

# LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

## COMMISSION MEETING

### MINUTES

**January 23, 2018**

The January 23, 2018 regular Commission Meeting of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District Board of Commissioners was held at Station 104, 3102 16th St SW, Lehigh Acres FL 33976. The meeting was opened at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Kruse. Present are: Commissioners Carter, Cunningham, and Kruse. Deputy Chief Naranjo, Fire Marshal Bennett, Assistant Chief Ketron, Admin. Assistant II Janis Williams, Admin. Director/ HR Susan Platas and Attorney Pringle

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Kruse gave the invocation.

#### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Commissioner Kruse asked if there are any additions, corrections, or deletions to the Agenda. With none noted,

*Commissioner Carter motioned acceptance with a second from Commissioner Cunningham*  
**Motion carries 3/0**

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Deputy Chief Naranjo reviewed the Financial Data Statistics report and gave an update on the following:

- Update on patient transports, patient contacts, structure fires, and incidents during the month of December.
- Hurricane Irma Update: the damages from Hurricane Irma are about 75% mitigated. We are finalizing our insurance and FEMA claims at this time.
- The trailers are working out just fine.
- 4 out of the 5 staff vehicles have arrived
- Our investments are going very well & gaining 1.55%.
- Chief Naranjo and Anita attended the Certified District Manager program in Tallahassee this month.
- Our Promotion & Awards Ceremony is January 25<sup>th</sup>, everyone is welcome to attend.
- The property on Sunshine Blvd is coming along nicely, we have come to an agreement with the last lot owner and we are hoping to close very soon.
- The crews have been working very hard on the training shed; they are doing a very good job.
- The new bunker gear should be arriving here soon.
- Update on the crash rescue truck. We budgeted \$30,000 and we have one donated from Florida Forestry, Chief DiLallo is working on this.
- Chief Ketron read a local resident letter of appreciation.
- Update on incident responding, structure fire report, brush fire update and patient contacts.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS**

**CHIEF KETRON-** Chief Ketron spoke on FEMA, SOG's, SOP's and updating job descriptions. IT moved under Chief Ketron's division. In the IT department: Outlook 2016, back up tape library, MDT on Engine 104, Citrix and the new command tablets are being worked on. Under Logistics: Bunker gear update, the training shed and Hurricane Irma reimbursement. Update on vehicle maintenance, no vehicles out of service at this time. Captain Rocco is doing very well at adjusting to his new position. No doubt, we will see great things in the future. EMS Captain McDowell is doing a great job and working hard.

**CHIEF BENNETT-** Horticultural operations debris from Hurricane Irma is concluding. The David Ave site has small amounts still left but they are working very hard on it. Buckingham Airport site is still active. Last July Chief Naranjo and Chief Bennett were witnesses in a trial from a past arson fire that resulted in a 36 month to 5-year sentence for the arsonist. We are taking inspector applicants at this time and have four to date. Life Safety Division update on, construction projects, Juvenile Fire Setter program and Child Passenger Safety Seat inspections.

### **DVP**

**District 6- None**

**District 19-None**

**ATTORNEY PRINGLE-** Attorney Pringle stated four items tonight. 1.) The change in date for the regular commission meeting was noticed properly in the paper. 2.) Regarding the LAMSID litigation, LAMSID's attorney has needed to extinguish assessments against the district properties at the county Property Appraiser, this has been completed. 3.) Every 20 years the (CRC) Constitutional Revision Commission meets and has the authority to propose revisions to the state's constitutions. They have met this year and have a proposal. *Proposition 69* would require all special districts with ad valorem taxing authority to submit the measure for referendum approval to electors of the district every ten years. If a referendum does not approve continuing the authority to collect the tax, the district is basically out of business and the county will have to absorb the expenses associated with the service the district provides. Attorney Pringle is asking the board to allow him to draft and forward a letter of opposition regarding *Proposition 69* to the department for the Chair to sign. He is asking that the commissioners place this on the agenda to take appropriate action tonight. 4.) Update on the Sunshine Blvd property, title work is being done at this time and looking well.

