

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

March 13, 2018

Minutes:

Commissioners present: Rick Moore, Tommy Green and Bob Wagner

Commissioners absent: Jack Wilson and Mike Buckingham

Staff present: Chief Kevin Sasser, Division Chiefs Joe D'Agostino, Matt Taylor and Kathryn Wagner, Marie Wilbur

Present: Attorney Dawn Stuntz and Dana C. "D.C." Matthews, II

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

Public Comments:

None

Recognition of Employees Retiring:

Chief Sasser presented Battalion Chief Bronson Coleman with a retirement plaque as he will be retiring at the end of the month after 25 years of service. Chief Sasser also recognized Captain John Harrison who will retire this week after 28 years of service, but was not present. The Board extended their thanks and appreciation to both retirees.

Recognition of Employees Promoted and Employees Completing Probation:

Chief Sasser presented Certificates of Achievement awards to Captain Jeff Anderson who was promoted to Battalion Chief effective March 6, 2018, Engineers Trey Ward and Robert Flynn who were promoted to Captain and Firefighter Ben Hartley who was promoted to Engineer, all effective March 20, 2018. Chief Sasser also presented a Challenge Coin to Firefighter Dalton Crozier for the completion of his probationary year and recognized Firefighter Travis Tolbert, who was not present for the same accomplishment. The Board members congratulated each individual.

Public Comments:

Board Attorney Dawn Stuntz announced that, after six years, this would be her last meeting. She stated Attorney Dana C. Matthews, II, also of Matthews and Jones, would be her replacement. The Board extended their thanks for her service.

Review of Minutes:

The minutes for the regular meeting of February 13, 2018 were presented. Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Green seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

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Review of Financials:

Division Chief Wagner presented the Balance Sheet for February 28, 2018 and the Report of Revenue over Expenditures vs Budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the Financial Report for February 28, 2018, as presented. Commissioner Wagner seconded. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

1. West End of District Station

Chief Sasser stated that things look promising in moving towards the placement of a fire station on the west end of the District by a water location. He hopes to have more definitive information by the next meeting.

Chief's Reports:

1. Beach Safety Report

Division Chief D'Agostino reviewed the beach safety reports and announced that prospects are looking good for locating a Wave Runner at the Coast Guard Station for better coverage at Crab Island and the inlet.

2. Training Report

Chief Sasser presented the Training Report stating that there were 21 hours completed for each shift during February.

3. Inspection Report

Division Chief Taylor presented the Inspection Report noting that the 4th building at Catalyst Seaglass is online for final with the 5th building right behind. Panera Bread has opened with Starbucks opening on the 20th or 21st and Auto Zone has broken ground.

4. Response Change Report

Chief Sasser reported that response times are still down a bit from last year while calls are up and the breakdown between the two stations at 65/35. He noted there were no calls from skilled nursing facilities during the month.

5. Overtime Report

Chief Sasser noted that overtime was held at a respectable minimum for the month.

New Business:

1. Affirmation of Trustee to Firefighters' Retirement Trust Fund

Chief Sasser presented the selection of John T. Harvey, III by the Firefighters' Retirement Trust Fund Board, for affirmation as Trustee to the Firefighters' Retirement Trust Fund Board. Commissioner Green made a motion to affirm the appointment of John Harvey as Trustee to the Firefighters' Retirement Trust Fund Board. There was no second to the motion. The item was tabled until the next meeting.

2. Pension Fund – Change in Actuarial Earnings Assumption

Chief Sasser reported that the Trustees' Board was in discussion to attempt to lower the expected annual rate of return and noted a big step down would have a significant impact financially on the District. He stated they are considered lowering the rate to 7% over a period of five years with a

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basis point step down each year, however they tabled the item to see the trim statement before proceeding. The Commissioners concurred with that.

Commissioner Wagner agreed to act as liaison between the two Boards. Commissioner Wagner also asked if Division Chief Wagner could hold back on depositing part of the additional funds allocated in the current year budget to pay down the retirement liability until they can get a clearer picture of how they want to proceed. The item was tabled until the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

Chairman Moore reminded the Board that the next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

With no additional business to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.