

**May 18, 2023**  
**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**FOR FY 2023-2024 INITIAL NON-AD VALOREM RATES**  
**AND**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**  
**SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT**

**Date:** Thursday, May 18, 2023

**Location:** Administrative Offices, Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District, 2451 Trailmate Drive, Sarasota, Florida, 34243.

**Present:** Melanie Marken, Chairperson  
James Grote, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary  
Dan Center, Commissioner  
James Cena, Commissioner  
Chief, Robert Bounds  
Assistant Chief, Rick Blanco  
Training Chief, Dan Anderson  
Executive Management Assistant, Janee Ferguson.  
There were other staff also in attendance.

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Marken called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

**Invocation/Pledge**

A moment of silence was observed. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**SPECIAL BUSINESS**

- None

**Public Hearing – Proposed 2023 Fire Non-Ad Valorem Rates**

- **Verification of Public Notices**  
Chairperson Marken called for verification of the Public Notice. EMA Ferguson stated that the public hearing was advertised as required. The affidavit has been received.
- **Presentation**  
Chief Bounds gave an overview of Resolution 2023-02 FY2023-2024 Initial Rate Resolution. He is recommending approval of the resolution containing a 6.7% increase.
- **Open Public Hearing for Comments**  
Chairperson Marken opened the Public Hearing at 5:05 p.m. There was no public comment.
- **Close the Public Hearing for Comments**  
*Commissioner Grote moved to close the public hearing for FY2023-2024 Initial Rate Resolution at 5:06 p.m. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*
- **Consideration of Resolution 2023-02**  
Chairperson Marken stated the Board has Resolution 2023-02 FY 2023-2024 Initial Rate Resolution for consideration. *Commissioner Center made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-02 with a 6.7% increase. Commissioner Grote seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

## **Adjournment of Public Hearing**

Chairperson Marken adjourned the Public Hearing for the Initial Rate Hearing at 5:07 p.m.

## **Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda was included in the Board packet. The Board was given a new financial statement due to a reconciliation error regarding the interest income. *Commissioner Grote motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairperson Marken called for Public Comment and there was none.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **• Station 4 Remodel**

Representatives from Magnum Builders and Sweet Sparkman presented details on how the design build team will work together to remodel station 4. *Commissioner Grote made a motion to move forward with the design build team to create a remodeling plan. Commissioner Cena seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Fixed Asset Surplus**

Chief Bounds presented the memo for Fixed Asset Surplus. *Commissioner Grote motioned to approve the Fixed Asset Surplus as presented. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **\* Pension Committee**

Captain Chevalier reported on the current standings of the pension.

### **\* Union Report**

Derek Foss reported the new terms to FRS has high chance of getting approved.

## **CHIEF'S REPORT**

2. Chief Bounds reported the resignation of Firefighter/Paramedic Jay Haft. A new firefighter has been hired to fill the open position. The district hired a new maintenance technician, Ron Byers, to replace Larry Sarver who will be retiring at the end of May.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairperson Marken called for Public Comment and there was none.

## **COMMISSIONER'S/ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

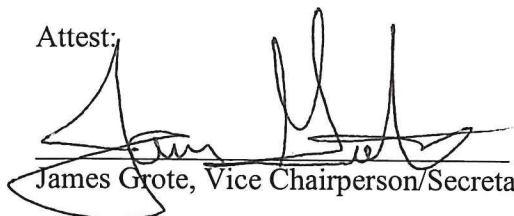
Commissioner Grote thanked the firefighters for their hard work at the most recent structure fire. Commissioner Center thanked the department heads for their departmental reports every month.

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.**



Melanie A. Marken, Chairperson

Attest:



James Grote, Vice Chairperson/Secretary/Treasurer