



## 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:** June 17, 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.

**May 24 – June 1, 2021** – I was on vacation during this time and D/C Blanco was the acting chief. I stayed in contact periodically and no specific issues arose. D/C Blanco did an outstanding job in managing the District during this time.

**June 2, 2021** – Myself and D/C Blanco met with Vishal Kakkad and Jeff Bishop (Manatee County Traffic Engineers) at station 5 to discuss options to control traffic and prevent further accidents from occurring at/on our station property. Several items were suggested that could be implemented quickly, such as lighted signage, reflective striping, etc. Other, more costly measures will have to wait for a more in-depth study and be budgeted in next fiscal year.

**June 3, 2021** - Captains Thayer and Bloski completed a public safety video called "Just Drive" for the Manatee County School District. This was done in conjunction with EMS and several other agencies. This PSA was filmed at SMFR station 3. The video was well done and I'm sure it will be well received by the School Board.

A memo was put out to all stations which allows personnel to resume pre-COVID training and visitors at our stations. This coordinated action was taken by all fire departments in Manatee County. We are still maintaining PPE precautions

in regard to “med-alert” patients and personnel must wear face coverings in public places where proprietors list mask as “optional” or mandatory.

**June 4, 2021** - I received an email from Sarasota Technical College regarding our Affiliation Agreement. The Sarasota County School Board Attorney(s) had a couple of questions about the sections titled Confidentiality and Indemnification. We have sent these proposed changes to David Jackson for review. This agreement is the one that allows for students to complete some or all of their ride time component for EMT and Paramedic school(s). I will follow-up next month with the final disposition.

We received our certified 2020 Post VAB Tax Roll from the Manatee County Property Appraiser. The District’s new Final current year gross taxable value is \$5,405,816,840, which is an increase of over 300 million compared to last year.

We also received notification that our application was approved by the Southwest Florida Water Management District for the station 2 renovation.

**June 6, 2021** - We received our New Construction/Taxable Value from the Manatee County Property Appraiser’s Office. Our new construction (FY21) was \$76,443,330 and our taxable value (before exemptions) is \$5,718,184,208.

**June 7 & 8, 2021** - Myself, D/C Blanco and Debbie Tuckerman began the first steps in drafting the FY22 budget. We went through all newly requested items as well as the continuation items and things appeared very reasonable. This is also the last year of our current IAFF contract (2019-2022) so the payroll increases are known. We should have solid estimates for our proposed revenues shortly and will be able to begin construction of budget for your review. A first draft should be available to you within a few weeks.

**June 9, 2021** - In conjunction with Sweet Sparkman and our General Counsel David Jackson, we firmed up dates, advertisements, and a pre-proposal meeting for Contractor selection for station 2. The ad will run on Sunday June 13 and the pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup> at 0800 in the bays of station 2. This will give perspective contractors the opportunity to see the current station and get clarification on the scope of the project. Any and or all of you are welcome to attend. Chief Blanco and I will be there along with Todd Sweet and his team. The official Contractor Selection will occur at the regular BOC meeting scheduled on August 19.

**June 10, 2021** - Chief Gorski has submitted our reimbursement package to the County for the CARES Act. The County has tentatively approved the request in the amount of \$88,119.75 in payroll expense and \$14,020.09 in personal protection equipment. A check for this amount should be coming within the next couple of weeks. A great job by Chief Gorski!