

SANIBEL FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT
Minutes of the Fire Commission Meeting
November 18, 2020

Commissioners – Chair Jerry Muench, Vice Chair Bruce Cochrane, Secretary Richard McCurry
Fire Chief Bill Briscoe
Division Chief of Training Tim Barrett
Administrator Mary Hickey
Administrative Assistant Samantha Quinn
Fire Marshal Larry Williams *excused*

In attendance were the following: Tiffany Repecki – Breeze Newspaper, John Reitenbach – Union Representative.

Commissioner Jerry Muench opened the meeting at 9:04 AM. Commissioner Muench led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1st Order of Business: The minutes for the October 2020, commission meeting were reviewed and accepted by the Board Members. A motion was made by Commissioner Cochrane to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was second by Commissioner Muench. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board of Commissions asked Fire Chief Briscoe to stand and say the Fire Chief Swearing in Oath. Chief Briscoe read the oath to the fire commissioners and attendees.

Administrator Mary Hickey reviewed the financial statement. The district received their first payment of \$98,000.

2nd Order of Business: Division Chief Tim Barrett reviewed the pre-planning meeting that took place at Bailey's General Store. The store installed solar panels on their roof. The company that installed the panels met with the shift and gave some very good information on how to shut off the panels by simply placing a blanket over the panel. All shifts will be trained in how-to address a fire with solar panels. We responded to two structure fires, but Chief Briscoe will go over that information. Medical training for this month has been clearing the airways. We have also met with our Medical Director Dr. Abo and he will be doing one lecture a month. Division Chief Barrett highly encourages anyone able to attend to join, Dr. Abo has a lot of great information. Dr. Abo is going to work with our shifts to see about getting our firefighters to shadow him in the ER, but with Covid this may take some time before it is implemented. B Shift has already met with Dr. Abo. We are working with secret service as a special visitor will be coming into town next week.

Samantha Quinn attended the virtual meeting with SCCF and the City of Sanibel on future plans to do prescribed burning on the island. Plans are looking like they will take place sometime in the first part on 2021. Discussion continued with how quickly the department will be made aware of the date to assist with the burn. Samantha Quinn stated that the State of Florida changed prescribed burning requirements due to Covid-19. Moving forward all prescribed burns over 600 acres need supervisor approval, and since Covid-19 is an upper respiratory infection, smoke impacts will be looked at very closely, with a priority to push smoke away from the community.

Division Chief Barrett went over the CPR classes that were conducted with the Sundial Beach Resort and Sanctuary Golf Club. He then touched on how everyone is moving forward with taking pictures and we have Samantha Quinn posting to our Facebook Account. Each shift is working on hose testing and chainsaw training.

The department has worked very closely with Sanibel Police Department in emergency training, since the PD usually get there first. We recently had a call where an individual cut his arm very deep. The training we provided allowed the police officer to quickly put a tourniquet on the individual prior to firefighters arriving. This saved the individuals life. We are very happy with our combined efforts to train. Commission McCurry stated he was very happy to see the departments training with the PD. Lastly, we are happy with social media and I'm sure Sam will go over that in more detail.

4th Order of Business: Fire Chief Briscoe asked everyone to review the asset disposal list that was handed out to everyone. The supplies listed are not on the asset detail and no longer in our inventory and we would like to make a motion to dispose of the assets. Administrator Mary Hickey said that a resolution should be drafted. It was agreed that no value is associated with the items and the commissioners would make a motion to dispose of the items. Commissioner Cochrane made the

motion to accept disposing of the items. The motion was second by Commissioner McCurry. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chief Briscoe discussed his attendance at the Board of County Commissioners Meeting. I went to the meeting, the legal resolution was read, there was no comment, and they passed it. We had a Hurricane Day last Wednesday and we ran 13 calls in 8 hours. We had Ladder 171, Engine 172 and myself on different calls. We responded to a structure fire at Island Inn Road, it was a room and contents fire and the building was being remodeled. Engine 179 is going to get its annual service for fluids, air conditioning, and leaking valves. I have assigned Captain Jackson and Barbot to research a new diesel pump for the brush truck. This is needed because the current gas pump has to be filled from the top and if it is hot this isn't safe. The diesel pump will also allow for fuel to be drawn directly from the fuel tank. All the radios received annual maintenance and we have a P25 upgrade coming in March 2021 which will cost approximately \$1,000 per radio. Administrator Mary Hickey said we barely have enough in the budget for this, but we should be ok.

Commissioner Muench asked Chief Briscoe about the boat. Chief Briscoe said we are still working on this. I have begun direct talks with the General Manager, and I will have more information once the engineers have finished their calculations.

Chief Briscoe opened saying he apologizes for the short notice but the Pinning Ceremony for Firefighter Clement, Firefighter Felix, Assistant Administrator Quinn, and the promotion of Lieutenant Fontaine will be this Saturday at the Community House. He said he completely understands if any or all of the fire commissioners are unable to attend. The available dates at the Community House put us in a situation that selecting this coming Saturday was the only viable option.

Commissioner Muench asked to confirm that the Christmas Award Ceremony is canceled. Chief Briscoe stated that the Award Ceremony was canceled and that all employees have been made aware. Administrator Mary Hickey states that the party has been canceled and instead they have rebooked everything for the following year.

5th Order of Business: Samantha Quinn reviewed her time on active deployment to two separate wildfires out West. She discussed her qualifications, role, and tasks. After returning she explained how she was asked to take on social media for the district and stated the post engagements and page reach for the last 28 days. Commissioner Muench asked what the process for posting was. Samantha Quinn explained that all subject matter is sent to myself, I draft a post, and send the draft to Chief Briscoe for approval. Chief Briscoe stated that he is informed on all posts prior to being sent out and he either approves or requests changes. Samantha Quinn stated that she follows a chain of command for such matters. Commissioner McCurry stated that he is hearing a lot about Facebook and customers are asking him questions about what we are posting. He and the customers are very happy with how it looks and how informed we are keeping the community.

6th Order of Business: Firefighter John Reitenbach, Union Representative, said that he doesn't have anything to go over but wanted to say that we are moving forward with a new union contract. Chief and I have met and the communication has been fantastic. We are pleased with the direction we are seeing not only with leadership but also with how well Samantha has been projecting the department to the community.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 AM.

Commissioner Jerry Muench

Commissioner Bruce Cochrane

Commissioner Richard McCurry