

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Board of Fire Commissioners  
Cedar Hammock Fire Control District  
March 16, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Getman at 6:00 p.m. The following commissioners were present: Ronald D. Getman, Samuel A. Reasoner, Marnie E. Matarese, and John H. Stevens. Richard G. Findlay was physically absent with good reason. Mr. Findlay called in via telephone, but he did not participate in voting.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pastor Pavkovich led the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**QUORUM**

Chairman Getman confirmed a physically present quorum for the meeting. The meeting was properly advertised.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Getman asked if there was any discussion of the minutes or the Treasurer's report. There was no discussion.

**ACTION: Commissioner Stevens moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Matarese seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).**

**SPECIAL BUSINESS**

There was no special business.

Chief Bradshaw requested Indemnification be removed from the Agenda under New Business.

Chief Bradshaw requested Insurance be added to the Agenda under New Business.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**2021-2022 Financial Audit**

Deputy Chief Center updated the Board on the status of the 2021-2022 Financial Audit. The auditors have received the OPEB actuary report and plan to present the financial report at the April meeting.

**DOT Update**

Chief Bradshaw deferred to Commissioner Reasoner. Commissioner Reasoner reviewed the letter to the

Department of Transportation in regard to the addition of the median on US 41 in front of Station 4. The letter expresses concern from the Board of Cedar Hammock Fire Control. The Board agreed to have Chairman Getman sign the letter. Staff will mail the letter on March 17, 2023.

### **Trailer Estates Critical Timeline**

Chief Bradshaw reviewed the exhibit from District Counsels Mooney and Kardash: The District will present a draft budget in April, and hold Public hearings in May, June, July, and September to include language for Trailer Estate properties to be added to the Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Roll for fiscal year 2023-2024.

### **Performance Audit Update**

Chief Bradshaw informed that the Performance Audit has been completed. He will bring forth recommendations at the April meeting.

### **Pending Litigation**

Cedar Hammock Fire Control District has been served with a civil suit in regard to the 2020 gas leak. Counsel has requested a motion to dismiss; he will update as soon as more information becomes available.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Naloxone Grant**

Chief Bradshaw sent a letter of support to EMS Chief Crutchfield in support of the grant. If awarded, we may have some usage documentation.

#### **Contract Negotiations**

Chief Bradshaw reviewed the letter from the Public Employees Relations Commission (PERC) acknowledging the Notice of Negotiations with Local 2546. The first meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2023, at Station 1 at 09:00.

#### **Mutual Aid-HAZMAT Recovery Cost**

Manatee County's Hazardous Materials Response Team and 6 fire agencies or districts sought to recover costs associated with the industrial scrap metal fire on December 17, 2022. Cedar Hammock Fire District's cost for emergency response was \$4,484.09, in which the District has received funds collected by Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District.

#### **Legislative Update**

Chief Bradshaw and Deputy Chiefs Center and Falcone participated in the FASD Special Districts' Day in Tallahassee, in March. The exhibit contains updates from the first week of the Florida Legislative Session.

#### **FASD Conference**

Chief Bradshaw and Battalion Chief Brett will be attending the FASD annual conference in June 2023.

## **Insurance**

The district's policy 1.4 Purchasing Policy and Procedures, Section C states, "Every five (5) years, with the option of two (2) – one (1) year extensions by action of the Board, the District shall obtain quotations or competitive bids on all insurance coverage held by the District..." Chief Bradshaw's recommendation to the Board is to continue services from Boyd Insurance for an additional year.

**ACTION: Commissioner Reasoner moved to extend services from Boyd Insurance for an additional year. Commissioner Matarese seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).**

## **CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Bradshaw reviewed the departmental reports. He announced the hiring of Betsy Taintor. She is to start employment March 20, 2023, for the Office Administrator II position.

## **COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

Each commissioner was given an opportunity to speak. Commissioner Stevens advised personnel to "stay the course," and not to second guess actions in regard to litigation.

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting date is April 20, 2023.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION: Commissioner Reasoner moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:26pm. Commissioner Matarese seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).**

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED 04/20/2023

Chairman Ronald D. Getman