

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

January 22, 2025 10:00AM
Diamondhead Beach Resort
2000 Estero Boulevard

In attendance: Chairman John Bennett, Vice-Chairman Jim Knickle, Secretary/Treasurer Ron Fleming, Commissioner Jacki Lyszak, Commissioner Keran Farrell, , Fire Chief Scott Wirth, Attorney Andrew Salzman and District members.

1. Meeting Called to Order 10:00 AM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adoption of Agenda [Discussion/Approval]

Commissioner Lyszak motioned to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Knickle seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

4. Restate Agenda Items [Information]
5. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items - *none*
6. Consent Agenda [Approval]

Items listed 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 Meeting Minutes from August 28, 2024 and December 18, 2024
- B. Approval of Checks General Fund Checks 49120 - 49166 total \$142,532.53
- C. Approval of Capital Improvement Project Fund Check 1019 - 1020 total \$37,977.50

Commissioner Fleming motioned to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

7. Commissioner Item

- A. Economic Update and Forecast from Alex King (Commissioner Fleming)
[Presentation/Discussion]

At the request of Commissioner Fleming, Mr. King presented an economic update and forecast for the beach relative to the real estate market.

8. Unfinished Business

- A. Update on Progress of High Water Vehicle [Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth presented an update on the District's progress in buying a highwater vehicle. He shared the two options and concept art of vehicle options and features.

Commissioner Knickle asked about the cost, Chief Wirth advised it would be around

\$300,000.

B. Update on Progress of Administration and Training [Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth provided an update on the new administrative and training buildings.

Commissioner Knickle asked about the elevation of the property. Chief Wirth advised that he hopes to bring it up another foot bringing the ground level to around six feet above sea level. Commissioner Fleming asked about the rebuilding of the shrimp docks on the County property. Chief Wirth advised that the shrimp dock project is not affected by the District's property.

9. New Business

A. Purchase of Two Ford F150 Staff Vehicles with Uplifting [Information/Discussion/Approval]

Chief Wirth shared his plan to purchase replacement staff vehicles. The proposal includes fitting with lights and radios.

Commissioner Knickle motioned to approve the purchase of two Ford F150s for a total of \$70,650 per vehicle with contingency of 5%, Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

10. Fire Chief Remarks [Information/Discussion]

Site work has started on the new Station 31 and work is on schedule to meet the deadline of early 2026.

Chief Wirth shared appreciation on behalf of the District to the Town Manager who recently announced his retirement.

Blue card training has been completed and Chief thanked Chief Armiger for his work on the project.

The applications for Training Chief and HR Generalist have closed. The next step is to sort through and evaluate applicants.

Chief Wirth recognized the following anniversaries:

Lt Williamson 19 year

FF Lundy 12 years

Engineer Martinez 8 years

11. Attorney Remarks [Information/Discussion]

Attorney Salzman had no remarks.

12. Commissioner Remarks [Information]

Commissioner Fleming expressed he is excited to see the hiring process for the Training Chief and HR Manager underway and thanked staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Knickle is excited to see progress on Station 31.

Commissioner Liszak thanked everyone for continuing to work hard.

Commissioner Farrell thanked Alex King for the information and shared his thoughts on attending the Florida Association of Special Districts conference.

Commissioner Bennett thanked Mr. King for his time. He reflected on the work of Board members and the recent California fires. He expressed his condolences to those affected by the fires.

13. Adjournment 10:51 AM