

LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

March 19, 2009

The March 19, 2009 meeting of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District Board of Commissioners was opened at 4:00pm by President Berndt. Present were Commissioners Berndt, Adams, Guzman, Barrett, and Hemingway. Chief Don Adams, Assistant Chief Jeff Haugh, Assistant Chief Solon Duncan, PIO Patrick Comer, Administrative Assistant Sue Platas, Finance Specialist Anita Kressel, and Secretary Jill Marcolini. Attorney Richard Pringle was also in attendance.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Berndt asked Chief Adams to give the invocation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Berndt asked if there were any additions, corrections or deletions to the agenda. Chief Adams would like to add ADPI Contract under unfinished business. Commissioner Guzman made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended Commissioner Hemingway second. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Fire Board Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2009
- Workshop Minutes of February 25, 2009
- Treasurers Report
- Line Item Additions
 - 115-0098 Accounts Receivable-Inspection Fees-Collections
 - 117-0101 Allowance for Doubtful Accounts-Inspections

Commissioner Guzman made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as amended, (minutes of previous meeting) Commissioner Barrett second. Motion Passed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

CHIEF ADAMS:

- Received a thank you card from the family of Shawn Temple for the flowers.
- Received a thank you letter from Steve Whidden, Hendry County Sheriff, for the assistance with the funeral service for Sergeant Michael Horne.
- At each of our fire stations Patrick has placed banners to remind the public of dangerous conditions regarding wild fire, discarded cigarettes and outdoor fires.
- Each of the Board members has one of the Districts' single page brochures which highlight the department.
- Thanked the staff and the firefighters for their efforts towards raising \$7,153.00 for MDA.
- Showed a video developed by PIO Patrick Comer titled Your Safety First.

Patrick Comer gave an overview of the video which will be on network news. He also briefed the Board on other topics of interest for the community which he is working on for future videos.

DVP 6 and 19: None

ATTORNEY RICHARD PRINGLE

- Unfinished Business items. He will hold to discuss.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Line of Credit

Attorney Pringle stated the committee met on 3-12-09 to discuss the Line of Credit and because of the additional questions and explanation needed from the responders, it was decided by the committee to give the district more than 2 choices and to go back out for RFP's. Attorney Pringle stated that in the request for proposal document he had added a provision in the paragraph the Board of Commissioners has a right to reject any or all responders and to re-advertise. Commissioner Guzman made a motion that we re-advertise the RFP for line of credit Commissioner Adams Second. Attorney Pringle stated with the understanding he will make the revisions that they talked about. All in favor. Motion passed.

Grievance District 6 & 19

During the previous Board meeting the Commissioners moved to hear both grievances regarding Taxing of Uniforms at the March 19th, 2009 meeting (this meeting). However, due to time constraints of the Collective Bargaining Agreement and a personal conversation with Bill Simpson, IAFF 1826's Field Representative, we mutually agreed to open District 19's Clothing Allowance article. Chief Adams wrote a letter asking the same and Mr. Simpson agreed that District 19's article 22 would be opened during this year's negotiations in accordance of the CBA and it was understood that District 6's

Article for clothing will be automatically opened this year. Chief is asking for the Board to formally move to mutually open Article 22 Clothing Allowance of the District 19's CBA. Attorney Pringle stated the end result being that the District resolve the grievance by agreeing to open the Article, as an additional article in the contract negotiations with District 19.

Commissioner Guzman made a motion to in order to resolve the grievance we agree to allow the Chief to open Article 22 of the contract between the District and the union's District 19 uniform policy. Commissioner Hemingway second. Motion passed.

Commissioner Guzman made a motion to accept the resolution of the grievance to be handled during normal negotiations between District 6 and the Lehigh acres Fire Control and Rescue District. Commissioner Barrett second. Motion passed.

ADPI Contract

Chief Adams stated at the previous Board meeting the Commissioners moved to cancel the ADPI contract and now we need to establish a date to cancel the contract. The staff recommends March 31, as the date to notify them of the cancellation. Chief Adams stated a motion needs to be made to provide them with notification to cancel the ADPI contract effective date 30 days of notification. Commissioner Guzman made a motion to provide notice to ADPI on March 31st with the effective date of May 1, 2009, Commissioner Barrett Second. Motion passed 4-1 with the opposing vote from Commissioner Berndt

NEW BUSINESS

Audit

Mr. Jeff Tuscan from Tuscan & Company was in attendance and gave an overview of the Audit to the Board. He went over hand-outs of various graphs regarding the District. They were summaries of assets, ad valorem revenue, expenditures, liabilities, etc. Mr. Tuscan stated to the Board a motion needs to be make to adopt or approve the audit. He then asked the Board for any questions or comments. With none noted Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve/adopt the audit as presented Commissioner Hemingway second.

Self-Funded Insurance

Commissioner Hemingway went into detail regarding his opinion on the District having Self Funded Health Insurance. He commented on the premiums we have now against the claims the District receives. He stated he believes in the future it would be a benefit to the employees and the taxpayers. Commissioner Hemingway is recommending the District look into a self funded policy with the same coverage we have now.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mike Pernal DVP District 6 and a member of the insurance committee stated the self-funded insurance has been discussed in previous insurance meetings. He said that at that time Commissioner Hemingway did not have hard numbers to present and discuss this type of insurance. Mr. Pernal stated he does not know why the Commissioner keeps

entertaining the thought of self insurance. He stated the District has an insurance committee they sit down at a specific date and time with management to discuss the different policies brought forth to the committee and they find the best policy for the District. He does not know why it is still being brought up.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hemingway: Thanked Patrick Comer for his film that is going to be put out to the general public and he believes it is going to help the people of Lehigh and the rest of the area. Mr. Tuscan did a wonderful job on the audit. As far as the insurance, Mr. Hemingway stated regarding the Department's income, he is trying to save the department money and still have benefits for the employees.

Commissioner Guzman: Congratulate the staff for doing a good job on the Audit.

Commissioner Berndt: Please with the efforts of the staff and the outcome of the Audit. A positive Audit.

Commissioner Adams: Thank you for the audit report and the public and firefighters that turned out for the meeting. Good to see this many people here.

Commissioner Barrett: Good job to the staff on the Audit. Commissioner Barrett agrees with Mike Pernal, the insurance issue has to be done with. She stated we have the committee that we put our trust into finding the District good insurance.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:

Chief Adams thanked Sue and Anita for working closely with Ben from Tuscan and Company. He also thanked Jeff Tuscan for their company coming in and doing the audit for the Department. Chief Adams stated respectfully to the Commissioners, regarding the insurance, he understands about saving money. The insurance has been decided on and to continue to bring this up, affects the moral of the department. Chief stated it is his job as leader to move the Department forward. He appreciated the Commissioner trying to look into ways to save money any way we can, but the subject of certain issues being brought up over and over upsets everyone. The District goes through proper procedures that the Board has set forth and also procedures in the contract.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm

