle, we may still end up getting an award in the next few weeks, but he wanted to make the Board aware of the denial. He adds that there are several people, Senator Nelson's office, and Larry Osborne of the IAFF that are actively working on our behalf. He states that he is trying not to be too much of a pest, but NBC 2 did a story that evening, and they called up there for statements for their story. He adds that if he is not the only one calling up there, it might even provide some assistance. He states that Tina Godfrey has been wonderful for us and she is very aware of our and Tice's situation. She makes it very clear that not one firefighter has lost their job without the funds, and they are very committed to making sure that doesn't happen, she also remembers the assistance Chief provided when they were working on the Hometown Heroes policy, and she will do everything she can to make sure we get squared away. Commissioner Ducrou asks if Chief would figure we would know where we stand by the next meeting. Chief states it would be more like the May meeting. He adds that he is also in communication with Steve Fennell who is our grant overseer, who says there are also funds that were not utilized that will be turned back in included in that \$50 Million, but it has to hit the appropriations before more is know how much is actually going to be utilized. He continues that the sequester has really left the AFG and SAFER in the dark as to where we go from here, for the people that were in the pipeline. They are waiting to get some clarification on that. Chief continues, from what he understands, anything that was already appropriated from the 2012 is going to be ok, but even with the 5% that FEMA took on their reductions, that equated to \$105 Million dollars total from the FEMA budget, SAFER and AFG were the least impacted. Most of it came out of disaster assistance. Commissioner Griffin asks if we and Tice were the only ones denied, or were there others. Chief states that looking at the sustainment aspect, we were the only two. Looking at City of Fort Myers, who received a denial in 2011, right before the 2012 awards came out, they had about a 1 month window where they didn't have the funding for their positions, and received their notification of award the first part of the next round. They took care of them pretty quick. He adds that Big Corkscrew Island and Immokalee were awarded their grants in 2011 so they're good until next year. There will be some changes in the 2013 SAFER, such as 3 years of funding instead of two, and there's also going to be some match language in there, unless you apply for an exemption from the match requirement due to your financial condition. He believes the schedule was to be no match on the first year, 5% the second, and he believes, 60% the third. He'll know better when the guidance documents come out but it was approved through the defense spending bill last year. Now they're just waiting on the appropriations to figure it out. DVP Lemieux states that we may also have an advantage as the employee starting next week is a

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post 9-11 vet, possibly helping through the Hometown Heroes, and there might be some additional funding through that. Commissioner Hansen asks if our not receiving the 2012 puts us in default for the 2011. Chief replies we will have to see what our Ad Valorem funding looks like in June because one of the things we have to do is maintain our staffing. That is one of the contingencies on the 2011 grant. Chief states he has made them very aware that we are actually looking at 6 positions not 3 for that reason. They seemed very adamant that they were going to make sure that didn't happen. He then asks if there are any more questions. With no further questions or comments he discusses Impact Fees.

- **Impact Fees** – Chief Nisbet states that the County did reduce Impact Fees County-wide by 80% with the exception of fire and EMS fees. Those were left alone with no reduction, maintaining the current schedule with no potential suspension. Roads, schools and parks took the hit. The Board is pleased. Commissioner Ducrou asks how the vote went. Chief states 4/1 though he anticipated it would be 3/2. Commissioner Ducrou asks when it would take effect. Chief believes it takes effect immediately as they have been holding the fees in escrow since the debate began. He also believes they are going to reevaluate it in a year, and if they don't see a significant uptake in construction, they will revert to where they were. Commissioner Ducrou hopes it will help, we will have to see how it plays out. He does not feel it will hurt. Chief states Racetrac is apparently pulling out, but Love's Travel Plaza is pushing forward fast. We have done a flow test for them and they have a construction supervisor assigned, this company does not play. They will probably start in the next 30-60 days. They were denied earlier for some plans on fire hydrant locations, and some electrical, and a couple other things, and in 72 hours they had reviewed the plans and had them back in for submission. DVP Lemieux points out that was partially the reason Racetrac pulled out. Chief agrees, that was the primary reason. Chief Nisbet states that the owner said Racetrack is still going to push forward with the infrastructure because they've got all those permits done. Commissioner Ducrou is pleased to hear this. With no further discussion or questions he calls for any other old business. Commissioner Hansen asks if Chief's vehicle didn't come in yet. Chief responds, it should be any day. They are mounting everything now. It should be in by the end of the week, and within 10 days he should have everything switched over. He offers that we are also doing the regulatory offer to the other departments for his old vehicle, with a reserve amount of \$3,500 as discussed in a prior session. With no further questions or comments, Chairman Ducrou calls for Public input. Hearing none, he calls for new business.

New Business –

- None

Public Input – None, Chairman Ducrou calls for motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn – Commissioner Griffin motions adjournment. Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion. With no discussion and none opposed, meeting is adjourned at 7:25pm.