



SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

Interoffice Memorandum

TO: The Southern Manatee Board of Fire Commissioners
FROM: Robert Bounds, Fire Chief
RE: **Chief's Report**
DATE: May 20, 2021

NOTE: From this point forward until, an unspecified time, we are going to generate a separate report regarding all COVID-19 issues, to include personnel updates, cumulative numbers, vaccine administration, the latest updates from CDC, etc. This report will be an addendum to the "Chief's" report.

April 22, 2021 – Following the BOC meeting with instructions to move forward with the hiring of three (3) Firefighter/Paramedics we held a meeting of the hiring committee. We anticipate the process will take approximately 90 days until we have "boots on the ground".

April 26, 2021 - I held the first of the three (3) shift meetings with all personnel to update them on the status of the department as well as the direction. It was a time for personnel to also ask questions, express concerns, etc. about the department. The meetings were held with half of the on-duty crews in the morning and the remainder in the afternoon. This was a "B" shift.

April 27, 2021 - "C" shift meetings were held in the same manner as the previous shift.

April 28, 2021 - The last personnel meetings were held with "A" shift. The meetings were well received by all shifts and good questions were asked and answered. The personnel seemed genuinely appreciative to have the meetings and expressed a desire for them to continue into the future, which I promised they would.

May 1, 2021 - The job posting with National Testing Network for the three (3) firefighter/paramedic positions went live. The posting will close on May 14th @ 5:00 p.m.

May 3, 2021 - Station 5 repairs are on-going. The entry portico has been braced and Atlas Construction is awaiting county inspection to proceed with poring the lintel and column. Once this portion has been completed, they can move into roof & truss repairs.

I went to the public safety complex and met with the traffic section to discuss the rash of accidents that have occurred at SMFR station 5. I provided the eight (8) reports and photos of accidents that have occurred on SMFR property at this location and the ongoing danger to our personnel. They are commencing a traffic study for the area and will let me know the outcome. I further told them that I would be going to the next Council of Governments meeting to express my concern with the current situation and seeking a remedy from the county.

May 7, 2021 - Received weekly update from Atlas Construction on repairs to station 5. This week the following items were completed:

- Concrete column was poured
- Framing of the beam over the entrance started
- Concrete beam inspected (county)
- Concrete beam poured (05/07)
- Concrete to be tested by Universal (05/10)

May 11, 2021 - Attended the Board of Trustees meeting. The actuary, Chuck Carr presented his calculations for increasing the pension supplement from \$15 a month for every year of credited service. The cost study calculated an increase of \$5, \$10, \$15, or \$20. The Trustees believe \$30 a month for each year of credited service would be optimal and the cost of that benefit would be 6.92% of payroll or \$362,476 annually.

May 12, 2021 - Completed the Point-Match search which supports the firefighter's 175 pension. Fiscal year to date we have added approximately 186 new parcels to our District. This is the "bucket" we call State money that makes up a portion of our pension requirement.