

**Minutes for the Meeting of
the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District Board of Commissioners**

February 22, 2023 10:00am
Diamondhead Beach Resort
2000 Estero Boulevard
[location change due to Hurricane Ian]

In attendance: Chairman John Bennett, Vice-Chairman Larry Wood, Secretary/Treasurer Jim Knickle, Commissioner Ron Fleming (virtually), Fire Chief Ronald Martin, Fire Official Jennifer Campbell, District Chief Scott Wirth, HR Manager Colleen Brooks, Finance Director Jane Thompson and District members.

Absent: Commissioner Jacki Lyszak

1. **Meeting Called to Order** 10:06 am
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Adoption of Agenda** [Discussion/Approval]

Commissioner Wood moved to adopt the agenda, Commissioner Knickle seconded the motion and the agenda was approved 4-0.

4. **Restate Agenda Items** [Information]
5. **Public Input on Non-Agenda Items**
6. **Consent Agenda** [Approval]

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine, and action will be taken by one motion; if a Commissioner desires discussion, the specific item will be removed during the adoption of the agenda and considered separately.

- A. Approval of Minutes January 25, 2023 BOFC Minutes
- B. January Check Approval: $47912 - 47963 = \$184,292.80$

Commissioner Knickle moved to adopt the agenda, Commissioner Wood seconded the motion and the consent agenda was approved 4-0.

7. **Unfinished Business**

- A. None

8. **New Business**

- A. Retention of Manson, Bolves, Donaldson, and Tanner [Introduction/Discussion]
Chief Martin presented information regarding Manson, Bolves, Donaldson, and Tanner to provide services for lobbying support within legislation for the District. Commissioners Knickle, Wood, and Bennett discussed and agreed that retaining the firm would be in the interest of the District. Chief Martin clarified that the cost of retention would be \$15,000 for this legislative year.

B. Current Fiscal Health of the District [Presentation/Discussion]

a. Update Tax Relief Bill 2022-4A

Chief Martin shared that the District will not have good soft numbers to work on until mid-May or early June 2023.

b. Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Internal Projection

Chief Martin shared a fiscal report for the current status of the District. The District is anticipating a potential property devaluation of 20-30% for 2023/2024. Commissioner Bennett asked where the District stands on losses, Chief Martin answered that the District is recapturing what funds we can but it is moving slowly.

C. Assistance to Firefighter Grant Application - DC Scott Wirth [Introduction]

Chief Wirth shared information on the Assistance to Firefighter Grant for replacement of air packs and incident management training.

9. **Fire Chief Remarks** [Information/Discussion]

Chief Martin shared that the District is doing well and there are positive labor relations. This spring command staff will begin revisions to the District's hurricane plan. The beach and the District continue to rebuild. Chief Martin reminded everyone of the importance of mental health and reaching out for help.

10. **Attorney Report** [Information/Discussion] - *none*

11. **Commissioners Remarks** [Information]

Commissioner Fleming thanked Chief Martin for all of the updates.

Commissioner Knickle shared that he enjoyed participating in the Edison Light parade and representing the District.

Commissioner Wood thanked District staff for their high quality of work.

Commissioner Bennett stated that the District has been outstanding throughout the recovery process.

12. **Adjournment** 11:11am