

SANIBEL FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT  
Minutes of the Fire Commission Meeting  
April 14, 2021

Commissioners – Chair Jerry Muench, Vice Chair Bruce Cochrane, Secretary Richard McCurry  
Fire Chief Bill Briscoe  
Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Barbot  
Division Chief of Training Tim Barrett  
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 and Medical Director Dr. Benjamin Abo.

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 March 10, 2021, commission meeting were reviewed and accepted by the Board Members. A motion was made by Commissioner Cochrane to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was second by Commissioner Muench. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

2nd Order of Business: Administrator Mary Hickey reviewed the account balances. The district has received 91.3% of all ad valorem taxes for the year. The budget is at 47% of spending.

3rd Order of Business: Resolution 2021-04-01 for Elite 1 Flooring Installation. Chief Briscoe explained that he received three bids to replace the flooring for Station 171. Administrator Hickey read the resolution. There was no discussions. Commissioner Cochrane moves to adopt, all agree. Second by Commissioner Muench. All Commissioners approve the resolution, and it is adopted.

4th Order of Business: Resolution 2021-04-02 for Motorola Solutions. Chief Briscoe stated it is to upgrade the P25 system. Administrator Hickey read the resolution. There was no discussions. Commissioner McCurry moves to adopt, all agree. Second by Commissioner Cochrane. All Commissioners approve the resolution, and it is adopted.

5th Order of Business: Resolution 2021-04-03 for annual department physicals. Administrator Hickey read the resolution. There was no discussions. Commissioner Cochrane moves to adopt, all agree. Second by Commissioner Muench. All Commissioners approve the resolution, and it is adopted.

6th Order of Business: Division Chief of Training Barrett stated the monthly medical lecture by our Medical Director Dr. Abo was full. Continuing our quick attack evolutions. A training opportunity next week that Deputy Chief Barbot lined up at the dog track. Each shift will get some experience in large area searches, standpipe evolution, and working with other departments. Open water rescue training this week with the swim evaluations. Medical Director Dr. Abo requested a new way of bringing in a drowning victim, by putting them on the board and do 5 quick breaths. Next month will be rope rescue operations. Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge just completed all their CPR classes. Next meeting, we will give a Phoenix Award to one of our firefighters, we will have our crews together, including Lee County EMS, Sanibel Police Department, and Fire and next meeting. Commissioner Muench stated, absolutely that sounds good.

7th Order of Business: Fire Marshall Williams stated, we did a rough inspection at St. Michael's Church, getting ready for the final inspection. Working on a new restaurant by tower gallery. Fire Marshal Williams was able to get Public Works to clear a place because we have no access at Tulip. Continue to work on annual inspections down West Gulf Blvd. I put out a letter to communities with out-of-date Knox Box stating they must be replaced. Working on removing the shed in our back parking area owned by F.I.S.H.

8th Order of Business: Deputy Chief Barbot informed everyone that we have completed with promotions, we have a new Captain John DiMaria, and Lieutenant Robert Wilkins. Both positions took over March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, testing went well, and no complaints or grievances were received. Reviewed the calls, stating March 2021 we responded to 152 calls and March 2020 we responded to 122 calls. That is a 25% increase. The boat is in the home stretch, we are doing a video walk through prior

to seeing it. The company is going to pay for them to fly up. We will do a slash test and sea trial, hopefully everything will be done by next month.

9th Order of Business: Chief Briscoe and Fire Chief Jeff Pawul at Captiva Fire Department will be meeting on Monday with Island Water Association asking them to take over the hydrants on the island. The developer is responsible for new hydrants, if we add them, we will pay for them, and they will have to fix them, but we will keep up with flushing and greasing them. We are the only special district that still owns our hydrants.

Chief Briscoe was contacted by a resident for a burn permit so he could have a fire pit in his backyard. The District was informed we are responsible for issuing these permits. After researching the laws and my (Briscoe) suggestion is that we don't do inspections and permits but follow these rules. This wouldn't apply to commercial property. Documents will be brought next month to sign. Renters can't do fire pits.

FASD packet basically goes over the newest amendment that would start year after next. If it passes, we'll have to have a performance audit every year. We will start budgeting for this. Administrator Hickey said, there are lot's of people fighting against this. Administrator Hickey said, the company will have to be approved by legislature, and the person I spoke with said the cheapest was \$100,000 up to \$150,000. Commissioner McCurry said, we'll know by next meeting.

Years of service: Firefighter Bryan Clement started April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, for two years of service. Lieutenant Tony Fontaine started April 19, 2021, for 11 years of service. Firefighter Shane Grant started April 19, 2021, for 11 years of service.

10th Order of Business: Commissioner Cochrane would like to discuss it next month the compensation for Sanibel commissioners as it is the lowest in Lee County. Commissioner McCurry said, can we see what the pay ranges are for the next meeting? Chief Briscoe said, yes, I will have that.

Commissioner McCurry will be excused from the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Commissioner McCurry proposed a dialog for pay with the staff, board would review chief, and chief would review staff. Chief Briscoe will do a salary study to compare our staff with others to see what's fair. This will be discussed in two months at the June meeting.

Commissioner McCurry discussed security. Deputy Chief Barbot will be setting a budget item to add security. This would include cameras outside the stations, cameras where narcotics are, at personal vehicles, intercom at the front door, and the same with Station 172 as well as RFID key tags. Commissioner Muench asked it be at the top of the list as a budget item.

Meeting adjourned at 9:57 AM.

Website visits for the month= 6,673  
Post reach 1,725  
Post engagement 282  
New page likes 33  
Total likes 2,041  
Total follows is 2,236

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Commissioner Jerry Muench

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Commissioner Bruce Cochrane

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Commissioner Richard McCurry