



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 14, 2008**

MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 10, 2008 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Commissioners Schweers convened the regular board meeting at 5:42 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Morris, Commissioner Sassano, Commissioner Schweers, Commissioner Levy and Commissioner Akins.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook presented Pastor Mark Goodman of Christ Community Ministries with a Certificate of Appreciation and the church's relationship with Estero Fire Rescue.

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook presented awards to the individuals below:

Medal of Valor: Battalion Chief Larry Nisbet
Lieutenant Scott LaBree
Firefighter Mike Perry

Life Saving Award: Lieutenant Mark Wahlig
Firefighter Lena Hedengren
Angie Young, EMS
Kristi Bledsoe, EMS

Five Years of Service: Lieutenant Felicia Rodriguez

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ITEMS TO BE PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Sassano made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items 1, 2, 3 and 4 as presented. Commissioner Levy seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. **APPROVE A NEW HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN WITH BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD.** Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook provided a brief explanation and introduced Don Raimey of Leading Edge Financial Group, Inc. to address additional questions by the Board. Commissioner Akins inquired as to whether or not there is a clear understanding by all employees with regard to the health insurance. Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook noted that opportunities have been provided to all employees explaining the health insurance; DVP Collins noted that the bargaining unit employees are aware of the new health insurance plan and there is a clear understanding of the plan by the bargaining unit employees. *After discussion, Commissioner Morris made a motion to approve Administrative Agenda Item 1. Commissioner Sassano seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.*
2. **ESTABLISH BOARD MEETING TIME FOR OCTOBER 1, 2008 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2009.** *Commissioner Akins made a motion to hold the regular monthly Board meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at the Estero Fire Rescue Administrative Complex, 21500 Three Oaks Parkway, Estero, Florida. Commissioner Sassano seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.*
3. **APPROVE THE POSITION DESCRIPTION FOR THE FIRE CHIEF.** Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook provided a brief explanation. *Commissioner Sassano made a motion to approve Administrative Agenda item 3 as presented. Commissioner Morris seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.*
4. **APPROVE THE JOB POSTING FOR THE FIRE CHIEF'S POSITION.** Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook provided a brief explanation. Commissioner Schweers asked for comments regarding Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook. Commissioner Morris recommended making Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook the permanent Fire Chief. Commissioner Sassano stated that she would be proud to have Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook as our Fire Chief. Commissioner Levy noted that Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook has done an exceptional job and he has no problem with him as the permanent Fire Chief; however, feels that the position should be posted. Commissioner Akins noted that she is impressed with the growth that she has seen in Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook, he is well respected outside the community and he is accessible. Commissioner Schweers noted that he agrees with 3 out of 4 of the commissioners and that Interim Fire Chief Vanderbrook has exceeded his expectations. *Commissioner Schweers called for a motion on Administrative Agenda Item 4. No motion was made. Failed due to lack of a motion.*

Commissioner Morris made a motion to appoint Scott Vanderbrook to the position of Fire Chief. Commissioner Sassano seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Commissioner Sassano inquired as to a contract for Chief Vanderbrook. *Commissioner Sassano made a motion to approve Commissioner Levy to negotiate the contract with Chief Vanderbrook. Commissioner Morris seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.*

Commissioner Akins inquired as to the status of the consolidation contract. Chief Vanderbrook noted that he will be meeting with Chief Ippolito and Chief Kinsey on September 16 for a phone conference with Tri-Data and the contract should be in effect by October 1.

Commissioner Akins inquired as to the Driver/Engineer orientation. Chief Vanderbrook noted that it has been started and completed according to schedule.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- Acting Fire Marshal Green addressed the Board regarding the possibility of a traffic signal at Station 3. Acting Fire Marshal Green will attend the Lee County Commissioner meeting on September 15.
- September 13 Public Safety Softball Tournament
- October 4 Open House, Administrative Complex
- September 11 Administrative Office Closed

Commissioner Levy made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Morris seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle M. Sassano, Secretary