*Commissioner Cunningham motioned to amend the agenda to include this letter and have the Chair sign it, with a second from Commissioner Carter* **Motion carries 3/0**

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS- None**

**PUBLIC COMMENT- None**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes- Regular Commission Meeting – 12/19/2017

Treasurers Report

*Commissioner Carter motioned to approve the consent agenda and minutes as presented, a second from Commissioner Cunningham* **Motion carries. 3/0**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Salary & Benefits for Commissioners-** Attorney Pringle stated that this has been properly noticed in the paper. There are two elements to review.

- 1.) Commissioners can set monthly salary up to \$500.00
- 2.) Relating to Health Insurance benefits the Board can determine if the District pays any premium portion of this benefit.

Commissioners discussed the current salary amount; Commissioner Carter would like to see it increased to \$500.00, after much discussion,

***Motion # 1.) Commissioner Carter motioned to increase the commission salary to \$500.00 per month retro 1/1/18 with a second from Commissioner Cunningham. Motion carries. 3/0***

Commissioners discussed benefits that the Commissioners can participate in what the District offers. Commissioner Cunningham asked if we offer benefit packages as a whole or offered individually. Is it an all or nothing kind of deal? Susan Platas explained our benefits and Commissioner Carter is for Commissioner only, not spouse & family. However, ok for them to purchase it separately at their cost. After much discussion,

***Motion # 2.) Commissioner Cunningham motioned to accept benefits authorizing Commissioners to participate in the same benefit packages and programs that the other employees of the District are entitled to with a second from Commissioner Kruse.***

***Motion carries. 3/0***

***Motion #3.) Commissioner Kruse motioned that commissioner's health and dental insurance premiums be paid by the District, if Commissioners want spouse/family coverage they pay 15% of the coverage amount. With a second from Commissioner Cunningham.***

***Motion carries 3/0***

***Motion #4.) Commissioner Kruse motioned that if Commissioners choose to participate in Life and Long Term Disability they do so 100% at their own expense. Second from Commissioner Cunningham.***

***Motion carries 3/0***

**Legislation to Amend Chapter 191, Fla Statutes-** Attorney Pringle updated the Board on the Legislation to Amend Chapter 191, this being an election year the lobbyist do not believe the Legislation is going anywhere. 2019 should be a better year for this. Commissioners asked Attorney Pringle to let the Lobbyist know to continue to pursue this.

**Open Seats on Fire Commission Board-** Commissioner Cunningham suggested, to either offer the position to the second in each seat if that person is still interested and still qualifies or take applications and review in March with person taking seat in April. Commissioner Kruse likes the idea of the second runner up taking the position, as it is fair that the public made the choice at election time. The second place winner for Seat 3 is Bill Liedtke. Commissioner Carter wants to keep Smith's seat open out of respect until election time. Commissioner Kruse agreed with that.

***Commissioner Kruse motioned to consider filling Seat 3 with the second runner up according to election results and if that person still qualifies and is interested, leave Seat 5 vacant until the next general election, with a second from Commissioner Cunningham. Motion carries 2-1 with***

*the opposing vote from Commissioner Carter. Attorney Pringle stated that the person would take seat in 10 days after the appointment tonight.*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**GSG Contract-** The current three-year contract with GSG is about to expire. They presented a couple of options. Attorney Pringle stated there is not time mentioned in the agreement so he thinks we can postpone this until next meeting. Commissioner Kruse would consider a one-year contract and not a three-year contract. We need to look at the termination clause. Commissioner Carter wants to see a one year and subject to renewal. After much discussion,

*Commissioner Carter motioned that we have GSG and Attorney Lawson present proposals and a presentation by both companies because she would like to hear what they have to say and tell them what we want. Submit paperwork and vote on it in February, for a one-year term. In addition, to table this item tonight until February's meeting, with a second from Commissioner Cunningham.*

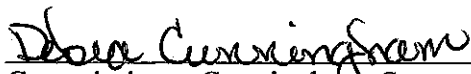
*Motion carries. 3/0*

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:** Each Commissioner thanked everyone for all their hard work. Commissioner Carter talked about brush fire safety.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:** Chief Naranjo thanked Commissioner's for their continued support and invited everyone out to the Award Ceremony Thursday night.

Adjourn: 7:11 pm

  
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Commissioner Cunningham, Secretary