

DESTIN FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT
Regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners
Main Station
848 Airport Road
Destin, Florida 32541

February 14, 2017

Minutes

Commissioners present: Rick Moore, Tommy Green, Jack Wilson, Bob Wagner,
and Mike Buckingham

Staff present: Chief Kevin Sasser, Division Chiefs Ron Gerdeman,
Joe D'Agostino and Kathryn Wagner
Allison Henderson

Present: Dawn Stuntz

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Moore.

Public Comments:

None

Presentation for Approval- Health Insurance Coverage:

Tabled until later in meeting.

Review of minutes:

The minutes for the regular meeting of January 10, 2017 were presented. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular meeting January 10, 2017. Commissioner Buckingham seconded. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Review of the Financial Report:

Division Chief Wagner presented the financial statement ending January 31, 2017. She stated the cash position had increased due continued collection of ad valorem taxes and transfers had been made into the Florida Local Government Investment Trust. She further stated accounts receivables were high but are expecting to receive the last payment from the TDC shortly, accounts payables were a bit high due to a timing issue, and there was \$4,800 unrealized gain in January. She stated one-third through the fiscal year we are looking for a target of 67% remaining for expenditures. General discussion occurred. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the financial statement ending January 31, 2017. Commissioner Green seconded. No further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

1. Planning Project

Chief Sasser asked for the item to be removed from the agenda since there is nothing to report and we have met the State requirement. The Board agreed. Commissioner Wilson stated he would like to see it back on the agenda within a couple of months.

2. Public Information Coordinator- Agreement with Public Information Officer

Chief Sasser presented the public information coordinator agreement. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the agreement with Tracy McGraw. Commissioner Buckingham seconded. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tracy McGraw presented the design of Destin Fire Control District's government Facebook page and stated it was ready to go. He further stated video of the meeting would be put on the YouTube channel every Thursday following the regular meeting. General discussion occurred. Chief Sasser stated he would update the Board monthly under the Chiefs' reports.

3. Appointee to Firefighters' Retirement Trust Fund

Chief Sasser stated the individuals that had shown interest in the position had declined. He further stated he would enlist the help of former Commissioner Jimmy Nielson to help find a pool of qualified applicants and bring those names back to Board.

4. Staff/Management wage increases

Chief Sasser presented the information requested by the Board at the last meeting. Commissioner Wagner stated we tried to separate management from the Union, but there is only a minimal difference. He stated the County gave their employees a \$1,000 raise, City of Crestview a 5% raise and the City of Destin gave 2% cost of living adjustment along with a 1% merit raise.

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to give management a 3% raise retroactive to October 1, 2016 and Chief Sasser a 6% raise retroactive to October 1, 2016. General discussion occurred. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Wilson asked Chief Sasser to come back to the Board with further analysis of where management salaries stack-up in the market place. Commissioner Wagner stated his concerns of who would want the responsibility of being Battalion Chief when the job is not protected and not paid much more than some Captains who get paid overtime and whose job is protected. Further discussion occurred. Commissioner Moore stated he would like to see a cap of salaries. Further discussion occurred. Commissioner Wilson asked if this is something that could be discussed in an executive session. Dawn Stuntz stated she would look into it. The item was tabled to the next meeting.

Presentation for Approval- Health Insurance Coverage:

David Barton presented health insurance Gold Plan 14054 through Florida Blue. General discussion occurred. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the change to Florida Blue Gold Plan 14054 effective March 1, 2017. Commissioner Buckingham seconded. No further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Reports:

1. Beach Safety report

Division Chief D'Agostino presented the beach safety report and asked the Board to consider giving the YMCA a donation to get the pool going so it could be used for training. General discussion occurred. Division Chief D'Agostino stated the Lifeguards donated \$500 and the Foundation is looking to donate \$1,000. Commissioner Wilson stated he was not in favor of donating taxpayer money. Commissioner Moore asked Joe D'Agostino to come back with a package of what he would like to donate and what we get in return.

2. Training report

Chief Sasser reviewed with the Board the application process and announced the hiring of three new firefighters. He recognized and welcomed firefighter Tolbert who was present.

Chief Sasser stated there were 26 hours of training for the month of January. No discussion occurred.

3. Inspection report

Fire Marshal Gerdeman presented the inspection report. No discussion.

Fire Marshal Gerdeman stated this was the last meeting before his retirement and thanked everyone along with the Commissioners for his time here and stated it has been an honor to serve the District.

4. Response Change report

Chief Sasser presented the response change report. General discussion occurred. Commissioner Wilson asked Chief Sasser to be involved in the conversions with the shortages in County EMS.

5. Overtime report

Chief Sasser presented the overtime report stating sickness and medical issues slowed down in January. No discussion occurred.

Chief Sasser recognized Fire Marshal Gerdeman for his service to the District and announced that Matt Taylor would be taking his place and Fire Marshal.

New Business:

1. Accounts Receivable

Division Chief Wagner stated collection of past due receivables for re-inspection fees could be handled by sending demand letters and placing liens. The fee for Attorney Stuntz's services and to file the lien would be \$50 which would be passed on through the lien. General discussion occurred. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the collection process for re-inspection fees. Commissioner Buckingham seconded. No further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Resolution 17-02- Commercial Refrigerator obsolete

Commissioner Buckingham made a motion to approve resolution 17-02 to declare one commercial refrigerator obsolete. Commissioner Green seconded. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting:

Chairman Moore reminded the Board about grand openings of new facilities and that the next regular meeting will be March 14, 2017, at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

With no additional business to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 6:45p.m.