

**BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Minutes – January 13, 2025
Regular Board Meeting**

Fire Commissioners Present:

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

Administrative Staff Present:

Greg DeWitt – Chief
Jason Brod – Assistant Chief
Andrew Schmidt – Deputy Chief
Kelli Wilson – Deputy Chief
Brad Johnston – Assistant Fire Marshal
Beverly Gervasi – Finance Director
Anna-Marie Waller – Admin Coordinator

Chairman Maturo called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Chaplain Chitwood began the meeting with a moment of silence for the fallen firefighters and their families, with special recognition of the Bogacz family. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment on agenda items.

Commissioner Maturo thanked Commissioner Lohan for his service as Chairman of the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Hugo motioned to approve the December 2, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.
Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. **The motion passed 5-0.**

APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS

Commissioner Hugo motioned to approve the December 2024 Financials, including P.O.'s over \$10,000.00. Commissioner Maturo seconded the motion. **The motion passed 5-0.**

COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS

Commissioner Maturo thanked the District for a quick response to a request for the firefighters to do a presentation at his daughter's school.

PRESENTATIONS

The following awards were presented by Dr. Abo, Medical Director

Phoenix Award – for a call on 6/14/2024 – Lieutenant. Giovanni Zamora, Firefighter Desiree Schultz, Firefighter Brian Hornberger, Firefighter Sebastian Castro, Firefighter David Lees, Firefighter Carlos Phillips, LCEMS Paramedic Stan Ball, Paramedic Joseph Mott, EMT Julian Haskins

Phoenix Award – for a call on 8/6/24 – Acting BC Ernie Williams, Lt. Michael Mendez, Firefighter Terry Bonnell, Firefighter Matt Laurich, Dr. Benjamin Abo, Training Captain Kelli Wilson, LCEMS Paramedic David Valle, EMT Alex Rosenbaum

Phoenix Award – for a call on 8/30/2024 – Lieutenant Tom Harrison, Firefighter Jordan Sauerwald, Firefighter William Scott, LCEMS Paramedic David Valle, EMT Alex Rosenbaum

Phoenix Award - for a call on 9/15/2024 – BC Cesar Sanchez, Lieutenant John Kutz, Firefighter April Klotz, Firefighter Christian Mayfield, LCEMS Paramedic Kara Valle, EMT Brandon Broa

The following awards were presented by Chief DeWitt:

Years of Service – 5 Years - Firefighter David Block and Firefighter Christian Mayfield ~ 10 Years – Finance Director Beverly Gervasi ~ 20 Years – Firefighter Terry Bonnell, Firefighter Michael Koshlap, Lieutenant Michael Mendez, Lieutenant Allan Seruchar

Deputy Chief Schmidt showed a video of the Bonita XT (Extrication Team) at the World Rescue Challenge 2024. The team placed twelfth overall out of thirty five teams from around the world. Their journey there consisted of qualifying at the NAVRA Atlanta competition where they placed in the top three, and getting the endorsement of NAVRA to compete in the World Rescue Challenge. Bonita XT was one of four teams from across the United States that qualified for the competition. We are extremely proud of how the team represented Bonita Springs and the United States.

DISPOSALS

Commissioner Kerr motioned to approve the December disposals. Commissioner Hugo seconded the motion. **The motion passed 5-0.**

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Kerr motioned to approve the 2025 District VEBA Disbursement. Commissioner Hugo seconded the motion. **The motion passed 4-1.**

Commissioner Maturo motioned to approve Resolution 2025-01-01 and impact statement. Commissioner Hugo seconded the motion. **The motion passed 5-0.**

CHIEFS' REPORTS

Chief Greg DeWitt

Chief DeWitt gave the Chief's Report:

- Full staff will be in place beginning Monday, January 27, 2025.
- Greater Naples Fire Department held their Battalion Chief assessments at the District with the help of BC Cesar Sanchez. BC Sanchez will help on January 21, 2025 to complete the assessments.
- Informed the board about the funeral arrangements for Firefighter Tim Bogacz's 24 year old son.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Grant, after seeing the fires in Los Angeles, discussed the idea of the benefits of putting fire sprinklers in residences.

The meeting adjourned 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED