



## SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

### Interoffice Memorandum

**TO:** The Southern Manatee Board of Fire Commissioners  
**FROM:** Brian Gorski, <sup>BG</sup> Fire Chief  
**RE:** **Chief's Report**  
**DATE:** April 18, 2019

**March 25 – April 18** – Began providing in-service training on the new Life Pack 15's to all personnel. Each day we provide two training sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, each session is 2.5 hours long and we this class is provided to one apparatus at a time. This allows for more one-on-one hands on training with our personnel and their new Life Pack 15. We are utilizing our computer manikins in this hands on training which is really working out great for our personnel. So far we have completed two rounds of training per shift per apparatus and will begin transmitting data training in the next phase of training.

**March 26, 2019** – At 0830 hours the BEA released the Personal Income Growth data for Florida. Chief Bounds and I independently worked on the calculation to determine the percentage in growth and then did the average over the previous 5 years to determine the percentage increase in our non-ad valorem rates for FY20 budget year. We both came up with the same number, 5.8%.

**March 26, 2019** – Captain Bloski and I attended the Manatee County Commissioner Meeting for the purposes of being there if they had any questions over the Interlocal Agreement Regarding the Manatee County Hazardous Materials Team, which they did not. This agreement is now fully executed and each Fire District was given a certified copy for their records.

**March 27, 2019** – Chief Bounds and I attended the Suncoast Technical College EMS Advisory Board meeting.

**April 1, 2019** – Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District hosted the quarterly Manatee County Fire Commissioner meeting at our Administration Office. Commissioner Cena and Commissioner Marken will update you all over this meeting. Since the hosting department is asked to do a show and tell we made arrangements with Manatee County EMS to bring one of their new Ambulance Buses, Raptor 1. Manatee County EMS received a grant from the State of Florida, Department of Health for two ambulance conversion kits. Their Maintenance Division did all of the work. Raptor 1 is completed and in service now. This vehicle can transport 10 stretcher patients and 8 patients sitting up. These will be used in an MCI and is available to us for Rehab. These vehicles will be used for EMS coverage during special events as well.

A few years back it was determined that the State of Florida did not have the capability to move large amount of people during a disaster and in their Strategic Plan placed a goal to encourage all 67 Florida Counties to create such a vehicle and they provided the conversion kits.

All of the Fire District's Fire Commissioners were given a tour of this bus plus its capabilities and told how it would be used by the Fire District's for Rehab during an incident. SMFR has already used it during a recent haz-mat incident.

We also showed the Commissioners our website and how it is in compliance with the new ADA requirements, everyone was really impressed on how this inexpensive software reads the website material. Cedar Hammock said that they are working on their website now and they were given a cost of over \$5000.00 for the software, I told them our cost was under \$100.00 and told them to call our Shawn Myles, our IT Specialist.

The last item that we showed everyone was our recent acquiring of surplus computer manikins, which I gave a quick demo to show everyone what they did. Leslie Adent provided all of the food and drink for this meeting and as usual, it was a big hit.

**April 9, 2019** – Captain Bobby Thayer took his national/state exam for Paramedic and passed. FF Collins and FF Wernet are taking their exam later this week. Captain Thayer, FF Collins and FF Wernet began Paramedic School over 13 months ago and they were the first group of employees to attend and graduate

and Captain Thayer is the District's first Paramedic to obtain his National and State Certification and the first for our ALS program.

**April 11, 2019** – FF/Paramedic Sam Collins because of his extremely high GPA while in Paramedic School was selected to become a member with the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) and received an award and membership to this Honor Society. His name will be placed on a large plaque within the administration building of Suncoast Technical College and his name recorded within the NTHS record book. Since the mid 1970's there has only been about six other Paramedic students that received this honor due to their GPA. We are extremely proud FF/Paramedic Collins of his accomplishment and recognition, which again reflects the quality of the SMFR's employees.