

LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

WORKSHOP

MINUTES

February 25, 2009

The February 25, 2009 workshop 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, Fire Marshal Ken Bennett, EMS Division Chief Mike Pcolar, Deputy Chief Bill Liedtke, Administrative Assistant Susan Platas, Finance Specialist Anita Kressel, and Secretary Jill Marcolini.

Chief Adams handed out an Agenda for the workshop regarding various topics to be discussed.

Commissioner Berndt stated for the record this is a workshop for discussion only and no action to be taken tonight on any subject.

The first topic to be discussed by Chief Adams was an update on the Budget. He passed out information to all Commissioners regarding the future year's budget with examples of a 12% reduction and a 24% reduction in the budget projected from 2008/09 to 2012/13. Much was discussed regarding the reserve accounts.

Part of the economic challenges for the Department is more tax cuts from the Governor in reducing taxes, this would decrease tax income to build new stations. Commissioner Hemingway is concerned with South of St. Rt. 82 area. He suggested looking into this area for land to build a future station or an above ground water storage tank. Commissioner Guzman stated at this time for the District to stay at operations cost's only and no additional spending, land, etc. All Commissioners agreed.

New stations were also discussed with the rebuilding of Station # 102 as a first priority and then for Station # 106 at North Sunshine Blvd. and 12st W. Rob Fowler, Jr. was in attendance and explained with his map where the station would be built and the future of the Luckett Road extension, to connect with North Sunshine Blvd.

Chief Adams discussed the 5 year plan, which was updated in 2007. Dr. Granito's 5 year forecast for the economy is that it would go down and the ad valorem tax would not hold as in previous years. Chief Adams stated we have met all of Dr. Granito suggestions in his plan. His recommendations for the new stations and also for the two aerials for our District.

Chief Adams stated the Board had tabled investments from the previous Commission meeting. Finance Specialist Anita Kressel addressed the Board with information

regarding Certificate of Deposits and their rates. She stated the rates are higher than the Money Market account we now have. Some discussion and suggestions on how much money to put in the Certificate of Deposits and how long the term, being 3, 6, or 12 months.

Chief Adams handed out to the Board a copy of an updated organizational chart. Life Safety Management would now be under Chief Adams and the tradesperson position would be under Deputy Chief Liedtke.

Chief Adams also addressed the Board in regards to the administrative staff going to a 4 day 10 hour a day work week. He stated it would save the cost on electric with not having everyone in the office 1 day a week, and also save gas for the staff that have take-home vehicles. Much was discussed regarding his suggestion.

Workshop adjourned at 5:30 pm.