

**Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue District  
Board Minutes**

**February 9, 2009**

**Present:**

Chairman Ed FitzGerald  
Commissioner Frank Liles  
Commissioner Evans Conforti  
Commissioner Steve Lohan  
Commissioner Wayne Edsall

**Administration:**

Chief Phil Kinsey, Jr.  
Assistant Chief Ken Craft  
Administrative Director Iris Roman  
Deputy Chief Joe Daigle  
Deputy Chief Dan Ryan  
Deputy Chief Shane Sibert  
Union President Greg DeWitt

Chairman FitzGerald called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Input**

Former Commissioner Bob Paterson stated for the record that during the time Chairman FitzGerald has been a commissioner, every pension improvement that came before the board (and that's all of them) Commissioner FitzGerald voted in favor of approving them. Mr. Paterson stated Chairman FitzGerald was also informed about pertinent pension board matters.

Mr. Jack Pointer from North Naples, who has also been on the North Naples Fire District pension board for 12 years, stated that the people involved with pension plans should be well schooled and experienced regarding pension plans.

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE**

**a. Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Conforti and seconded by Commissioner Edsall (with the correction of two typing errors) to accept the January 2009 minutes. Motion carried.

**b. Financial – (One Motion)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Edsall and seconded by Commissioner Lohan to approve the January and current expenditures, acknowledgement of January 2009 financial report and acknowledgement of wire transfers and transfers between accounts. Motion carried.

## II. CHIEFS' REPORTS

### a. Chief Kinsey

During the month of January, the Public Information and Education Division shared many programs with our citizens, including the installation of child restraint seats, along with equipment and station tours. The Division was requested to speak to the Village Walk Ladies Breakfast Club concerning brush fires, and the Morning Rotary Club concerning CERT and fire department functions.

The Community Emergency Response Team began a new class this month. The group includes 11 individuals from Village Walk, Palmira and San Remo. The volunteers receive training over an eight week course to help them better prepare themselves and their families for a major disaster, as well as assist their neighbors and the fire department. Education is provided on Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety Extinguisher Training, Disaster Medical Operations, Light Search and Rescue, Disaster Psychology and Terrorism.

Fifteen people participated in Heartsaver CPR/AED or Healthcare Provider classes during January.

The 2008 Annual Report is being prepared and will be presented at the March 9 board meeting.

The Division is working with Citrus Park to coordinate a "Give Back" day for our employees and their families. The event is set for February 22 and will consist of two softball games, a cookout and a reception. The first game starts at 1:00 p.m.

Our chili Cook-off Team will compete in a contest February 28 at Celebrate Estero held at the Miromar Mall.

As a follow-up to the previous months question regarding shipping cost responsibilities for repair of the new video equipment, per the contract that the department signed with Hi-Tech Enterprises, Inc., the department is responsible for shipping. They supplied the warranty part to repair the unit.

### b. Assistant Chief Craft

1. Incident Responses: 481 responses, approximately 9% increase from December 2008 of 443 incidents.
  - A. Fire: 12 incidents, approximately 0% increase from December of 12 incidents.
  - B. EMS: 366 incidents, approximately 16% increase from December of 315 incidents.
  - C. Hazardous Conditions: 8 incidents, approximately a 20% decrease from December of 10 incidents.

- D. Service calls: 23 incidents, 14% decrease from December of 26 incidents.
- E. Good intent: 45 incidents, approximately 16% decrease from December of 54 incidents.
- F. False alarm/call: 27 incidents, approximately 4% increase from December of 26 incidents.

2. Response Times:

- A. 90% of all our overall response was reached in 8 minutes or less. This includes emergency and non-emergency calls.
- B. 93% of medical incidents were reached within 8 minutes.
- C. 72% of suppression incidents were reached in 6 minutes or less by the first due engine.

3. Individual Unit Responses: 627, an approximate 12% increase from December of 563.

R-21: 121	E-21: 67	L-21: 41	B-23: 0
R-24: 49	E-22: 103	Sq-21: 22	B-24: 3
R-25: 59	E-23: 67	M-22: 2	
	E-24: 42	M-21: 0	Sup.-21: 0
	Res.E- 2	B.C. - 49	

4. Auto-Aid/Mutual Aid Responses given:

- A. 3 auto-aid responses were made to Estero
- B. 1 mutual aid response was made to North Naples

5. Responses with Bonita:

- A. Estero with 5 responses

6. Training Classes: 192 different training classes were offered during the month of January between the Fire/EMS and Special Operations Divisions. This resulted in the logging of over 1,930 personnel hours of training.

7. We are currently working on 5 new protocols.

8. Fire Hydrants:

- 38 were flushed, lubricated and painted
- 12 street markers were placed
- 14 hydrants were numbered
- 16 hydrants were color coded
- 3 hydrants with reported problems were repaired

9. Deputy Chief Ryan will update the board on the status of the new engine and platform truck.

c. Deputy Chief Daigle

There was no new equipment to report.

