

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

*Minutes of July 18, 2023
Administration Building*

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Larry Jennis, David Bishop, Billy Burke, and Derrick Warner. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence and the oath.

1st PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE 2023-04 AMENDING AND RESTATING THE FF RETIREMENT PLAN: Administrative Assistant (AA) Wright verified that public notice was advertised in The Bradenton Herald on Sunday, July 9th, 2023, and read the ordinance summary. An ordinance of the West manatee Fire and Rescue District, Manatee County, Florida, amending Ordinance no. 2013-04 amending and restating the West Manatee Fire and Rescue District Firefighters' Retirement Plan; as subsequently amended; amending section 1, definitions; amending section 4, finances and fund management; amending section 7, pre-retirement death; amending section 8, disability; amending section 16, minimum distribution of benefits; amending section 25, military service prior to employment; amending section 26, prior fire service; providing for severability of provisions; providing for the repeal of conflicting ordinances; providing an effective date. Deputy Chief (DC) Johnson stated that the Pension Board met, and labor agreed to amend the Firefighter Retirement Plan. DC Johnson briefly summarized the changes, stating it is mostly definition changes, but the larger update gives the ability for personnel eligible for buybacks to do a payment plan via payroll deductions on a 60-month basis instead of only a one-time lumpsum payment. Vice Chairman Warner opened the public hearing for public comments; there were none. Commissioner Jennis motioned to close the public hearing; seconded by Commissioner Burke. Commissioner Jennis stated the changes seemed customary and Commissioner Bishop verified with DC Johnson that Labor had no objections. Vice Chairman Warner adjourned the public hearing and stated the second reading of this ordinance will occur at the August Commission Meeting.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Bishop motioned to approve consent agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Jennis; motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: AA Wright read a letter that came from MTC thanking WMFR for the donation of 17 sets of surplus gear.

CARRIED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Total Patient Care: DC Johnson first defined response times, turnout times, and travel times. DC Johnson showed response times in all of the District's zip codes compared to Manatee County EMS's response times from 2022 and 2023. DC Johnson stated that West Manatee Fire & Rescue District's (WMFRD) average response times on the Island are between 4 and 5 minutes where EMS is between 9 and 11 minutes. DC Johnson then explained that the WMFRD 90th percentile response time to the north end of the Island is 6:22 compared to EMS at 22:07. He stated that NFPA1710 outlines that 90% of the time, the first due engine should be on scene in five minutes. DC Johnson mentioned the NFPA standard for turnout times being 60 seconds or less, a task in which WMFRD excels. DC Johnson requested direction from the Board on next steps. Commissioner Bishop lent ideas including writing a Board endorsed letter to the Manatee County Board of Commissioners or requesting a meeting with EMS leadership. Commissioner Bishop stated we have no grounds as we do not contribute to EMS aside from housing units at WMFRD stations at a monthly rate. The Board agreed that DC Johnson set a meeting including the Board liaison, Vice Chairman Warner, and the Chief of Manatee County EMS to discuss response times, challenges, and possible solutions. DC Johnson gave kudos to operations staff for continuing to decrease turnout times considering that is the one number equated in response times that can be controlled.
- B. Vacation Rental Identification: Fire Marshal (FM) Kwiatkowski stated the letters regarding 2024 Fire Assessment Rates and the related public hearing were mailed. FM Kwiatkowski said staff have fielded roughly 20 calls on the matter thus far and all callers have been satisfied with their questions answered.

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FM Kwiatkowski stated he and the Board liaison, Commissioner Burke, have meetings on Thursday, July 20th, with two software companies, Granicus and GovOS. Commissioner Bishop requested detailed critiques of each company. Commissioner Jennis asked if Staff is experiencing calls where residents are informing the District of additional TPLEs that were previously unknown. FM Kwiatkowski confirmed that he has been receiving calls of that sort since the campaign began several months ago.

NEW BUSINESS: None


CHIEF'S REPORT: DC Johnson stated Chief Rigney is currently completing continued education. FM Kwiatkowski stated his presentation at the NFPA Conference in Las Vegas was successful. FM Kwiatkowski was invited to speak at FAVR (Florida Alliance of Vacation Rentals) in Orlando in September as well as the Florida Fire Prevention Conference in Gainesville in November.

OTHER REPORTS: None

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: Vice Chairman Warner shared what he witnessed during a vehicle accident in the District. Vice Chairman Warner gave kudos to the crew's response.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Administration building.

ADJOURNMENT: Vice Chairman Warner adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary

