

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

### **LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT**

#### **MINUTES**

**October 16, 2008**

The October 16, 2008 special meeting of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District Board of Commissioners was opened at 3:00pm by President Berndt. Present were Commissioners Berndt, Adams, Guzman, Hemingway and Barrett. Chief Don Adams, Assistant Chief Jeff Haugh, Administrative Assistant Susan Platas, Bookkeeper 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.

Commissioner Berndt opened the meeting by stating that this is a special meeting to discuss and review Chief Adams annual evaluation. Commissioner Berndt turned the meeting over to Chief Adams.

Chief Adams handed out information to each Commissioner in reference to the overhead slide presentation. Chief Adams reviewed his personal achievements, new organizational chart, where we were in 2006 to where we are now in 2008. He also discussed his objectives; where we are going in the future, the fact that 95% of our personnel have haz-mat training and Effective Response Force.

Commissioner Berndt then asked the Board individually if they had any questions or concerns for Chief Adams.

Commissioner Adams stated he feels that Chief Adams is doing a good job. He asked a question concerning why 95% of the personnel has the haz-mat training and not 100%. Chief Adams answered because of certain personnel being off for Kelly days; vacation days, etc.

Commissioner Guzman thanked the employees in the audience for being at the special meeting. He stated that Chief Adams has a good team behind him, and thanked them. He acknowledged Chief Adams accomplishments regarding his personal goals and goals for the Department. He also agreed with Commissioner Adams the Chief is doing a good job. Commissioner Guzman stated he has 3 plans regarding goals for the Department.

1. Lower ISO ratings – to help taxpayers
2. Start negotiations earlier
3. Better labor management issues

Commissioner Guzman also stated he appreciated Chief Adams hard work.

Commissioner Barrett Thanked Chief Adams for doing a great job, the Department is heading in the right directions. Thanked Chief Adams for his dedication.

Commissioner Hemingway feels the Chief is doing an excellent job, enthusiasm going around in all the stations. He stated that it boosts moral for the community and the employees.

Commissioner Berndt stated he is impressed by Chief Adams' finishing his education, article published in Fire Chief's magazine, public education in the schools and PIO Patrick Comer making the DVD. He also stated how the Budget book was terrific this year. Everything in it was explained and justified; the debt of the District has been paid, (Referring to the 8 million for the 2 new stations), the District went through a great audit and also how Chief Adams supports all his staff.

Commissioner Berndt stated for future consideration:

1. Staffing issues
2. Station # 102 – older than 40 years old
3. Take advantage of grant opportunities

Commissioner Berndt also stated that he is privilege to be on the Board of Fire Commissioners and glad to be here with Chief Adams.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

Commissioner Berndt asked Attorney Pringle if the Board could make an adjustment to Chief Adam's salary. Attorney Pringle stated yes, in the form of a motion.

Commissioner Guzman made a motion to give Chief Adams a 3% salary increase, the same rate as Administration, Commissioner Barrett second. Motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner Adams opposed. Commissioner Guzman then amended his motion to say the Chair is authorized to amend Chief Adams' contract. Commissioner Barrett second.

Attorney Pringle stated that a motion would need to be made for the wage modification to take effect.

Commissioner Guzman then made a motion that Chief Adams wage increase takes effect October 1, 2008, with a second from Commissioner Hemingway. Motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner Adams as the opposing vote.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

