

**Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District
Minutes for Regular Commissioners Board Meeting
October 23, 2024**

Call to Order: Commissioner Player called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Invocation: Commissioner DeLacey led everyone in the invocation

Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Player led everyone in the pledge

Roll Call: Commissioners Player, Cammick, Hernandez, Price and DeLacey were present. Chief Mickuleit, Assistant Chief Davis, Assistant Chief Allen, Finance Manager Miles, Firefighter Angrisani, Arias, Vilches, Captain Simer, and District Attorney John Miller were present. No public was in attendance.

Setting of Agenda: Chief Mickuleit asked to amend the agenda to move up the insurance renewal from new business to directly after setting the agenda, due to time constraints of our insurance broker. **Commissioner Cammick moved to approve the agenda as amended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hernandez. Motion passed unanimously.**

VFIS Insurance Coverage: Per the discussion at last month's meeting VFIS decided to not renew our general property/liability and management liability policies. Our insurance broker, Andrew Atkinson has found comparable policies from PGIT, which is our current worker's comp carrier. Given that PGIT is a trust, and not a traditional insurance carrier, there is an interlocal agreement that the District will need to agree to in order to obtain this coverage. PGIT is used by many Florida municipalities and at this time is the only option we have for property and management liability. The only difference in coverage comes from the flood policies built into the property coverage. The deductible for flood is \$500k and a max payout of \$1M. Mr. Atkinson also quoted us gap coverage that has a \$5k deductible and would cover the \$500k deductible for PGIT. There was discussion of the necessity of this insurance. Station 4 is currently the only station that we have to continue flood insurance on, administration just needs to verify with the bank at the amount and deductible allowed. **Commissioner Price made a motion to accept the policies as presented and only additional flood coverage where deemed necessary by the bank. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cammick. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Hernandez moved to accept the interlocal agreement with PGIT, pending attorney review. Motion seconded by Commissioner DeLacey. Motion passed unanimously.**

Approval of Minutes:

1. August 22, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes **Commissioner Price moved to accept the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner DeLacey. Motion passed unanimously.**
2. September 25, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes **Commissioner Cammick moved to accept the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Price. Motion passed unanimously.**
3. September 11, 2024, Tentative Budget Hearing Minutes **Commissioner Hernandez moved to accept the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Delacey. Motion passed unanimously.**
4. September 25, 2024, final Budget Hearing Minutes **Commissioner Cammick moved to accept the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner DeLacey. Motion passed unanimously.**

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Treasurers Report: 9/21/24 – 10/18/24 Presented by Commissioner Cammick. **Commissioner DeLacey moved to accept the Treasurers Report as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Price. Motion passed unanimously.**

Cash Disbursements: 9/21/24 – 10/18/24 **Commissioner DeLacey moved to accept the cash disbursements as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hernandez. Motion passed unanimously.**

Accountants Compilation Report: Finance Manager Miles presented the month end report for September 30, 2024. **Commissioner Cammick moved to accept the Accountants Compilation Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner DeLacey. Motion passed unanimously.**

Commissioners' Expenses: None.

Guest Speakers: None.

Public Comment: None.

Firefighters: None.

Union: None.

Old Business:

1. **Station 2 update/ Architecture Preliminary Design:** We are approximately at 50% plans for the project. This week the environmental review team from the county came out to do their survey, which is apart of the grant process. The hope is still to have a final agreement before the board in December and be able to move forward in January.
2. **Legislation Update:** None.
3. **Insurance lawsuit Settlement:** Attorney John Miller presented the final copy of the settlement lawsuit with the insurance company. All things previously discussed with the board have been included and the only compromises that the insurance company stuck on was a non-disclosure clause. Being that we are a government entity, there is a large carve out to maintain our legal obligations under the public record law. **Commissioner Price moved to accept the settlement as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hernandez. Motion passed unanimously.**

New Business:

1. **Hurricane Update:** Chief Mickuleit updated the board on the responses to both hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton over the past month. One major positive difference for these storms was the task force. Having somewhere to direct people with non-fire department related issues has been a major help.
2. **SCBA Bottles:** Assistant Chief Davis advised the board on the need of additional air packs. Now that we have bottles dedicated to both the rescue truck and boats, our spare's are not enough to get us through a fire response. These additional bottles fall within the chief's purchasing power, the Board agrees with the purchase.
3. **Brush Truck/High Water Rescue Build:** Assistant Chief Davis presented the purchase of a tank for the brush truck/high water rescue build. This amount is already budgeted for. The board agreed to move forward.

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Chief's Report:

- Commissioner Kevin Ruane visited the island after Hurricane Milton to discuss needs. Chief expressed our concerns with future cash flow, with additional cuts to property value after this storm.
- Commissioner DeLacey asked the board if they would be interested in looking at getting a lobbyist. The board agreed to reach out to other district's commissioners and come back to the board with what she finds.
- We have not yet heard from the property appraiser if they will offer the tax forgiveness for the last three months of 2024, like they did with Ian. If they do this will be a decrease in our revenue for the year.
- On a positive note the final taxable value from the property appraiser was actually 6.6% higher than originally budgeted. This will provide the district with approximately an additional \$500k in revenue. Although this is a positive, even with this money the district will still be operating at a loss for the fiscal year of about \$700k.
- Our annual open house is this Saturday. The Blood Mobile from Lee Health will be here as well.
- We were able to obtain a few additional painted power poles from LCEC from the recent storm. They will be added to the collection, which will ultimately be displayed at Station 2.
- Assistant Chief Davis gave the monthly call report.

Public Comment: None.

Good of the District:

Open House on Oct 26 the Lee Health Blood Mobile will be there too. Fall Festival on Oct 25.

Executive Session: Union Contract. Attorney John Miller stated for the record that the individuals allowed in executive sessions related to union negotiations are the board, chief, and any of his designees. The Chief has designated his negotiating team to be, himself, Assistant Chief Matthew Davis, Assistant Chief Cody Allen, Finance Manager Sarah Miles, and District Attorney John Miller. These individuals will be in the executive session along with all 5 board members.

The meeting resolved into executive session at 6:17pm.

The meeting resolved back into regular session at 6:57pm.

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Adjournment:

**Commissioner DeLacey moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hernandez.
Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Miles
District Finance Manager

Board Secretary