In attendance: Chairman John Bennett, Vice-Chairman Larry Wood, Secretary/Treasurer Jim Knickle, Commissioner Jacki Liszak , Fire Chief Scott Wirth, Finance Director Jane Thompson, Fire Official Jennifer Campbell, and District members.

Absent: Commissioner Ron Fleming

1. **Meeting Called to Order** 5:02pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Adoption of Agenda** [Discussion/Approval]

Commissioner Wood motioned to adopt the agenda, Commissioner Knickle seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

1. **Restate Agenda Items** [Information]
2. **Public Input on Non-Agenda Items**
3. **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.*

* 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 18, 2023
  2. Approval of October checks 48412-48460 total $182,120.56.

Commissioner Wood motioned to adopt the consent agenda, Commissioner Bennett seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

1. **Chief’s Report**

Chief Wirth gave a report on the state of the District, including information on the proposed merger and the District’s involvement in recent community events. He gave a brief update on operations call response times and training and noted influxes in permitting and inspections for the Life Safety Branch. The District is starting to see development orders come through for multiple commercial projects and preliminary plans for a New Year’s Eve fireworks display.

Chief Wirth recognized the following anniversaries:

Battalion Chief Tom Grow 31 years

Captain Joseph DeVito 17 years

Driver/Engineer William Galewski 15 years

Lt. Bradley Hartman 15 years

Driver Engineer William Edge 15 years

1. **Unfinished Business** 
   1. Update on Update on progress for Fire Station 31 and Administration

[Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth presented appraisal information and information on placing the new station on the Estero Boulevard facing portion of the lot.

Commissioner Bennett motioned to proceed with placement of the station on the Estero Boulevard facing side of the lot, Commissioner Liszak seconded and the motion passed 4-0.

Chief Wirth shared information on the progress of a new administration building including a pending offer on a property on the County side of the bridge. The District will have more information after the end of the year.

* 1. Imposed Fire District Merger [Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth received word today that a new bill is being presented and now incorporates Iona McGregor and Bonita Springs Fire Districts absorbing Fort Myers Beach Fire. This is a referendum and does not have study or financial research.

* 1. Board Policies [Information/Discussion/Approval]

There was one minor change to annual training specificity for commissioners.

1. **New Business** 
   1. 2024 Meeting Schedule [Information/Discussion/Approval]

The schedule needs one adjustment to change the November meeting date from November 27th to November 20th.

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

Chief Wirth noted the District’s resiliency throughout the past year and thanked District members for their hard work.

1. **Commissioners Remarks** [Information]

Commissioner Liszak thanked everyone for their hard work and noted multiple businesses opening back up on the beach.

Commissioner Wood commented that he appreciates Dr. Periera’s presence on island and regular training with crews.

Commissioner Knickle told the staff they deserve more than the situation brought up by the merger and the Board will do everything they can to bring stability and help through the process.

Chairman Bennett thanked everyone for attending and stated he has a sense of pride in the staff and District. He stated the District is strong and the Board will do everything they can to protect the District’s hard work. He wished everyone a safe Thanksgiving.

1. **Adjournment** – 6:09pm