

**WEST MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT COMMISSION
FACILITIES WORK SHOP**

*Minutes of June 19, 2018
Administration Building*

The work session began at 5:04 p.m. with the following members present: Larry Jennis, Randy Cooper, Al Robinson, George Harris and David Bishop. (Al Robinson 5:45 p.m.)

Chief Sousa reported updates concerning the administration building sale contract. He stated that the buyer has done a pre-application with the County and still working on getting their commitment for financing. The timeline is approximately for the first part of November. Commissioner Bishop stated we would need to be looking at moving then in October. Commissioner Harris stated that we would not be looking to move until we have a closing date.

Chief Sousa reviewed options for the administration offices: build; lease an existing facility; purchase existing office space.

Building would require a minimum of 4,000 sq.ft. Current potential parcels are at 75th St. W. and 9th Ave. W. which is owned by the school board; parcel across street; parcel over by Beall's; parcel on 59th St. W. and our Station 2 property.

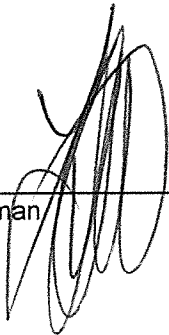
Locations that are available for lease are: Pet Supermarket building on Manatee Ave.; space at the Manatee West Shopping Center.

Existing locations that are available are: the dentist office next to us; a building on 59th St. W.; all would require extensive remodeling.

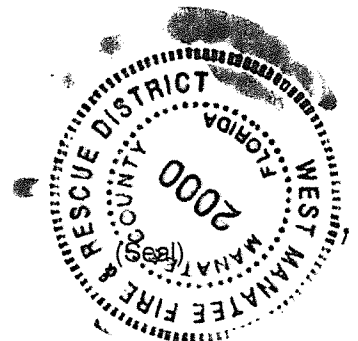
Chief Sousa then went over current facilities. Station 1 is brand new; Station 2 had major remodel in 2012 and Station 3 had a partial remodel. Station 3 only had the one side of the building remodeled. The bunkrooms, living area, bathrooms and kitchen were not remodeled. There was only some cosmetic work done. Chief Sousa stated he will get information together concerning costs to remodel that portion and bring back for budget process next spring.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Chairman



Secretary



**WEST MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

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The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm with the following members present: Larry Jennis, George Harris, Al Robinson, Randy Cooper and David Bishop. The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence were followed by the administration of the oath to all present. Chairman Jennis announced that anyone wishing to provide public comment on any of the agenda items should fill out a Comment Card located at the table by the door and hand them in to the Chief.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: Firefighter Buddy Bowen was promoted to 1st Class Firefighter.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: Commissioner Harris stated he would like to have some discussion placed on the agenda for new business concerning some merger talks. There were no objections. Item added as new business 9c.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Harris motioned to approve consent agenda; seconded by Commissioner Cooper; motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: Letter of thanks from Manatee County District Chief Raines for our participation in the Heritage Festival Grand Parade.

CARRIED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. *Administration Building Update:* Chief Sousa reported this was already discussed in workshop.
- B. *Non-ad Valorem Assessment Exemptions:* Chief Sousa reported there is no update.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. *Resolution #2018-04 Interlocal Agreement with FL Class:* Chief Sousa stated that currently we have our reserve funds maintained at Hancock Bank and are earning 1.25% interest. The investment policy that was adopted a few months ago allows the Board to utilize Intergovernmental Investment Pools. Matt Tight from Public Trust Advisors was present to go over the FL Class product. Commissioner Bishop asked if they have FDIC backing. Mr. Tight stated they do not, however the funds are with Wells Fargo which is a Qualified Public Depository. Commissioner Cooper stated that it's only been around since June 2015. Mr. Tight stated they have already grown to be the 2nd largest in the state at this time. Commissioner Bishop motioned to approve Resolution #2018-04 Interlocal Agreement with FL Class approved as recommended by staff; seconded by Commissioner Robinson; motion passed 4-1 with Chairman Jennis opposing. Commissioner Bishop motioned to move up to 2 million from the assigned fund and \$330K from impact fees; seconded by Commissioner Robinson; motion passed 4-1 with Chairman Jennis opposing.
- B. *Updated Board Policies and Procedures:* B.C Rigney stated that most of the changes were grammatical and a few other changes. One change was updating to the correct seat cycle for the Board. Commissioner Cooper motioned to adopt the updated Board Policies & Procedures; seconded by Commissioner Harris; motioned passed unanimously.
- C. *Merger:* Commissioner Harris stated that he would like to get a feel from the Board about exploring a merge with neighboring departments. Commissioner Harris stated he has consulted with Chief Sousa, Cedar Hammock's Chief and Southern Manatee's Chairman. An independent study from an outside agency would need to be completed. There would have to be an improvement in level of service, no increased cost to taxpayers and meets agreements with individual bargaining units. Commissioner Bishop stated we kind of marched down this path with Cedar Hammock about 7 years ago and our rate systems are different. We are assessments. Commissioner Harris stated he is looking for approval to talk to the other commissioner's and not a vote to spend any money. Commissioner Cooper stated he is in favor of looking into it. Commissioner Robinson stated that the last time this was looked into there was no cost

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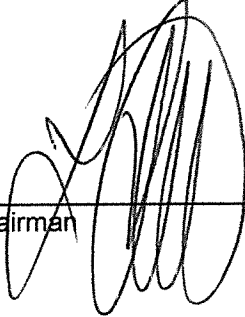
savings; big is not always better. Commissioner Bishop stated he is not against it; problem is geography. Chairman Jennis stated that usually these types of mergers are to reduce overhead and administrative expenses and we have been continuously doing that; would others make that better or worse. Chairman Jennis appointed Commissioner Harris to be the liaison with the other boards to explore their sentiments towards the possibility of merging and working with the Chief on what the next steps would be.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Sousa stated that we have received the FEMA reimbursement from Hurricane Irma. He stated that Julie worked very hard in getting all the paperwork and filings completed.


COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: Commissioner Harris requested that Merger gets added to old business for next meeting. Commissioner Robinson stated he is astounded by the efficiencies of the Chief and the organization. Commissioner Bishop wished Commissioner Harris best of luck in his endeavors and also wanted to make sure we have pallets of water for hurricane season. B.C. Losek stated water has already been disbursed to all stations.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 6:00 pm at the Administration Building.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Jennis adjourned the meeting at 6:50 pm; motioned by Commissioner Robinson; seconded by Commissioner Bishop; motion passed unanimously.



Chairman



Secretary

