



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 8, 2008**

MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 11, 2007 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

(Due to tape recorder malfunction, the audio recording begins with the Public Comments portion of the meeting.)

Commissioner Schweers opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Silent Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Akins, Commissioner Levy, Commissioner Schweers, Commissioner Sassano, Commissioner Morris.

Commissioner Schweers read a statement addressing an email from Michelle Reynolds and the death benefits of FF Paul Reynolds. Commissioner Schweers provided a description of the Public Safety Officer Benefit (PSOB).

RECOGNITION OF CERT MEMBERS

Public Relations Manager Susan Lindenmuth present certificates to the members of the Estero Fire Rescue's 8th CERT team.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES AND ACKNOWLEDGE PROMOTED EMPLOYEE

Battalion Chief Reisen introduced new firefighters Tim Custer and Patrick McCafferty. Deputy Chief Vanderbrook introduced promoted employee Lieutenant Glen Brownlee. Commissioner Schweers performed the swearing in of the new firefighters and Lieutenant Brownlee.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Dan Wilson of Deangelis Diamond provided an update on the status of the administration building and provided recent photographs.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public comments were made.

ITEMS TO BE PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

No items to be pulled for discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Levy made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items 1-5 as presented. Commissioner Morris seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

- 1. APPROVE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A REPLACEMENT WALL ALONG THE SW PROPERTY LINE OF FIRE STATION 3 AND THE COLONIAL**

OAKS DEVELOPMENT FOR THE SUM OF \$22,046.00. Deputy Chief Patrick provided a brief explanation regarding the possible removal of the existing wall and replacing it with a wall which will match the new wall to be erected. Dan Wilson of Deangelis Diamond described the material to be used as a concrete type with easy maintenance. Deputy Chief noted that the wall has been discussed with Colonial Oaks and the possibility of Colonial Oaks contributed to the wall; however we have not heard back from Colonial Oaks. Commissioner Akins suggested Estero Fire Rescue work with Colonial Oaks to maintain a neighborly relationship. *After discussion, Commissioner Akins made a motion to approve Administrative Agenda Item 1 to purchase and install a replacement wall along the SW property line of fire station 3 and the Colonial Oaks development for the sum of \$22,046. Commissioner Sassano seconded. No further discussion, Commissioner Akins, Commissioner Levy, Commissioner Schweers and Commissioner Sassano were in favor, Commissioner Morris opposed. Motion carried by a vote of 4-1.*

2. **AUTHORIZE CHANGE ORDER #PCO #02 FOR THE ADDITION OF SECURITY WINDOWS IN ADMINISTRATION OFFICE DOORS FOR THE SUM OF \$9,164.00.** Deputy Chief Patrick provided a brief explanation as to the change order due to security and management liability concerns. Discussion on the need to have full glass doors as opposed to a portion of the door being glass and the cost difference between the two. Commissioner Morris requested a breakdown on the price of the different doors; Chief Patrick will provide a breakdown to the commissioners. *After much discussion, Commissioner Sassano made a motion to approve Administrative Agenda Item 2. Commissioner Levy seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.*
3. **APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE TO JOINTLY PURCHASE A WATER DROP BUCKET AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.00 THAT WILL BE UTILIZED BY THE LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR FIRE OPERATIONS.** Chief Lindsey provided a brief explanation. Deputy Chief Vanderbrook provided additional information and the need for more aerial assistance in Lee County. Deputy Chief Vanderbrook noted the bucket would be housed in the hangar with the helicopter. *Commissioner Morris made a motion to approve Administrative Agenda Item 3. Commissioner Levy seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.*

WALK-ON ITEMS

1. **ACKNOWLEDGE OPEN BANK ACCOUNTS WITH THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.** Chief Lindsey noted the walk on item is to notify the board of two temporary accounts opened. *No motion or action is required by the board; walk on item one was acknowledged by the commissioners.*

Commissioner Schweers referenced Walk On Item 2 – Request to Enter Into Executive Session to Discuss the Contract Negotiations for Article 29, which will be placed on the agenda after the Fire Chief's report and prior to adjournment.

Commissioner Schweers called a five minute at 6:05 p.m.

Commissioner Schweers reconvened the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michelle Reynolds of 9459 Coralee Avenue, Estero, Florida, addressed the board and Chief Lindsey with regard to the PSOB information and the efforts of Estero Fire Rescue. Mrs. Reynolds noted that she was unaware of the timeline and the efforts made by Estero Fire Rescue on behalf of her husband, FF Paul

Reynolds, and for someone working on her behalf it would have been appreciated if it had been communicated to her regularly. Mrs. Reynolds apologized for an email sent earlier and stated it was not sent with malicious intent. Mrs. Reynolds thanked Chief Lindsey and the department.

Sherry Brame of 528 Pennfield Avenue, Lehigh Acres, Florida, addressed the board concerning the termination of Felicia Rodriguez and asked that the board reinstate Ms. Rodriguez.

Felix Hernandez of 16259 Shadow Pine Road, North Fort Myers, Florida, brother of Felicia Rodriguez, addressed the board concerning the termination of Felicia Rodriguez and asked that the board reinstate Ms. Rodriguez.

Ray Brown of 12320 Davis Court SE, Fort Myers, Florida, retired LCEMS, addressed the board concerning the termination of Felicia Rodriguez and asked that the board reinstate Ms. Rodriguez.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

No commissioner items.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- EFR EMS Bike Team – nine completed the 32 hour course and received certification; EMS Bikes have been used for special events, 'Black Friday' at Coconut Point Mall
- MERT (Marine Emergency Response Team) – while EFR does not have a boat, training will serve to assist other departments boats or a Coast Guard boat in emergency response
- Served in a different role as judge for a dog contest and the Pinewoods Elementary Invention Fair
- WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment) formerly WWF
- Mark your calendars:
 - January 16 – Station 2 (Coconut Point) Open House – 5:00-8:00 p.m.
 - March 12 – Station 4 (Firehouse Lane) Open House – 5:00-8:00 p.m.
 - January 15 – Three Oaks Banquet Center Joint Consolidation Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- On Call Rotation for Deputy Chiefs
- Rescue Unit – Deputy Chief Vanderbrook traveling to North Carolina to do the final inspection on the rescue unit; rescue should be here next week and in service by the first of the year
- New uniform shirts – Navy blue polo shirt for firefighters and lieutenants, rank and name on the front; no gray polo shirts
- EFR Web site – Ms. Lindenmuth provided a brief overview and walk through to officially launch the user friendly, redesigned web site to the public

Commissioner Schweers noted Ms. White is in need of a check signing schedule for the commissioners, which will need to be completed following the meeting.

Commissioner Schweers requested a five minute recess at 6:40 p.m.

Commissioner Schweers reconvened the meeting at 6:47 p.m. at which time Commissioner Akins made a motion to go into executive session. Commissioner Morris seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. The tape recorder was turned off, attorney Jim Watt was dismissed for the remainder of the meeting. Those present for the executive session were the commissioners, Chief Lindsey, labor attorney John Hament and HR Coordinator Linda Conway, all others in the room were dismissed.

Commissioner Sassano made a motion to reconvene the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Commissioner Levy seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Sassano made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Morris seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle M. Sassano, Secretary