

SANIBEL FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT
Minutes of the Fire Commission Meeting
September 8, 2021

Commissioners –Vice Chair Bruce Cochrane, Secretary Richard McCurry
Fire Chief Bill Briscoe
Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Barbot
Administrator Mary Hickey
Assistant Administrator Samantha Quinn

In attendance were the following: Breeze Newspaper Lieutenant Reitenbach.

Commissioner Cochrane opened the meeting at 9:02 AM. Commissioner Cochrane led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1st Order of Business: The minutes for the July 23, 2021, commission meeting were reviewed and accepted by the Board Members. A motion was made by Commissioner McCurry to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was second by Commissioner Cochrane. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

2nd Order of Business: Fire Chief Briscoe, Division Chief Barrett and Fire Marshal Larry Williams were excused from the meeting.

3rd Order of Business: Administrator Mary Hickey reviewed the account balances, and they are in check. The district received funds on ad valorem taxes, this should be the last for the year. The \$150,000 WCIND Grant fund was transferred to our Apparatus Reserve to build that back up.

4th Order of Business: Deputy Chief Barbot reviewed Division Chief of Training Barrett's report. BLS Renewal for the district is complete for all firefighters and staff. Training continued for pediatric emergencies. Medical Director Dr. Benjamin Abo will be here September 20, 2021, for Violent Patient Training. The firefighters will be doing a weeklong officer command and tactical development training. Special OPS training consisted of hazardous material training at Island Water Association. The next planned training will be for elevator rescue coming on September 20, 2021. We trained all faculty at Sanibel School for CPR, and we will be teaching the middle schoolers CPR in the fall.

5th Order of Business: Fire Chief Briscoe reviewed Fire Marshal Williams report. Inspections are ongoing. Baileys applied for a demolition permit, we will probably do some training before the building is demolished. The old theater is also getting demolished, and we will be doing some training in there.

6th Order of Business: Assistant Administrator Quinn went over the social media and website interactions:

Website visits July: 20,876
Website visits August: 17,718
Post Reach: 201
Post Engagement: 54
New Page Likes: 35
Total Page Likes: 2,155
Total Page Follows: 2,381

Assistant Administrator Quinn stated that she returned from her deployment (wildfire assignment out west), and this is why the numbers are down for the last 28 days on social media.

7th Order of Business: Deputy Chief Barbot reviewed the calls, we show a 18% year-over-year increase for August 2021. August 2020, we responded to 120 calls and August 2021 we responded to 145 calls. This is a 19% increase. We are starting to see a slow down over the last couple of weeks. Our department as well as others throughout Lee County assisted a County fire department that had to quarantine their entire department. Refrigerators at Station 2 were replaced, and all funds for this replacement has been budgeted for the last 4 years. Deputy Chief Barbot said, there was a local boat parade near the downtown area that we did have the boat staffed and assisted with.

8th Order of Business: Resolution 2021-09-01. Fire Chief Briscoe stated, we have a resolution for the new fee schedule and the new ordinance for Open Burning Regulations, which we will inspect for free. This is not the same as the Beach Campfire Permit. Assistant Administrator Quinn reviewed the pricing for the Beach Campfire Permits and the dates they are in effect. Chief Briscoe added that all the rules come from NFPA 1 and Forest Open Burning Regulations for the State of Florida. Administrator Hickey read the resolution. A motion was made by Commissioner Cochrane to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was second by Commissioner McCurry. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chief Briscoe, stated, we will be changing the date of our final budget hearing from September 16 to September 23, the time will stay at 5:01 PM. The Local 1826 Union voted on the new contract. Deputy Chief Briscoe stated, it was a unanimous vote, 19 to 0. Chief Briscoe stated, we will get the new union contract to all the commissioners so they can vote on the new contract.

Chief Briscoe went over years of service. Firefighter Brian Howell started August 15, 2001, for twenty years of service. New also have a new Firefighter/Paramedic Richard Allen Schelm, he started September 1, 2021.

9th Order of Business: Assistant Administrator Quinn discussed her recent deployment out West. She had two total deployments to Washington and Oregon. While she was deployed, she was able to finalize her Public Information Officer Type 2 Taskbook. Once it is approved, she can respond to all Type 2 All-Hazard incidents including hurricanes and wildfires.

10th Order of Business: Union Items. Lieutenant Reitenbach stated as the Chief said, the contract was finalized, and we are proud to have it completed. Deputy Chief Barbot stated, also Lieutenant Reitenbach is our newest promotion to lieutenant.

11th Order of Business: Commissioner Items. Commissioner McCurry discussed public safety stating, Counselman Miller (City of Sanibel) had reflectors put in at the bend in the road, near the Legion. Commissioner McCurry stated to put up crosswalk signs in the middle of the road.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 AM

Commissioner Jerry Muench

Commissioner Bruce Cochrane

Commissioner Richard McCurry