

SANIBEL FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT
Minutes of the Fire Commission Meeting
September 8, 2021

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

In attendance were the following: Lieutenant Reitenbach, Firefighter Schelm, Firefighter Walter, Lieutenant Wilkins.

Commissioner Muench opened the meeting at 9:03 AM. Commissioner Muench led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1st Order of Business: The minutes for the September 8, 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: Division Chief Barrett was excused from the meeting.

3rd Order of Business: Administrator Mary Hickey reviewed the account balances, and the District finished the fiscal year in good standing. The District budget was perfect and is complete, we received the approval letter from the State of Florida. We have \$700,000 to the good from last year and bills from last fiscal year will continue to be paid out of that sum. This will be audited by Grau and Associates.

4th Order of Business: Deputy Chief Barbot reviewed Division Chief of Training Barrett's report. Medical Director Dr. Benjamin Abo will be here to continue his monthly training lectures. The district has ongoing daily medical training. Last month firefighter trained in 2.5 inch hose drills, each station spent a lot of time with this. Special Ops training consisted of a presentation and live action training with elevator training. Marine 171 training is ongoing. Public education continues with CPR training for local residents and businesses such as Sundial Resorts and Sanibel School.

5th Order of Business: Assistant Administrator Quinn went over the social media and website interactions:

Website visits September: 12,970
Post Reach: 7,076
Post Engagement: 1,216
New Page Likes: 18
Total Page Likes: 2,177
Total Page Follows: 2,406

Assistant Administrator Quinn stated that last week was Fire Prevention Week and District participated in the campaign. The campaign was Learning the Sounds of Fire Safety. The District was in the local paper and also did a week long social media campaign that targeted the campaign with daily informational posts.

6th Order of Business: Fire Marshal Williams continues annual inspections. The District is working with the City of Sanibel to do plans reviews here in my office through there new software system. Two Knox Box systems were mounted in the community. The Fig will open next month.

7th Order of Business: Deputy Chief Barbot reviewed the calls, we show a 20% year-over-year increase for September 2021. September 2020, we responded to 125 calls and September 2021 we responded to 115 calls.

Medical Director Dr. Abo's annual contract was renewed, and his contract stayed the same as last year. Florida Forest Service completed the brush truck's annual inspection. Annual FIT testing was completed along with the air packs and no issues were found. The District assisted with other local fire departments at the 2021 Roar Offshore Boat Races. The district

communication is going digital and finished the Motorola licensing. The District participated in the National Walk to School Day. Marine 171 was taken out of the water to do some maintenance on the unit. Deputy Chief Barbot stated, the vessel is now fully foam operational. We are using green foam as it reduces the negative effects on the economy system and the environment. New Knox boxes were installed with new ekeys in Ladder 171 and Engine 172 engines. Beach Campfire Permits new fees and procedures are on the website for the upcoming permit period.

The Annual Award Ceremony is next to be discussed. Last year the event was cancelled due to Covid-19. The room is reserved, and we would like to move forward as we feel it's important for our district. Administrator Hickey said, we are going to be in a bigger room this year for social distancing. Commissioner Muench said, ok let's move forward.

Deputy Chief Barbot stated Firefighter Clement, Firefighter Schelm, and Captain DiMaria went on a call for a diabetic event, the patient went into cardiac arrest. With their quick action the patient survived and will walk out of the hospital very soon. This is an example of why firefighters are Advanced Cardiac Life Support certified, and all our engines are equipped with appropriate gear

Deputy Chief Barbot sated, Captain Jackson and myself are working on the Firehouse Sub Grant for a faster beach response vehicle. The need was highlighted after the lightning strikes this summer.

Deputy Chief Barbot stated I've spoken with Lee Control and we will now have the Causeway as a dual response area, and the officers will make the decision to respond or cancel.

Deputy Chief Barbot went over years of service. Firefighter Joseph Nygaard started October 1, 2001, for twenty years of service. Firefighter Craig Shelby started October 2, 2017, for four years of service. Administrator Mary Hickey started October 14, 1996, for 25 years of service. Lieutenant John Reitenbach started October 27, 2003, for 18 years of service. Lastly, Firefighter Adam Felix started October 28, 2019, for 2 years of service. Commissioner McCurry said, longevity speaks a lot to the District, people come to work here and stay, thank you.

8th Order of Business: Commissioner Cochrane stated, the District and the Local 1826 Union have been working with employee Fontaine's situation. The District has agreed to accept his resignation and we will pay him his back payroll. A motion was made by Commissioner Cochrane to accept the Fontaine's resignation and a final payment amount of \$20,000, including his resignation letter. The motion was second by Commissioner McCurry. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

9th Order of Business: Union Representative Reitenbach said they have no items to discuss.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM

Commissioner Jerry Muench

Commissioner Bruce Cochrane

Commissioner Richard McCurry