

SANIBEL FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT  
Minutes of the Final Budget Hearing  
October 11, 2022

Commissioners – Chairman Jerry Muench, Vice Chair Bruce Cochrane, Secretary Richard McCurry  
Fire Chief Bill Briscoe  
Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Barbot  
Division Chief Tim Barrett  
Fire Marshal Larry Williams  
Assistant Administrator Greta Fulkerson

In attendance were the following: Captain Tracy, FF Zarick, FF Martin, FF Bledsoe, and the general public.

Commissioner Muench opened the meeting at 5:01 PM.


1st Order of Business: The minutes for the September 14, 2022, tentative budget hearing were reviewed and accepted by the Board Members. **A motion was made by Commissioner Cochrane to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Muench. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

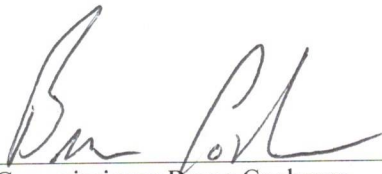
2nd Order of Business: **Resolution 2022-09-04** Assistant Administrator Fulkerson read the resolution adopting the final levying of Ad Valorem Taxes for Lee County for Fiscal Year 2022-2023; the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 operating millage rate for Sanibel Fire and Rescue District is set at 1.2365 mills, which exceeds the roll-back rate of 1.1642 mills, resulting in a tax percentage increase to residents of the District of 6.21%, providing for proceeds of \$8,011,169.00. Commissioner Muench addressed the ramifications of adopting the increased millage rate. He said, there are many houses on the ground that are completely destroyed. Fire Marshal Williams added that those residents have no way of accessing their homes at this time to get them cleared out, by the time they are able to they are full of mold. Commissioner Muench said that he imagines we are going to have a lot of residents who, having nothing left to come home to, will move onto the next and never come back. Deputy Chief Barbot reiterated the lightning speed progression that we have seen over the past several days, Sanibel is strong and resilient and we will keep going. Fire Marshal Williams commented that from what he has seen, the residents did not want to leave before and definitely want to come back. Deputy Chief Barbot addressed the fact that the millage is the lowest in the County by .7 mills, we will revisit and reassess next year and see what it takes for us to remain sustainable. He said, I have no doubt that we can stay fully funded and still be one of the lowest millage rates in the County. **A motion was made by Commissioner Muench to adopt the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 operating millage rate of 1.2365 mills. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cochrane. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

3rd Order of Business: **Resolution 2022-09-05** Assistant Administrator Fulkerson read the resolution adopting the final budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023; Sanibel Fire and Rescue District set forth the appropriations, revenues, expenditures, transfers, reserves, and balances which are estimated for the budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$13,961,212.42. **A motion was made by Commissioner McCurry to adopt the final budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cochrane. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

4th Order of Business: Public Input. No public items to discuss.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

  
Commissioner Jerry Muench

  
Commissioner Bruce Cochrane

  
Commissioner Richard McCurry