

**BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Minutes – April 10, 2023
Regular Board Meeting**

Fire Commissioners Present:

Steve Lohan - Chairman
James Murphy – Vice Chairman
Jeffery Maturo – Secretary/Treasurer
Steven Slachta – Commissioner

Absent:

Tommy Hugo – Commissioner

Administrative Staff Present:

Greg DeWitt – Chief
Jason Brod – Assistant Chief
Eric Madden – Deputy Chief
Andrew Schmidt – Deputy Chief
Eric Scholz – Fire Marshal
Lisa Gendron - Admin-Finance Director

Absent:

Anna-Marie Waller – Admin Coordinator

Chairman Lohan called the meeting to order at 5:01 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Slachta motioned to approve the March 13, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Maturo seconded the motion. **The motion passed 4-0.**

APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS

Commissioner Maturo motioned to approve the March 2023 Financials. Commissioner Slachta seconded the motion. **The motion passed 4-0.**

COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS

Commissioner Slachta mentioned that the speaker for the 9-11 program is confirmed.

Commissioner Maturo commented on the District's fantastic job handling the brush fires that broke out over the weekend.

Commissioner Lohan added his kudos to everyone, including all the other agencies that helped.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

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

CHIEFS' REPORTS

Chief Greg DeWitt

Chief DeWitt gave the Chief's Report:

- Chief DeWitt stated the Chambers "Business After Hours" is April 27, 2023, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm at the new Fairfield Inn.
- Chief DeWitt remarked that the Chambers "INCredible Awards" is May 25, 2023, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point.
- The Chief commented that the work on Station 27 is moving along. It passed the rough electric, plumbing, and framing inspections. The fire sprinklers and alarms are roughed in, and we are still looking at a June/July move-in date.
- Chief DeWitt reported that the new Engine 26 is en route. It had a mechanical problem that has delayed delivery, but it is expected to be delivered early
- Chief DeWitt explained, along with Deputy Chief Schmidt, the new Weather Stem system that was installed at Stations 24 and 22.
- The Chief updated the Commissioners regarding the brush fires that broke out over the weekend. It affected about 30 acres. The response was incredible. There were 70 units and over 130 personnel from agencies all around the area consisting of Lee County Fire Departments, LCSO, LCEMS, FWC, and Florida Forestry. We had use of 3 helicopters and one fixed-wing plane. Mission Bar-B-Que donated food, and the YMCA was used as a Command Center. Commissioner Maturo wondered if we should invite the other agencies to the next board meeting so we could thank them. Chief DeWitt said he planned to thank them in person at their meetings. Commissioner Slachta agreed that Chief DeWitt attends their meetings. Commissioner Maturo also asked if we had a mobile command center. The Chief responded that the District does not.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Alex Grant wanted to thank everyone who responded to the brush fire. He said they did a great job.

Commissioner Murphy motioned to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:22 pm.