

**Fire Commission Meeting  
Immokalee Fire Control District  
Board Meeting  
February 18, 2016**

These Minutes are a summary of the meeting. Any further information can be obtained by the tape. The minutes will follow the order of the Agenda.

Present Commissioners: Anderson, Goodnight, Halman, Keen. Commissioner Olesky arrives at 6:03pm; Chief Paul Anderson, Deputy Chief Michael Choate, Board Attorney Kenneth Thompson, Leo Rodgers, Alma Valladares, Bryan Horbal, Jay Roth

- 1) **Call Meeting to Order**  
Meeting called to order at 6:00m by Commission Chair Goodnight
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**  
Lead by Commissioner Goodnight
- 3) **Moment of Silence**  
Lead by Commissioner Goodnight
- 4) **Proof of Publication**  
Copy of publication at the annual publishing
- 5) **Establish a Quorum**  
Quorum established by Commissioner Goodnight
- 6) **Approval of Agenda**  
**Commissioner Halman motioned to approve the Agenda and seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Motion carries unanimously.**
- 7) Approval of the minutes of the following meeting:
  - A. February 18, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes  
**Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve February 18, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes and Commissioner Halman seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**
- 8) Treasurer's Report  
**Commissioner Halman motioned to approve Treasurer's Report and Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**
- 9) Consent Agenda  
**Commissioner Olesky motioned to approve Consent Agenda and Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**
  - A. Fire Marshal's Report
  - B. Chief's Report
  - C. Status on Current Contracts
- 10) Union Report  
Bryan Horbal, Union President mentioned that the votes for conand the Vice President, Derek Neuman attended the North Collier vs Collier County their meeting with Chief Anderson about the COPCN and they were there to support Chief Anderson. The other thing was that their Local voted to send 2 of their guys to attended an Int'l Assoc. of FF Leadership Conference in Orlando.

## 11) Business of the District

### A. New Business

#### 1. Introduction of Deputy Fire Chief

Chief Anderson mentioned that we finally finished the process for the Deputy Chief position. His name is Michael Choate. He is from Wauchula. He worked for many years for Hardee County as a Fire Chief, Polk County as Deputy Chief and MES (Fire Equipment Company) selling fire equipment. He is also a Paramedic and that will help with our ALS on our fire trucks.

Michael Choate mentioned that he is looking forward to working in Immokalee and is excited with ALS service. When your rescues leave, so does your ALS. It will be a phenomenal idea and it will benefit citizens of Immokalee. He still lives in Wauchula. He and Chief Anderson have discussed that, and he is discussing a move to Immokalee sometime with his wife, but for now, he wants to make sure his children finish school in Wauchula. If Chief Anderson has to leave the area for conference, vacation, or get away, he will be available. Commissioner Olesky mentioned that if he has a camper he can leave it at Lake Trafford and stay there. Commissioner Goodnight mentioned that they are happy to have him here and looking forward to working with him for many years.

#### 2. Resolution 2016-01 Non-Ad Valorem Fire Assessment Fees

Discussion with board

Commissioner Goodnight called for a recess from our Regular Meeting at 6:21am and opens the Special Meeting by reading the Resolution 2016-01 Non-Ad Valorem Fire Assessment Fees  
Discussion with board

**Commissioner Olesky motioned to approve the Resolution 2016-01 Non-Ad Valorem Fire Assessment Fees and Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

Commissioner Goodnight adjourned Special Meeting at 6:32pm and reconvene Regular Meeting at 6:32pm.

- a. Public comment  
None

#### 3. Resolution 2016-02 Local Control of Fire and EMS

Discussion with board

**Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve the Resolution 2016-01 Local Control of Fire and EMS and Commissioner Olesky seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

- a. Public comment  
Randolph Cash mentioned that he came to introduce himself to IFCD and the commissioners. He came here to understand our concerns and issues and to better educate himself. He is running for Collier County Commissioner, District 5.

