

**BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
Minutes – January 9, 2023  
Regular Board Meeting**

Fire Commissioners Present:

Steve Lohan - Chairman  
James Murphy - Secretary/Treasurer  
Jeffery Maturo - Commissioner  
Tommy Hugo – Commissioner

Administrative Staff Present:

Greg DeWitt – Chief  
Jason Brod – Assistant Chief  
Andrew Schmidt – Deputy Chief  
Lisa Gendron - Admin-Finance Director  
Anna-Marie Waller - Admin Coordinator

Absent:

Steven Slachta – Commissioner

Chairman Lohan called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Chaplain Chitwood led a moment of silence for fallen firefighters and their families, and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment on agenda items.

Commissioner Lohan welcomed Commissioner Hugo to the Board.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Murphy motioned to approve the December 5, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Maturo seconded the motion. **The motion passed 4-0.**

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS**

Commissioner Maturo motioned to approve the December 2022 Financials. Commissioner Hugo seconded the motion. **The motion passed 4-0.**

**COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS**

Commissioner Lohan reiterated his past comment that the District has a strong team in place, and he is proud to be part of it.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Chief DeWitt presented the Five Years of Service pins to Commissioner Maturo and Firefighter Bryant Bruzos.

Chief DeWitt recognized Twenty Years of Service for Lieutenant Nick Araica and Lieutenant Manny Hernandez, but they were not present to accept their pins.

**Point of Personal Privilege**

Chief DeWitt recognized the service of Richard Peppe as CERT Captain for Palmira, retiring after 12 years as Captain.

Chief DeWitt then invited Roy Brown, Local 3444 President, to make his presentation on behalf of the IAFF for assisting the Union in their efforts to help with the Hurricane Ian aftermath.

**DISPOSALS**

Commissioner Murphy motioned to approve the disposals. Commissioner Maturo seconded the motion. **The motion passed 4-0.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Maturo motioned to approve Chief DeWitt's contract. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. **The motion passed 4-0.**

Commissioner Maturo motioned to approve Budget Transfers 1 and 2. Commissioner Hugo seconded the motion. **The motion passed 4-0.**

Commissioner Murphy motioned to approve the Station 27 Closing Statement. Commissioner Maturo seconded the motion. **The motion passed 4-0.**

## **CHIEFS' REPORTS**

### ***Chief Greg DeWitt***

Chief DeWitt gave the Chief's Report:

- Chief DeWitt thanked the Commissioners for approving his contract.
- The Chief informed the board that there are two of the Chamber's "Business After Hours." The first is at the Naples Botanical Gardens on January 11, 2023, and the second is at DeRomo's on January 26, 2023. Commissioners Lohan, Murphy, Maturo, and Hugo said they would attend.
- Chief DeWitt reported that the call volume for 2022 was 8837, an increase of 10% over last year.
- Chief DeWitt stated that he and Commissioner Lohan would attend the FASD Quarterly Meeting from January 11, 2023, to January 13, 2023.
- The Chief informed the board of nine (9) employees attending Fire Rescue East. Training Captain Kelli Wilson will be assessing the ALS skills during the conference.
- Chief DeWitt also commented that Firefighter testing started with about 100 individuals testing. The physical/agility assessment will be on January 28, 2023, and interviews will begin on February 6, 2023. We are looking to fill 4 – 5 positions.
- Chief DeWitt stated that he and Assistant Chief Brod were able to get a grant to offset the cost of two new 225 motors for the boat. The price of the motors is \$29,000.00, and with the grant, it will cost the District about \$15,000.00.
- The Chief announced that on February 10, 2023, the Chamber would be hosting its Inaugural Clay Shooting event.
- Chief DeWitt updated the Board regarding Station 27's permit. The renovations should be a maximum of \$112,000.00. A sprinkler system would be an additional cost. A recommendation was made that the fuel tank is pressure tested.

Commissioner Lohan commented that the false alarm calls are up.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Alex Grant suggested putting in a memorial park at Station 27 for the victims of Hurricane Ian. Commissioner Lohan stated that they plan to sell the restaurant parcel to recoup some of the cost of purchasing the property.

Commissioner Murphy motioned to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:29 pm.