

BarIONA MCGREGOR FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING AGENDA

DATE: January 17, 2024

6:00 P.M.

6061 SOUTH POINTE BOULEVARD
FORT MYERS, FL 33919

NOTE: THE BOARD MEETING IS BEING RECORDED AND ALL STATEMENTS MADE DURING THE BOARD MEETING ARE SUBJECT TO BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO OTHERS AS A PART OF THE BOARD MEETING PUBLIC RECORD.

NOTE: ALL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE PUT ON THE SILENT MODE PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF THE BOARD MEETING AND REMAIN ON SILENT MODE THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE BOARD MEETING UNTIL ADJOURNMENT.

Meeting Called to Order

Roll Call of Commissioners

Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Recognitions: None

Adoption of Meeting Agenda, Including Amendments: A motion to approve with no amendments was made by Commissioner Walker, second Andersen...Motion carried.

[Approval of Previous December Board Meeting Minutes:](#) A motion to approve meeting minutes as listed was made by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Barbobsa...Motion carried.

[Approval of Previous, Amended November Meeting Minutes:](#) A motion to approve meeting minutes as listed was made by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Barbobsa...Motion carried.

[Approval of Financial Report:](#) Financial reports were submitted prior to the meeting, CFO Winzenread called for questions. Commissioner Walker asked about the costs associated with insurance proceeds for Station 72 and asked about Station 71. CFO Winzenread responds explaining the methodology for total current cost and insurance coverage, that the District is close to having the final expense amount for Station 72. CFO reviews Junes estimates of Station 71 and

Station 72. Commissioner Walker discusses claims. CFO elaborates on costs for code/ordinance requirements and remodeling. Commissioner Walker discusses expenditures, CFO discusses certificate of application for payment, and staff experience with buildings and construction. DC Guzman elaborates on county supervision of building procedures with standards being met. The conversation continues as Financial Report questions and answers.

A motion to approve the financial report as presented was made by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Andersen...Motion carried.

Chief's Report: Fire Chief Comer provides instructions for Commissioner Ethics process beginning in January. Commissioner Walker asks who requires an Ethics course, Chief Comer advises it is a state requirement for four-hour training addressing Ethics topics. Chief Comer advised the program provides a certificate.

Attorney's Report: Mr. Pringle presents the topic with a proposed law in Tallahassee related to the longevity of the independent special districts. This would require a referendum every ten years to approve continuation and a twelve consecutive year term limit for local officials. The law has been processed several times and the bill has passed, without the requirement of a ten-year continuation referendum. There is a twelve consecutive year limit beginning December 2024. Requiring districts to create goals and objectives is also in the bill, IMFD has met this requirement through their Accreditation, the proofs would then need to be provided to Tallahassee. This is regarding House Bill 7013.

A motion to approve the attorney report as presented was made by Commissioner Barbosa, second by Commissioner Walker...Motion carried.

DVP Report: Nothing to Report

Business Agenda Items

1. Resolution for Merger Study Consultant Services with Fort Myers Beach Fire District
 - a. Discussion of agenda item
 - b. Public input
 - c. Board action

Business Agenda Items: Regarding resolution 2024-01. Attorney Pringle describes the topic of the involuntary merger and its modification. Elaborating on a complete voluntary merger between IMFD and FMBFD, a letter was generated and as a result the Representative withdrew from the involuntary merger. The resolution depicts solely a feasibility study of a voluntary merger between IMFD and FMBD. It contains a basis to authorize a feasibility study and gives the authority to the Chief's to select an independent expert to conduct a study; resulting in the board making a selective decision to evaluate the districts. This is the first step, a request for qualifications and the boards would make the selection of the expert at their discretion.

Commissioner Langford requests the potential costs, this would be contingent upon selection then discussion on expenses would ensue. Commissioner Walker inquires as to FMBD resolution, Mr. Pringle advises their resolution is like IMFD's. Commissioner Walker suggests more than one consultant be reviewed, Mr. Pringle advises it would be multiple consultants reviewed. Attorney Pringle advises negotiations to occur after an individual is selected and it will be presented to the board. Commissioner Louwers suggests multiple selections, Mr. Pringle advises there is a potential to rank selections with criteria. Discussion of processes and steps of selection and cost continues. Commissioner Barbosa discusses what matters could be anticipated regarding rescinding the feasibility merger. Attorney Pringle communicates the effects of an involuntary could be a considerable amount of funds.

Motion to adopt resolution [2024-01](#) by Commissioner Walker second by Langford. ...Motion carried.

Public Input on Business Agenda Items [Note: Prior to Board action being taken on each of the Business Agenda Items below, members of the public will have up to three (3) minutes per person to make public comment on each of the Business Agenda Items after the Commissioners have had their discussion.]

The Public speaks regarding population input from both districts prior to a feasibility study with an intent to limit resources being spent. Commissioner Louwers discusses voluntary versus involuntary merger. Commissioner Barbosa reflects on the importance of public input. Commissioner Walker converses on the need for expert information to share and utilizing the Public Information department of IMFD to contact the residents for their desires. The Public recommends agreement to the strategy to communicate with the Public including the disclosure of a potential involuntary merger.

Public Comments on Non-Business Agenda Items [Note: Any member of the public will have up to three (3) minutes to make public comments on any non-business agenda item topics.]

Commissioner Comments on Non-Business Agenda Items: Commissioner Walker requests an organization that records minutes through zoom services containing cameras. The meeting was then shared through the community. The suggestion includes minimal cost, verbatim minutes, a one week return of completion. The vendor information will be submitted to Chief Comer.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Louwers, with a second from Commissioner Andersen...Motion carried.

Signed:



Print Name:

Steven Barbosa