

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

January 10, 2017

Minutes

Commissioners present: Tommy Green, Rick Moore, 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 Tommy Green. Chairman Green stated the meeting is being run under an amended agenda.

Election of Officers (Chairperson, Co-Chairperson, Secretary/Treasurer)

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to nominate Commissioner Moore as Chairperson, Commissioner Green as Co-Chairperson and Commissioner Wilson as Secretary/Treasurer. Commissioner Buckingham seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Employee Relations Commissioner

Chairman Moore appointed Commissioner Buckingham as Employee Relations Commissioner.

Public Comments:

Deborah Thurmon of Destin asked to clarify which employees the Employee Relations Commissioner applies to. Chief Sasser stated non-union employees.

Deborah Thurmon thanked the District for posting the meeting packet in advance of the meeting and asked if the missing meeting materials could also be posted. Kathryn Wagner stated the requirement is to post materials that are available prior to the meeting and they are posted as they are available. She stated if the Board would like to direct her to post past material they can, but it is not required. Deborah Thurmon stated public records are still outstanding and asked if the website package was the same as the commissioners' package. Kathryn Wagner stated the Commissioner's packet has an item under new business, request for proposals to purchase UTVs and ATVs since it was not available until late this afternoon. Deborah Thurmon stated there were no resumes or letters of interest for nominees to the firefighters' pension board. Chief Sasser stated he would update the Board when we get to that item on the agenda. Deborah Thurmon asked if questions can be posed at the end of the meeting. Chairman Moore stated no, that the public comment section is now and additional questions can be addressed with Chief Sasser or the Commissioners after the meeting.

Review of minutes:

The minutes for the regular meeting of December 13, 2016 were presented. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes of December 13, 2016. Commissioner Green

seconded. Commissioner Wagner questioned the direction of the Board to purchase video equipment; he thought they directed to get quotes. Allison Henderson verified the audio stated purchase. The motion passed unanimously.

Review of the Financial Report:

Kathryn Wagner stated the financial report for September 30, 2016 has been adjusted and the audit is well under way. Kathryn Wagner presented the financial report for December 31, 2016. Discussion regarding aging inspection collections occurred and Dawn Stuntz will bring back recommendations on how to proceed with collections at the next meeting. Discussion regarding the Junior Lifeguard Program Commissioner Wilson asked to have a subtotal of Junior Lifeguard expenses added to the financial statement. Further discussion occurred.

Commissioner Buckingham made a motion to approve the financial statements for December 31, 2016. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

1. Planning Project

Chief Sasser stated a more detailed plan is in the works, but nothing to report tonight.

2. Public Information Coordinator

Chief Sasser stated he and Commissioner Green recommend Tracy McCraw to be the Public Information Coordinator since he was familiar with the District and would help improve communication with the citizens. Chief Sasser stated the contract would cover the initial setup and 1 year then the duties would be covered in house by staff. Discussion occurred. Commissioner Green stated money was already in the budget under Commissioner's stipend that could cover that expense. Further discussion occurred.

Commissioner Green made a motion to approve creating a Public Information Coordinator contract at \$7,500 with Tracey McCraw. Mike Buckingham seconded. The motion passed 4 to 1 with Commissioner Wagner opposed. The Board directed Chief Sasser and Tracey McCraw to come back to the Board with a plan of what will be done.

3. Appointee to Firefighters' Retirement Trust Fund

Chief Sasser stated there are 2 individuals that have shown interest in the position and will provide the Board with further information prior to the next meeting. Discussion occurred.

Chief Reports:

1. Beach Safety report

Joe D'Agostino presented the Beach Safety report. General discussion occurred.

2. Training report

Chief Sasser presented the December training report. No discussion occurred.

3. Inspection report

Ron Gerdeman presented the Inspection report. General discussion occurred.

4. Response Change report

Chief Sasser presented the response change report and stated we finished the year with an 85% response time. He further stated we responded to 3,036 calls for the year and zone 1 remains the

busiest and the addition of another station would improve this. Page 27 of the report shows more fire rescue calls than strictly medical calls. Discussion occurred concerning the County's ability to provide us with data. Commissioner Wilson suggested we send a public records request each month for the data needed.

5. Overtime report

Chief Sasser presented the overtime report. Discussion occurred. Commissioner Wagner asked if light duty was in effect. Chief Sasser stated yes.

New Business:

1. Non-Emergency Responses

Commissioner Green recommended the District go back to responding to all non-emergency calls since the Union President complained to a news crew that the public was in danger. He further stated the recent election cycle was full of incorrect information. General discussion occurred. It was decided the public information coordinator would work on getting the correct information out to the public on how the District responds to emergency calls and the District will continue to gather data proving how well we help County EMS do their job.

2. Request for Proposals to purchase beach safety ATVs/UTV

Request for proposals were presented and K&M Cycles was the lowest bidder. General discussion occurred. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the purchase of 1 UTV and 3 ATVs from K&M Cycle. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Staff/Management wage increases

Commissioner Wagner proposed raises for management and Chief Sasser similar to recent union raises. Commissioner Wagner made 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. Commissioner Wilson expressed concern that management and Union were separated in 2015 and would like to know all the elements of compensation and benefits of management versus the collective bargaining agreement before giving raises. Commissioner Wagner stated in the collective bargaining agreement there is an article where the Union is to receive the same health insurance as management so they have been connected again. Further discussion occurred. The item was tabled until the next meeting.

Next meeting:

Chairman Moore reminded the Board that the next regular meeting will be February 14, 2017, at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

With no additional business to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 6:41p.m.