



Board Of Commissioners Meeting Minutes APPROVED

Navarre Beach Fire Rescue

1413 Utility Drive, Navarre, FL 32566

9 July 2024

Commissioners Present

Keith Lang, Chairman

Jack Burton, Vice Chairman

Ken Huete, Treasurer

I. **Call to Order** at 4:31 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; 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 Jack Burton to accept the previous meeting minutes as presented.
2. Motion approved.

IV. **Reports**

1. **Chief's Report**

a. Chief Fureigh reported the following:

Chief Fureigh was awarded a scholarship to attend the Florida Association of Special Districts' annual conference in Orlando receiving his Certified District Managers Certification. This organization paid for everything except for the room. Aside from Fire districts', other organizations were present from Mosquito Districts, Water Districts, etc.

A quarterly pension district meeting was held at the station.

County Commissioner candidate for District 3, Rhett Rowell, visited the station for a meeting with Fire Department personnel.

A new text message alert system was introduced to the Fire Department personnel. This system has unique features that gives all personnel the address, basis of the call (medical, fire, etc.). In addition to this detailed information, GPS coordinates are also displayed. The department vehicles also receive the GPS coordinates which allows for driving directions. The new system also shows the locations of fire hydrants. There was no cost to the department to introduce this new alert/guidance system.

A "T" Shirt sale/fundraiser program is underway to help outfit the new fireboat with electronics. Cooper Harshfield was the winner of the t-shirt design competition.

Captain Donahue resigned to pursue a position with Okaloosa County EMS. Firefighter/EMT Felix Hernandez is being promoted to Captain on B shift to replace Captain Donahue. Felix Hernandez has over 15 years of experience and previously worked as a Captain at previous Fire Departments. The pinning ceremony will be held next month.

Emailed the county to keep up with potential outstanding impact fees by looking newly issued building permits.

The new fireboat was received and fire fighter training is ongoing.

Emailed the NBFR attorney to help with drafting an ordinance in order to assess fees on the new RV park by calculating the square footage of the concrete pad for each RV. The fee would be assessed at a commercial rate which is the same way that the county currently utilizes when taxing RV parks.

Annual service on the Zodiac "Miss Irma," was completed by C shift. The zodiac has been loaned out to Station 45 and will be kept indoors. The boat will remain in the possession of NBFR and will be returned when needed at Navarre Beach. The Zodiac is critical for NBFR during any Hurricane / Storm event on the island. The Schaffers were consulted with and agreed with the loaning of vessel to Station 45. Currently there is no way for the Station 45 vessel to travel up the East River where it passes under Hwy 87. Station 45 will maintain the zodiac while it is in their possession.

NBFR received a new updated map from the county which is now displayed on the wall.

We received \$18,472 in fire assessment fees.

Met with Commissioner Eddington on the overabundance of rental beach chairs on the beach which has the potential of disrupting access by lifeguards and EMS personnel. Mr. Eddington will help to fix this problem. Beach renourishment will provide long term relief however, a short-term solution is needed.

Currently, an in-depth audit is ongoing at NBFR. This is a unique audit since it is based both on the former LLC and the new special district. The audit is very in-depth and, on some days, the auditors ask 50 questions in a day. They are looking for policies and procedures as well as Union Contracts. Since some procedures do not currently exist, Chief Fureigh is asking the Fire Commissioners to assist in creating these. All 3 Commissioners present agreed to come in for several hours each month to assist.

Dave Piech came in with his nephew who wants to pursue a career as a professional firefighter.

One beach chair was damaged and will be replaced. NBFR has now changed their sign out form to inform the user that they are responsible for damages.

2. Captains' Report

(Was presented by the Chief) Attended Pension Board Quarterly meeting. Attended SOG training at Station 37. Hosted the NBLRA meeting at Station 49. Attended Special Olympics Surf Competition at the Pier. Completed online Scuba Training Course. Multi- company training with MFD and HNFDF at Station 37. Luncheon with Rhet Rowell. Had lunch with Cooper and family who won the boat t-shirt contest. Attended La Fontaine fire critique at Station 45.

Calls for Service	89
ALS	11
Training Hours	110
Crew Fitness Training Sessions	26
Tactical Surveys/Pre-Fire Plans	6
Station Tours	12
PR Events	2

3. Beach Safety Report

1. JR Lifeguard – 3 sessions – two one-week beginner program and one two -week advanced program. There were no major injuries and the program can continue to grow.

2. Lifeguard 1 – Emergency Lane and Chair rental issues with blocking emergency vehicle pathways. Started training two lifeguards for Senior Guards. Checked off two lifeguards for Senior Guard / LG1. Surf caused a lot of rescues / assists early in the month. Heat related calls increased later in the month.
3. USLA / ECLA – Regionals insurance was completed and turned into SRC. ECLA race in Gulf Shores and Pensacola Beach brought big number of Lifeguards.
4. Equipment Damage – 4x paddle board dings. 4x new rescue boards were delivered – replacements from manufacturing defects. 2x SXS/UTV’s broke down – parts are difficult to obtain. Water leak in men’s locker room – repaired / fixed by Lifeguard personnel. Water leak in women’s bathroom – Mold and significant damage to drywall and vanity. SRC repaired three doors that were damaged in January. Surf Rescue 1 – Ski -taken out of service to repair rescue sled. Repaired and back in service.
5. Training – Rescue / Physical training 26 hrs. Medical Training 12 hrs. Ski Training 6 hrs.

Statistics:

Attendance	276,967
Prevention	194,686
Contact	209,530
Assist	299
Enforcement	248
Marine Life	14
Minor Medical	61
Major Medical	8
Boat infractions	0
Missing Person	1
Rescue	25
Reef	2
Kayak	0
Wildlife	0

4. Treasurer’s Report

Operating Account \$230,862.59 (does not reflect the last boat payment of \$34,664 – the check has not yet been cashed)

Donation Account \$2,843.22

Impact Fees Account \$10,000

Beach Safety Account \$312,431.53 (does not reflect the 4th and final payment from SRC for this fiscal year. Also, this does not reflect the deduction for the July 10, 2024 payroll)

- 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. NBFR Received the new boat. Training is ongoing with fire-department personnel. It will be wrapped later in the month of July. A christening ceremony will be held at Juana's. Rep. Joel Rudmann and The Schaffers will be there to dedicate the boat. Chief estimates needing approximately \$9000 to complete the electronics installation along with other necessary equipment for the boat. According to the auditor, the impact fees can be used for this purpose. After discussion, a motion was made by Chairman Lang and seconded by Commissioner Huete to authorize the use of up to \$10,000 in impact fees to equip the boat. The motion was approved.
 - a. Tony Pasvantis, Navarre Beach resident, who is running for NBFR Commissioner seat 4 (unopposed) was unable to attend this meeting. He has experience in fire systems.

VII Comments or Announcements

None.

VIII Next Meeting will be 13 August 2024 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 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Huete

Commissioner

Navarre Beach Fire Rescue, (acting) Secretary