

**Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue District
Board Minutes**

April 13, 2009

Present:

Chairman, Ed FitzGerald
Commissioner, Evans Conforti
Commissioner, Wayne Edsall
Commissioner, Frank Liles

Commissioner, Stephen Lohan

Administrative:

Chief, Phil Kinsey, Jr.
Assistant Chief, Ken Craft
Deputy Chief, Joe Daigle
Deputy Chief, Dan Ryan
Fire Marshal, Tim Fernandez
Finance Director, Tony Gambino
Administrative Director, Iris Roman
Union President, Greg DeWitt

Chairman FitzGerald called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation of Citrus Park Plaque

Chairman FitzGerald presented a plaque to members of Citrus Park and expressed the District's gratefulness for their generous contribution to the Safe Home and the Explorers projects. The members of Citrus Park collected over \$10,000.00 for the project.

Public Input (Agenda Items)

Chief Scott Vanderbrook from Estero Fire Rescue spoke of the usefulness of Bonita Spring's Squad 21 as it relates to emergencies in their district.

Bonita Squad 21 has been dispatched 129 times to assist in dual responses such as hazmat calls. Chief Vanderbrook stated that Estero also responds with one of their apparatus in our district should the need arise. By continuing to utilize Squad 21, it enhances the effectiveness of quick response times and is a critical piece of apparatus for both departments.

I. Administrative

a. Minutes

A **motion** to accept the minutes as prepared was made by Commissioner Edsall with one correction – change Chairman Liles to Chairman FitzGerald; **second** by Commissioner Conforti.
Motion approved.

b. Financial – (One Motion)

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Conforti to accept the March and current expenditures; acknowledgement of March 2009 financial report; and acknowledgement of wire transfers and transfers between accounts; **second** by Commissioner Edsall. **Motion approved.**

II. Presentations

- a) Annual service pins were presented to Commissioner Conforti and Lt. Tony Moschella. Chairman FitzGerald thanked each of them for their dedication and years of service.

III. Chiefs' Reports

Chief Kinsey

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Lohan to approve the proposed updating of the self-contained breathing apparatus and authorize the District to proceed with this project as outlined by staff; **second** by Commissioner Edsall. **Motion approved.**

Chief Kinsey asked the commissioners to review the draft of the Robin and Ronnie Wright Scholarship in conjunction with the Ft. Myers Fire Academy. He will be meeting with the fire chiefs from the various departments to discuss the scholarship.

Robert Schuerman from the architecture firm of Gora McGahey relayed to the board the recommendation of Boran Craig Barber Engle Construction, Inc. for construction of Station 5. Their bid was \$1,087,998.00 and this bid is good for 120 days – July 3rd.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Conforti to move forward with the construction of Station 5; **second** by Commissioner Liles. Commissioner Edsall expressed his concerns that given the economic climate and not having the completed recommendation from the merger study, it “would not be prudent to start construction at this time.” Commissioner Liles stated that the District still needs a Station 5 as the trailer was only to be a temporary fix until the funds were allocated for a new station.

Commissioner Lohan was in agreement that the station should be built at the cost quoted. Chairman FitzGerald agreed with the other commissioners stating that Station 5 was a necessity due to the high-rises within Bonita Bay. A revised **motion** to include authorization for Chief Kinsey to negotiate the contract was proposed by Chairman FitzGerald; second by Commissioner Liles. **Motion passed** with one nay by Commissioner Edsall.

Chief Craft

Assistant Chief Craft gave his overview of the number of fire, EMS, hazardous conditions, service calls, good intent, false alarm calls, response times for individual units, auto aid/mutual aid responses, training classes as well as

Chairman FitzGerald asked Assistant Chief Craft if he could produce a report that would give the general public a better idea of what the department does operationally during the month, i.e. a fire or chemical incident. Assistant Chief Craft will prepare a draft of the new report for the board members.

Deputy Chief Daigle

Chief Daigle reported that the EMS Division purchased nine new Zoll defibrillators which will be placed on the various apparatus.

During the month of March, the paramedics were recertified in ACLS. The District also had a state inspection and was praised for the completeness of the records. Deputy Chief Daigle thanked staff for their hard work in making the inspection go smoothly.

There is a possibility that the District will be providing flu shots at a couple of our stations.

From March 31st to April 3rd, Chief Daigle attended the Certified District Managers Course in Tallahassee given by the Florida State University. The course covers such things as project management, governmental affairs, strategic plans, public relations, contract management, and board relations.

Deputy Chief Ryan

On May 3rd and 4th, a pre-plan inspection on the platform truck is planned at Sutphen in Columbus, Ohio. It will be delivered the first week of June. Various pieces of equipment will be moved from the current ladder truck to the platform truck.

Fire Marshal Fernandez

The monthly activity report year to date is:

Existing occupancy inspections	1,258
Existing occupancy re-inspections	200
New construction inspections	1,460
USE permit inspections	49
Hydrant fire flows	9
Plan reviews	204
New buildings	5
BSFCRD – Fire permits received	81
Esteros Fire District – Plan Review	94

Union President DeWitt

President DeWitt thanked the commissioners for their letters of support for the MDA Boot Drive. During the boot drive on March 13, 14, and 15,

nearly \$26,000.00 was raised. On Wednesday, April 15, the City Council will be holding their final meeting on whether or not the firefighters will be able to continue their boot drive solicitation in the streets of Bonita. Lt. Dewitt asked for the board's attendance at that meeting if possible.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

No old business

V. NEW BUSINESS

a) Councilman Richard Ferreira stated he is at this meeting as a way to enhance cooperation between the city and fire district regarding the disposal of harmful drugs that are showing up in the Caloosahatchee River and Estero Bay waterways. This in turn shows up in fish we consume, and our drinking water.

He stated he plans on meeting with the school department and BSU in an effort to prevent adults who have prescribed medications from disposing of them in the septic or wastewater system.

Councilman Ferreira suggested the city and the District get together to find a way to become a depository of old/unwanted medications. Deputy Chief Daigle will check with our medical director to see if there would be any issues with the District being a repository for the drugs. He will also check to see what the cost would be.

b) Don Ashley of the firm Ashley Brown & Company gave a brief synopsis of the audit for FY 2007-2008 noting there were no deficiencies in bookkeeping procedures. He also noted that the revenues were \$3 million more than expenditures for the year.

VI. COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS

- a) Commissioner Edsall had requested a justification on why the District needed Squad 21 when the economic times do not validate such a purchase. Administrative staff prepared a handout describing the necessity of Squad 21. Commissioner Edsall felt that with the information he received from administrative staff, it does in fact, indicate the need for this truck and he can now substantiate it to the public, if necessary. Chairman FitzGerald stated he is all for maintaining Squad 21 as a reserve apparatus and it will only be manned when a call for it is needed.
- b) Chairman FitzGerald requested that Chief Kinsey apply to the Harvard/Kennedy School for Executives which is a three week class conducted in Boston, MA. This is a high level senior education program that is commonly used by executives in Florida. Chairman FitzGerald made a **motion** to send Chief Kinsey for the three week course; **second** by Commissioner Lohan. **Motion approved.**

- c) A copy of the Annual Report was given to the Board. Chairman FitzGerald stated he would like to see this document distributed to the general public as well as the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Lohan stated that it would be cheaper to promote it on the department website and PIO Redfield stated that it has been posted there in years past. Commissioner Conforti suggested that some be placed in the library for distribution.

Public Input

None

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Conforti; second by Commissioner Edsall. Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Huss, Secretary