

Iona McGregor Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners
Workshop
December 12, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.
6061 South Pointe Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL 33919

Meeting called to order at 5:10pm.

Roll Call of Commissioners waived until 6:00 pm meeting

Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance waived until 6:00pm meeting

Public Input on Business Agenda Items – no public present

Business Agenda Items (no action to be taken)

1) Commissioner Orientation and Informational Workshop

Chief began with an overview of workbook presented as a general understanding of the District along with roles and responsibilities of Board and personnel. Commissioner Walker questioned why strategic plan and marketing plan was not included in booklet. Chief replied that he did not wish to overload with information this evening and could provide at a later date, if desired. Would prefer to provide digitally; however, will give in paper if needed. Commissioner Walker also suggests including a description of the acronyms used in the fire service for the benefit of the Board.

Following the Chief's overview, Mr. Pringle continued with the orientation to the Board including various Statutes, laws, and regulations that the District and Board must comply with. Chief's presentation was from 10,000 feet and attorney is from 30,000 feet – as an elected official. Florida Constitution addresses ethics of commissioners which in turn goes into state law for ethics of elected officials by which fire commissioners are also bound. Chapter 112 of FS addresses. There are numerous laws that govern the district operations including purchasing, selection, taxation. If ethics is in mind at all times, minimizes the risk of impropriety or appearance of impropriety. Work for and are fiduciary to taxpayers, also duty to employees of district. Richard read FS 112.311 to the Board adding that if this underlies all of the decision making, they should be good. Avoid voting conflicts and other thou shalt not's.

Attorney continued by stating the primary point of contact for Board is Fire Chief. The Board is responsible for providing direction to Chief for implementation by the Chief or at the direction of the Chief. Chief's employment agreement and job description define role with chief as CEO of district. He runs the day-to-day operations of the district. Position of board is employer of Chief and Chief is CEO of the District. Chapter 191 passed in 1997 and is The Independent Special Fire District Act which describes the Board, how they operate, and legislative guidelines. Policies of Board are primarily for board actions. Any policy amendment request can be brought forth through the agenda item policy. Sunshine law is important to understand, please be aware of that – Sunshine Law Manual electronic version available and will order hard copies. We could schedule another meeting next month possibly in January or later stated Commissioner Barbosa. Mr. Pringle concluded by informing Board members his ranking of important reading materials for them is Ethics is first and foremost, Chapter 191 of Florida Statutes is second, the enabling legislation of the district third, and the Sunshine Law.

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Public Input on Non-Business Agenda Items – no public present

Commissioner Comments – none

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Louwer with second from Commissioner Andersen... carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm