



Board Of Commissioners Meeting Minutes APPROVED

Navarre Beach Fire Rescue
1413 Utility Drive, Navarre, FL 32566
10 October 2023

Commissioners Present

Keith Lang, Chairman
Jack Burton, Vice Chairman
Ken Huete, Treasurer

I. Call to Order at 4:30 pm by Chairman Keith Lang.

II. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Keith Lang.

Those in attendance: Chief Danny Fureigh, Joan Fryt - Staff Assistant, Austin Turnbull – Beach Safety Director; Captain Corey Mayhew; Firefighters: Felix Hernandez, Lance Vincent, Ed King. Also attending was Jerry Lambert, a Santa Rosa County citizen.

III. Approval of Minutes

1. A motion was made by Chairman Lang and seconded by Ken Huete to accept the previous meeting minutes as presented.
2. Motion approved.

IV. Reports

1. Chief's Report

a. Chief Fureigh reported the following:

The TDC provided canvas bags with various items for participants of the September 11th benefit stair climb event, submitted the run reports to the state, attended an open house at Sunbelt Fire - Sunbelt Fire is a vendor for Fire Department equipment located in Spanish Fort, AL. The September 11th event raised \$3,000 for the National Fallen Firefighters Association – 30 Firefighters and 10 lifeguards entered the stairwell. There was good participation from the community. The check has been forwarded to the association. The 2024 budget was reviewed and approved. NBFR picked up 3 old cars donated by premier motors which will be used for jaws of life extrication training, the new fire boat is scheduled to be received in March 2024, conducted union negotiations, attended the NBLRA meeting, removed ties to H and H accounting – all processes have been transferred to Joan. Attended the safety meeting in Destin for the poker run, registered for the wing off at Navarre Park to benefit the Starfish Project – Windjammers is sponsoring NBFR and is providing all supplies free of charge – NBFR will be cooking 1200 wings, attended a meeting with Vital Exams for upcoming firefighter physicals which will be conducted in house as opposed to sending the firefighters to other locations. This will save a lot of time with no increased cost, received a rebate from healthcare for the amounts of \$361 (2021) and \$256 (2022) because of small claims, we had 48 calls for service for the last month.

2. Captains' Report

Firefighter Mark Huetter attended a 45-hour tactics class at Station 45, Conducted monthly pre-plans in the district (911), Everyone attended the stair climb, attended the Navarre beach art festival at Andy D's, attended the neighborhood block party at Grand Navarre, attended the poker run at Juana's. The beach wheelchairs are highly utilized.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Calls for Service | 48 |
| ALS | 3 |
| Training Hours | 39 |
| Crew Fitness Training Sessions | 20 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Tactical Surveys/Pre-Fire Plans | 9 |
| Station Tours | 7 |
| PR Events | 5 |

3. Beach Safety Report

1. Fall Break; we have seen an increase in population. It's been a little difficult with larger crowds but lifeguards managed the population very well. We experienced 12 stolen flags.
2. Cardiac Arrest: A surfer came out of the water and collapsed on the beach. Lifeguards got ROSC. The patient is doing well and underwent a double bypass two weeks ago.
3. Four rescue boards received minor damage.
4. End of season performance evaluations were completed for 30 lifeguards.
5. Watchtower data entry analytics: End of year report will be ready in early November. Next year we are adding all our physical, medical, and equipment training log along with equipment check off on watchtower for auditing, and simplified communication of the status of NBLG equipment

Statistics:

| | <u>August</u> | <u>September</u> | <u>October</u> |
|------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| Attendance | 291,515 | 171,148 | 11,4078 |
| Prevention | 213,315 | 132,474 | 83,489 |
| Contact | 229,515 | 139,005 | 89,676 |
| Assist | 892 | 799 | 509 |
| Enforcement | 445 | 176 | 123 |
| Marine Life | 546 | 438 | 222 |
| Minor Medical | 218 | 220 | 103 |
| Major Medical | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Boat infractions | 26 | 10 | 4 |
| Missing Person | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Rescue | 8 | 2 | 4 |
| Reef | 23 | 30 | 4 |
| Kayak | | | 1 |
| Wildlife | | | |

4. Treasurer's Report

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|----------------------|-----------|
| Operating Account | \$52,512 |
| Donation Account | \$1,516 |
| Impact Fees Account | \$2,000 |
| Beach Safety Account | \$262,616 |

- a. A motion was made by Chairman Lang and seconded by Jack Burton to accept the treasures' report as presented.
- b. Motion approved.

VII Old Business

No Old Business

VIII New Business

1. Captains pay change from salary to hourly

- a. Chief Fureigh and the Board discussed changing the captains pay from salary to hourly. Their annual salary would remain the same. Currently, all Captains and Firefighters are being transferred from a 40 hour pay period to a 53-hour work week. Currently when a Captain is off, another Captain must replace him. Captains get a flat fee of \$425 while a brand-new firefighter would get approximately \$637. There are no other fire departments on the panhandle that has their Captains on a salary. In the future, this transition would make it easier to do salary surveys for comparisons to other nearby fire departments. The calculated cost for all Captains transitioning to hourly will be a total of approximately \$7,000 per year to accomplish this transition
- b. A motion was made by Jack Burton and seconded by Ken Huete to adopt the proposal to migrate the captains pay from salary to hourly to be congruent with the neighboring departments.
- c. Motion approved.

2. Firefighter Pension

- a. As mentioned in the last meeting, the Board agreed to await more information concerning the proposal from the pension committee to make an informed decision on moving forward with funding the pension. Chairman Lang asked the board if any board members had an additional question about the funding of the pension. Commissioner Burton stated that has reviewed the additional information and stated that he believes that we can manage it financially. Commissioner Huete and Chairman Lang both agreed. Chief Fureigh stated that he does not currently have an exact amount of money that will need to come out of reserves and that NBFR already has approximately \$40,000 set aside for SEP plans. The worst-case scenario will be \$150, 000 having to come out of reserves He stated that should not be the case, and that if the department runs a tight ship, the amount should be about \$60,000 to \$70,000 out of reserves for this fiscal year. The equipment is in great shape, we have a good amount in special reserves. Chief Fureigh also stated that main reason that we became a special district was for the grants and to fund the pension. Commissioner Burton stated that if the funding that we need to fund the pensions does not work out as we project, this could result in annual compensation raises being modified or reduced so that we are financially able to keep funding the plan. Chief Fureigh and Chairman Lang agreed. Chief Fureigh mentioned that we have an MSBU check from 2023 coming in for about \$18,000.
- b. A motion was made by Keith Lang and seconded by Jack Burton to approve and fund the pension fund as presented.
- c. Motion approved.

VII Comments or Announcements

None.

VIII Next Meeting will be 14 November 2023 at 4:30 pm.

IX Motion to Adjourn

1. Motion to Adjourn was made by Keith Lang and seconded by Ken Huete.
2. Motion approved.

X Meeting Adjourned at 4:51pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Huete

Commissioner

Navarre Beach Fire Rescue, (acting) Secretary