

SANIBEL FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT
Minutes of the Fire Commission Meeting
July 21, 2021

Commissioners – Chair Jerry Muench, Vice Chair Bruce Cochrane, Secretary Richard McCurry
Fire Chief Bill Briscoe
Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Barbot
Division Chief of Fire Prevention/Fire Marshal Larry Williams
Administrator Mary Hickey
Assistant Administrator Samantha Quinn

In attendance were the following: Breeze Newspaper journalist Tiffany Repecki, Firefighter Mike Martin, Captain John DiMaria, Firefighter Todd Walter, Firefighter Angelus, Grau & Associates CPA Firm, and a member of the community.

Commissioner Jerry Muench opened the meeting at 9:00 AM. Commissioner Muench led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1st Order of Business: The minutes for the June 9, 2021, commission meeting were reviewed and accepted by the Board Members. A motion was made by Commissioner McCurry to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was second by Commissioner Cochrane. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

2nd Order of Business: Fire Chief Briscoe, Division Chief Barrett was excused from the meeting.

3rd Order of Business: Commissioner Muench, our auditor firm, Grau & Associates, is here to give a report on the annual audit. Raquel Macintosh, Audit Partner for Grau & Associates, was serving engagement partner for the Sanibel Fire & Rescue District 2019-2020 audit. Raquel Macintosh reviewed the report. She thanked Administrator Hickey, Fire Chief Briscoe, and Deputy Chief Barbot for helping with the audit. She stated the audit completed on time. During the audit they did not detect any compliance issues for internal controls. The auditing firm did not have any finding or recommendations.

4th Order of Business: Administrator Mary Hickey reviewed the account balances, and they are steady. The district is still receiving funds on ad valorem taxes for the year. We received \$38,000 last week. The budget is at 75% of spending which is good for the year.

5th Order of Business: Deputy Chief Barbot reviewed Division Chief of Training Barrett's report. Medical Director Dr. Benjamin Abo has been deployed to the Surfside Condo Collapse the last couple of weeks. On the 27th we hope to have a lecture. RIT training continues with the crews. Elevator rescue training is coming up. Continuing with CPR classes.

6th Order of Business: Assistant Administrator Quinn went over the social media and website interactions:

Page Reach= 1,366
Post Engagement = 361
New Page Likes= 24
Total Page Likes= 2,111
Total Page Follows= 2,328
Website visits for June 2021=14,756

7th Order of Business: Fire Marshal Williams, the shed was cleaned out and donated to us by FISH. I did a fire investigation at Point Santos; the condo fire and it was on WINK. Meteorologists at the news station showed lightning hitting right on the condo. Fire Marshal stated he has a couple CO coming up. Still doing a lot of residential condo remodels, and I should be inspecting every single unit. The Fire Chief is going to write a letter to the City of Sanibel so that Sanibel Fire is a part of the plan review, and we would start charging for plan review. Fire Marshal Williams is also working on annual inspections.

8th Order of Business: Deputy Chief Barbot reviewed the calls, due to Covid we have a 57% increase for June 2021. June 2020, we responded to 107 calls and June 2021 we responded to 168 calls. Of those calls, there were priority and trauma

calls, it has been a very busy summer. Total YTD calls for 2021 are 1,024 and for YTD calls 2020 we responded to 845 calls. That is a 21% increase. Maintenance is minor and nothing new to report.

9th Order of Business: Fire Chief Briscoe stated, two months ago I presented you all with the new fee schedule, with our new prices that are now the same with everyone in the county. A motion was made by Commissioner Cochrane to accept the new fee schedule as presented. The motion was second by Commissioner Muench. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Resolution 2021-07-02. Chief Briscoe stated this is a resolution to divide our Nationwide PEHP account with union employees and administration. Administrator Hickey read the resolution. A motion was made by Commissioner Cochrane to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was second by Commissioner Muench. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chief Briscoe briefly reviewed an update of things happening at the department. Chief Briscoe asked the commissioners, once the grant funds (for Marine 171) are refunded to the district can we apply that money to the apparatus fund? Commissioner Muench said, yes. Chief Briscoe stated, Assistant Administrator Quinn is going available next week for deployment as soon as Administrator Hickey returns from her surgery. Chief Briscoe stated that the fire burn regulations are currently being reviewed by the attorney and we will review them with you all before enacting.

Resolution 2021-07-01. Chief Briscoe reviewed the new millage increase to 1.3089. Administrator Hickey stated it's a 22.02% increase. Chief Briscoe reviewed some of the things the funds will be utilized for such as the Performance Audit, the Cascade System upgrade, increases in payroll of 5.59%, a new security system, and the remainder will be for reserves for the districts future on anything that would increase performance abilities. Administrator Hickey read the resolution. A motion was made by Commissioner Muench to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was second by Commissioner Cochrane. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

10th Order of Business: Union Items. Firefighter Martin updated everyone on the union negotiations and contract. Chief Briscoe reviewed the years of service, Firefighter Michael Martin started July 23, 2007, and has 14 years of service with Sanibel Fire & Rescue District.

11th Order of Business: Commissioner Items. Deputy Chief Barbot stated he gave the commissioners a packet on commissioner salaries. He reviewed state statute on commissioner pay, health insurance and FRS. He stated, we are the minority, Sanibel Fire pays \$450 per year to each commissioner, while most districts pay the max of \$500 per month. A motion was made by Commissioner Cochrane to accept the new commissioner's salary at \$250 per month commencing the next fiscal year. The motion was second by Commissioner McCurry. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:58 AM.

Commissioner Jerry Muench

Commissioner Bruce Cochrane

Commissioner Richard McCurry