

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

December 13, 2016

Minutes

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

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

Present: Dawn Stuntz

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

Public Comments:

Shane Stewart of Destin asked to reserve his comments for under new business regarding the collective bargaining agreement.

Deborah Thurmon asked to reserve her comments for as we go through the meeting.

Review of minutes:

The minutes for the regular meeting of October 11, 2016 and special meeting September 7, 2016 were presented. Rick Moore made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Wagner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wagner proposed doing a summary of the minutes instead of basic verbatim transcription. After discussion among the Board it was decided the minutes are too extensive and should be shorten to include the topic, whether discussion occurred and any action taken by the Board. Audio will still be available.

Review of the Financial Report:

Division Chief Wagner presented the financial report for September 30, 2016 stating final adjustments for the fiscal yearend will be completed in the next 2 weeks and the audit is set to begin the first week of January. Commissioner Moore made a motion to approve the financial statements for September 30, 2016. Commissioner Buckingham seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Division Chief Wagner presented the financial report for October/ November 2016. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the financial statements for October/November 2016. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

1. Planning project

Division Chief Wagner presented a base five year plan that meets the legislative requirements and stated this would be the building block for a larger more comprehensive plan. General discussion occurred. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the five year plan as presented. Commissioner Moore seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Sasser stated after the first of year we will begin to put together a larger five year plan as we had asked the ISP to perform which the Commission approved back in January.

Commissioner Wilson spoke regarding the District needing to decide what it is going to do, by going through each of these mission segments.

2. Mike Urenda benefits

Chief Sasser discussed putting together a policy to address the situation which occurred and stated the 18 months COBRA for health insurance is what can be offered for this situation. In addition, Chief Sasser stated there was no change to the retirement benefits in the new collective bargaining contract so there was no action for the Board to take. General discussion occurred.

Chief Sasser informed the Board of the memorials to Chief Urenda displayed at both stations.

With no further action needed by the Board, the item was removed from the agenda.

Chief Reports:

1. Beach Safety report

Division Chief D'Agostino discussed the old vehicles have being sold and new vehicles will be coming in. General discussion occurred.

2. Training report

Chief Sasser reviewed the training report for October and November 2016. No discussion by the Board noted.

3. Inspection report

Fire Marshal Gerdeman commented that the month of October was a great success with the fire prevention program, having great support from the local schools and our own firefighters and staff.

Fire Marshal Gerdeman stated new construction is on the raise. General discussion occurred.

4. Response Change report

Chief Sasser presented the response change reports noting again that zone 1 remains the busiest zone in the district. General discussion occurred.

5. Overtime report

Chief Sasser presented the overtime reports for September 30, 2016 and the combined reports for the months of October and November 2016. No discussion by the Board noted.

New Business:

1. Public Relations

Commissioner Buckingham requested that the Board give Chief Sasser the authority to purchase video equipment to record meetings and post them to eliminate any questions.

Chief Sasser recommended expanding the request to include a trial public relations person who would set up and run a Facebook page until we have the staffing to take over. He commented that a 4 camera system can be purchased that will sync with the current audio system the District utilizes. General discussion occurred. Commissioner Wilson suggested a public information officer instead of public relations with a job description.

The Board directed the Chief Sasser to purchase the video equipment and to talk to a few individuals about becoming the public information officer.

2. Appointee to Firefighters' Retirement Trust Fund

Chief Sasser stated Trustee Bill Lindsley is not seeking reappointment to the Pension Board and the District is accepting applications for a Trustee to appoint by this Board. He stated there are several qualified individuals and after they are reviewed he will interview the candidates with Chairman Green and Division Chief Wagner, and then present the Board with their recommendations at the January meeting.

3. Junior Lifeguard Program

Chief Sasser stated the Destin Fire Rescue Foundation requested the District take over the Junior Lifeguard Program. He stated Division Chief D'Agostino has run the program from the beginning and while it was not the District's program our name has always been attached to it and recommended we take it over. Commissioner Buckingham made a motion to accept the Junior Lifeguard Program. Rick Moore seconded. General discussion occurred. Commissioner Wagner volunteered to oversee the program. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Consideration of Collective Bargaining Agreement with Destin Professional Firefighters' Association Local #3158- effective as of the date of ratification by the employees in the Bargaining Unit and the Employer through September 30, 2019

Chief Sasser stated the Union has approved the CBA and recommended the Board do the same. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Destin Professional Firefighter's Association Local #3158. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Proposed 2017 Meeting Dates

Commissioner Moore made a motion to approve the proposed 2017 meeting dates. Commissioner Wagner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting:

Chairman Green reminded the Board that the next regular meeting will be January 10, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

Public comment from Shane Stewart of Destin pointed out a possible typo in the collective bargaining agreement under line captain. Chief Sasser stated he would find out the intent of both parties to determine if it should be AS degree or just degree. Shane Stewart suggested the use of mediator in the future before hiring attorneys.

Public comment from Michelle Stewart of Destin who inquired about the current manpower and how the addition of personnel in the next 3 years would affect opening another station. After general discussion, Chief Sasser explained the manning of apparatus and stations.

Michelle Stewart inquired if the City of Destin posts their meetings on line. Chief Sasser stated he thought they have a YouTube channel. Commissioner Wilson stated the issue with posting on our website would be the fees for storage.

Public comment from Deborah Thurmon of Destin who inquired about the fixed assets on page 26 and if they had their final adjustments. General discussion occurred. Division Chief Wagner stated no and mentioned that I was stated earlier that final adjustments would be made in the next 2 weeks. Commissioner Wilson stated it is one of the last things done before the audit.

Commissioner Wilson stated one thing missing from the five year plan is a goal to decrease the unfunded liability. General discussion occurred.

Adjournment:

With no additional business to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.