

To: General Membership

From: Secretary

Subject: Minutes of the North Okaloosa Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners
Monthly Meeting.

Date: October 17, 2019

Members Present: Craig Shaw, Chairman, Commissioner Group IV
Todd McGirr, Commissioner, Group I
Willie G. Terrell, Commissioner, Group III
Dan Bowers, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer Commissioner, Group II
Eugene Wright, Vice Chair Commissioner, Group V At Large

Advisors Present: Jonathan Holloway Legal Council
Brian Howe Chief
Annette Rayburn, Administrator
Dennis McMaster Deputy Chief

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Shaw at 5:00 p.m.

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer were given.

Approval of Agenda: Commissioner McGirr motioned to approve the agenda Commissioner Wright seconded the motion. Vote 5/0.

Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2019: Motion to approve the minutes as written Commissioner Wright, 2nd Commissioner McGirr. Vote 5/0.

New Business: None

Public Input: Rodney Lancaster thanked the department for participating with the City of Crestview at their Fire Safety Day. It was much appreciated most people do not get to see a Crash Truck and he has received a lot of positive feedback.

Old Business:

a. Contract Update – Chairman Shaw said that there was no update.

b. 5-Year Plan - Within the 5-year plan Chief Howe said that they would like to hire 3 part time employees to be able to man the John King Station part of the day. Chairman Shaw said that if you have two people working management positions and a 911 position isn't it possible to send two from the regular shift to John King and keep the management person and the other fire fighter here at Station 82. This would give us an idea if it would be worth manning the John King Station. Commissioner McGirr said

he would like to make a motion that he has been thinking about this for a long time, he would like to hire 3 part-time fire fighters to man the John King Station on a trial of 6 months. Commissioner Wright said that he would 2nd the motion for discussion. Commissioner Terrell said to the board that with the last pay increase every 911 fire fighter received at least a \$ 5,000.00 raise. Chief Howe said that the change with Deputy Chief McMaster giving up his salary position and going back to hourly will make up the difference since his salary went back into payroll. Commissioner Terrell said that we'll see further down the road if this washes out. Chairman Shaw said that we did not fund the 3 positions in the Budget so how would we pay for this. Commissioner McGirr said that part of it is in the budget and they would need additional funds. Commissioner Bowers asked where do we get additional funds? Commissioner McGirr said that would come out of savings. Commissioner Bowers said that we adopted a budget and you are already asking for additional funds. Commissioner McGirr said that he wants to get the data to see if this would change response time. Commissioner Bowers said that we already have that data. Commissioner McGirr said that he does not believe we do; we've not ever had people responding from Station 84. Commissioner Bowers said you may be right but I think the Chairman has a pretty good idea of handling this with our existing personnel. Commissioner McGirr said that he is all for that. Commissioner Wright said that he does not agree with hiring people for a 6-month position, He would be all for doing it with existing personnel. Commissioner Wright asked Chief Howe is your reasoning that hiring these 3 men would help us for accidents or structure fires? Chief Howe said both. The majority of our motor vehicle accidents are near the John King Station. We would initially be sending the same amount of response vehicles until the 1st is on scene and cancels the others. Commissioner Bowers said about the calls on the south end don't we already have mutual aid. Yes, but they usually only respond to structure fires. Commissioner Terrell said that he said this needs to be on hold until we hire more personnel. Attorney Holloway said that we are not hiring anyone until the hiring policy is re-written per his request. Commissioner Terrell asked when would that be? Attorney Holloway said about a month. Commissioner Bowers said that he recalls that two positions would be combined 911 and management and now your asking to hire. To him that sounds like a bait and switch. Commissioner McGirr said that he remembers that Commissioner Bowers saying that he wanted to put off the 5-year plan until the next month so they could not discuss it. Commissioner Bowers said that manning Station 84 with people part time means that it is still only part time station. Vote 1/4 with Commissioner McGirr voting yea Motion failed.

Advisory Reports:

Attorney Report- None

Chief's Report – Chief Howe briefed the report as follows- personnel which now lists 1 management, 14 paid firefighters, 2 part-time firefighters, 6 relief firefighters, 1 certified volunteer and 3 support personnel, there were 194 calls for the month September 2019. Chief Howe reviewed the list of vehicle repairs – CRV 81 Ten-8 will come to the station to work on the repairs. Command 82 is at Gulf Coast Upfitters for the installation of lights, radios, brush guard and equipment console. The graphics will be done on Monday and it should be in service shortly after that. Chief Howe then reviewed station repairs for the last month. Motion to approve the Chiefs Report Commissioner Bowers, 2nd Commissioner Wright. Vote 5/0.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report- Commissioner Bowers reviewed the financial reports and that we are looking fine and the Auditor will make the other adjustments needed for our fiscal year end. Motion to approve the treasurers report Commissioner McGirr, 2nd Commissioner Wright. Vote 5/0

Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Wright made a motion that the board to move the November meeting to the 14th. 2nd Commissioner Bowers. Vote 5/0. Commissioner McGirr asked the board to move the December meeting to the 13th. Commissioner Bowers made a motion to move the meeting, 2nd Commissioner

Wright. Vote 5/0. After the vote Commissioner Bowers said that he has a scheduling conflict with the 13th. Commissioner Bowers made a motion to put it back to the 12th 2nd Commissioner Wright. Vote 2/3 with Commissioners Bowers and Terrell voting yea. Vote failed.

Set Agenda for next meeting November 14, 2019.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Craig Shaw

Chairman