

**LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT**

**WORKSHOP**

**MINUTES**

**February 19, 2016**

The February 19, 2016 workshop of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District Board of Commissioners was opened at 5:00pm by President Kruse. Present were Commissioners Becker, Adams, Kruse, Carter, and Smith, Administrative Assistant Susan Platas and Attorney Pringle.

Commissioner Kruse stated the purpose of this workshop is to discuss the Board of Commissioners Handbook and possible revisions to same, Fire Chief Evaluation and to discuss the process of selecting a Chief.

Fire Chief Evaluation – Atty Pringle stated this subject has been noticed but Commissioner Becker stated we really need to stress on one item tonight more than anything else – Fire Chief Selection Process. The Fire Chief Evaluation was tabled.

Fire Chief Selection Process – Chief's official last day is July 4, but his last day in the office is May 27. He will be taking vacation time.

We need to create a critical events schedule so we stay on task.

Chief stated we should go Nationwide. Start big and narrow down. We will have to advertise for 30 days. Another discussion was whether to funnel through the apps or have someone like a consultant funnel through.

Commissioner Carter stated she feels the Chief must be Florida certified.

Commissioner Smith questioned why a masters degree required. We're cutting off employees in the dept who would like to be considered.

Commissioner Kruse agreed that under minimum qualification for the Chief, it used to be a Bachelors Degree with a Master's preferred.

All Commissioners spoke regarding Masters degree versus Bachelors Degree and experience.

Attorney Pringle stated by selecting a person to be the next chief, this could put you in risk if you don't use a competitive selection process. This will take you probably 60 – 75 day window to do a search.

Attorney Pringle questioned Commissioners if they want to search statewide or nationwide. Selecting a consultant is a consideration. An outside person who would be a facilitator and gatherer of information. Attorney Pringle name a few facilitators who are familiar with the process.

This would be considered an emergency item to be walked on the agenda for next week.

Commissioner Becker feels that we should hire an outside consultant. Go nationwide.

Commissioner Smith questioned what the approx cost of consultant would be. Attorney Pringle stated Jim Stephen was the consultant used by FMBeach. He will find out if he's interested and his approximate cost.

Commissioner Kruse stated she thinks nationwide is a good way to start.

Attorney Pringle stated the qualifications and job description seem to be good – a good starting point.

Commissioner Adams stated if you go nationwide, you have min experience having Florida experience or comparable.

Commissioner Kruse stated you could have a Bachelors and experience she feels being in Florida is important.

Chief stated paramedic preferred should be paramedic mandatory. Commissioner Carter agrees.

Commissioner Kruse stated we could make changes to job description and walk on for Tuesdays meeting.

Commission Handbook - Commissioner Smith recommends if any Commissioner has a comment we can bring them up now.

Commissioner Becker stated he would like to see it is recommended that we review the Commission Handbook after each election year.

Attorney Pringle needs feedback on the notes for the Commission Handbook and it will be on agenda for March.

Regularly scheduled meetings should be the monthly meetings would be the ones that would be in the definition of missing 3 meetings in a row in the handbook.

Page 18 section C – Leave the last sentence in.

Page 27 section 6 – This suggestion will be voted on at the meeting due to no Commission consensus.

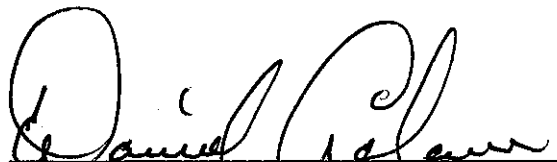
Commissioner Smith wanted to make sure Commissioners receive the packet 7 days prior to meeting. If there is no backup included with a subject, it should be pulled from the Agenda.

Commissioner Smith also referenced to a brief synopsis of public input being inserted.

Relations with fire dept personnel – consensus was to change “should” to “may”.

Changes will be brought to the March mtg.

Adjourn 6:42 pm



Commissioner David Adams, Secretary