The Training Division received Section 2 of the cardiac arrest protocol training. The monthly pharmacology review was completed.

Administrative Director Iris Roman, Lt. Wink Telford, and Deputy Chief Joe Daigle went to Life Scan to see a demo on the new process for the department physicals. It went well and may save the district money in the future.

d. Deputy Chief Ryan

There will be approximately 2 more months of RIT training (Rapid Intervention Team).

The new engine was delivered today and the commissioners were invited to take a look at it in the bay.

The aerial apparatus unit is scheduled to be delivered May 16. Deputy Chief Ryan also noted that the fleet is in good operating order and nothing is out of service plus the department is under budget as well.

e. Deputy Chief Sibert

The new batteries for the portable radios were distributed to each division.

The water rescue operations had a MERT (Marine Emergency Response Team) meeting as a cooperative effort with the Lee County Marine Emergency Response Team. An upcoming county-wide drill is being coordinated by Deputy Chief Sibert and Lt. Rich Scott, and our agency.

Shifts also completed training with potential new boat operators and they will soon be qualified.

Confined space technicians continue to train on awareness and operational levels.

Chairman FitzGerald requested a demonstration of the new boat for the commissioners and himself.

f. Union President DeWitt

Union President DeWitt invited the board to the chili cook-off and softball game at Citrus Park on February 22.

On March 13, 14 & 15 the union will be holding a boot drive for MDA at some of the intersections in Bonita. Fifteen to nineteen thousand dollars was collected last year.

III. OLD BUSINESS

One person will be appointed to the pension board to fill the 2 year position on the firefighters' retirement plan. At the last meeting, the board appointed a person to the firefighters pension plan board of trustees who is not a Bonita resident so a new appointment was needed to that position. Two candidates that are interested are Neil Arnal and Bob Paterson. Gina Palanzi is not a resident but can serve on the general pension board as there is no requirement that she be a Bonita resident as she is the fifth member. The two candidates are Neil Arnal and Bob Paterson. Commissioner Liles made a motion to place Bob Paterson on the retirement board; second by Commissioner Conforti. Commissioner Edsall made a motion to nominate Neil Arnal for the position; second by Commissioner Lohan and Chairman FitzGerald. The motion carried. The vote was 3:2 in favor. Commissioners FitzGerald, Edsall and Lohan voted yes; Commissioners Conforti and Liles voted nay.

IV. DISPOSITION REPORT – JANUARY 2009

A motion was made by Commissioner Conforti to approve the disposition report; second by Commissioner Liles. Motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

V. PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Alex Grantt asked the board if they received a copy of his letter to Finance Director Tony Gambino. The board acknowledged they had and Mr. Grantt asked for a response by the March board meeting to his letter.

He noted that he receives an apparatus magazine in which a number of cities large and small are highlighted. A comparison of the New Orleans 1999 Fire Department budget and Bonita Springs Fire District's current budget was discussed by him.

Union president Greg DeWitt stated he did not agree with the board's decision to vote in Mr. Arnal to the trustee position of the firefighter's pension board but wished him well. He also stated that according to the state statute, Mr. Arnal's loyalty lies with the firefighters and the members of the firefighters' board and not with the fire district.

VI. COMMISSIONER'S BUSINESS

Commissioner Edsall placed a motion before the board that all future consolidation meetings be held "in the sunshine" before the district fireboard. Hearing no second, the motion failed to pass.

Commissioner Edsall requested that staff review the software called "Fireview" in which construction, location and demographics of fire stations are used rather than consultants to recommend placement of new stations.

Regarding Station 5, Commissioner Edsall stated he did some further studying on it and feels the board should defer any further action on it until the consultants (Tri-Data) provide further information in their report due out in June. He feels the current economic conditions do not support the need to further increase our debt. Chairman FitzGerald stated he was interested in a deferral for a couple of months until June when the consultants have completed their assessments. A motion was made by Commissioner Edsall to defer the building of Station 5 until June when the Tri-Data study becomes available; second by Chairman FitzGerald. Motion carried. 3-Ayes (Commissioners Edsall, Lohan, FitzGerald) 2-Nays (Commissioners Conforti and Liles). The vote allows Chief Kinsey to proceed with the permitting up to the development order.

Chairman FitzGerald would like to consider the following people be appointed to various committees:

Commissioner Conforti – Union liaison  
Commissioner Edsall – Legislative liaison  
Chairman FitzGerald – Liaison to the City of Bonita Springs  
Administrative Director Roman – Parliamentarian  
Chairman or Commissioner ? – Pension board issues

A redraft of this information will be placed on the agenda for the March meeting where it can be voted on.

Commissioner Edsall made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second by Commissioner Lohan. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Mary Huss, Secretary