#### 4. Purchase of 8 Sets of Turnout Gear to complete replacement (General Fund)

Discussion with board

**Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve purchase of 8 Sets of Turnout Gear to complete replacement and Commissioner Olesky seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

- a. Public comment  
None
- 5. Purchase of Turnout Gear for Deputy Chief (Impact Fees)  
Discussion with board

**Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve purchase of Turnout Gear for Deputy Chief and Commissioner Olesky seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

- a. Public comment  
None
- 6. Purchase of Vehicle for Deputy Chief (Impact Fees)  
Discussion with board

**Commissioner Halman motioned to purchase of vehicle for Deputy Chief not to exceed \$49,999 and Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.**

- a. Public comment  
None
- B. Old Business**
- 1. Status of Fire Station 31 Construction  
Chief Anderson mentioned that we are not sure we have the right company to build this station because of the cost involved. We had budgeted for \$2.4 Million and they are wanting \$2.8, \$2.9 Million. The biggest issue is the training tower. We need the board's direction. Captain Tom Cunningham mentioned that the board had voted to stay independent and this will allow us to do that. Currently, we are having to go to Naples to train which is taking our apparatus out of the district and reducing our staffing. This training is vital for us. Our district has never had a fire station and this will give us piece of mind for our firefighters and our families. Also, will also be a safe emergency center to operate during the storms. This will benefit our district for a long time to come. We don't have the space now to house all the equipment that we have. He, Chief Anderson and the firefighters are asking the board to move the budget up to make this assessable as it is written. The three Battalion Captains put together the information for the board to look at with the points that they feel are most important. Attorney Thompson mentioned to bring it back to the board. The Commission acknowledged that the training aspect is important and agreed that it should remain in the design of the building.
    - a) Public comment  
None
  - 2. Status of Collier Emergency Services Task Force (County-wide Fire and EMS Merger/Consolidation)  
Chief Anderson mentioned that at the meeting they spoke of having people at the voting precincts handing out information in support of the county-wide consolidation.
    - a) Public comment  
None
  - 3. Update on North Collier COPCN  
Chief Anderson mentioned that the county has denied the COPCN. They were given an extension and it will expire on February 25<sup>th</sup> and the topic wasn't on the BOCC agenda. Also, mentioned that three county commission seats are up for election soon. The commissions may change and all these issues may go away.



- a) Public comment  
None

12) Concerns of Commissioners

Commissioner Anderson asked about the tablets. Attorney Thompson mentioned that commissioners shouldn't share tablets with Immokalee Water & Sewer board and IFCD board. Chief Sanderson indicate that the tablets for Commissioners should be ready by March meeting. Commissioner Halman mentioned that he likes the new decals on the IFCD emergency vehicles. Chief Anderson mentioned that he was able to get a deal on the new uniform badge order for the quantity that we were ordering and received 6 free badges. He presented each Commissioner with their badge and one for Jason. If someone is going to the FASD conference we need to know which board will pay for the conference.

13) Public Comment

Christopher Spencer, from North Collier and he's been watching a lot of stuff that is going on in the county and he currently serves as president of the North Collier Fire Fighters Association. Also, that he's seen Chief Anderson out there and he's doing a really good job representing our district. He sees the station and the forward movement that we are looking at. That we are looking at the future. The reason he is here is because the COPCN issue. It is about politics and not about safety. We are fortunate at North Collier. We have enough staff that our trucks not necessarily go out of service. Chief Anderson is right. You can't strip your district. The other thing is; as it was presented to the county commission from Walter Kopka; who serves as Chief of Collier County EMS, North Collier has met all of the requirements in the county COPCN ordinance and it wasn't presented that way. All they said, yes, no or maybe so. The books that they use and protocols that they follow are Collier County protocol. The only difference is, that the county uses Dr. Tober as their Medical Director and North Collier hired Dr. Panozzo, who is in charge of North Collier Hospital and NCH Emergency Room. Dr. Tober and EMS have a thing for them. The reason we became an independent district. Is because the county couldn't do it. The county doesn't tell us how to run our business. They are trying to sway the votes of the independent districts. As the President of the Firefighter's Association, we are not in favor of the way it is written. He applauds the commissioners and Chief Anderson. Let's not let the government take our districts. They appreciate Chief Anderson for being at the meetings. It's a sham, it's a disgrace and a disservice to all the men and woman that live, work, visit and drive through our towns and communities. Enough is enough. We have 3 seats up on the county commission. Time to clean house. Remember, you job and your responsibilities you are doing quite well is your independent district representing the people of the Immokalee area and you have all these men and women doing it from the top to the bottom; doing a great job. It's about the people, not the politics. Work independent.

Pam Brown mentioned that at the meetings over at county commission they said if there is a bill or a fee that the ambulance isn't collecting; they write it off. If you have a lot of fees that are coming in with indigent and they didn't pay their bill, it will come back to the county. It will put a burden on the districts. They are not telling the people that their taxes are going up and you are not going to get the same service.

14) Adjourn Meeting at 8:04pm

**Next Scheduled Meeting(s):**

- **Regular Board Meeting: March 17, 2016 at 6pm at Immokalee Fire Control District Station 30, 502 New Market Rd. E, Immokalee, FL 34142**