



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: October 21, 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.

September 28, 2021 – Received Inspector Reed's official termination letter, effective date of 01/13/2022 with 90 days of vacation and actual separation date of 04/15/2022.

Skills evaluations were conducted on 09/24 for candidates for upcoming hiring. Seven candidates were shortlisted for four (4) positions. Oral interviews will be conducted on Oct. 11.

September 29, 2021 – Myself, Chiefs Blanco, Thayer and EMA Tuckerman had a Zoom meeting with Lori Dorman, an attorney with Persson, Cohen & Mooney, P.A. regarding transferring the existing 501C3 for the SMFR Volunteer Assn. to the SMFR Benevolent Assn. along with the combining of assets.

September 30, 2021 - Florida League of Cities (FLC) called to inform me that they made a critical error in their presentation of returns related to the investment pool for our 90-day operating fund. Their quoted figure of the last 12 months of a million-dollar investment at \$35,000 +/- should have been \$3,500 or a .29% return. This is less than our current return of .32% from Water-Walker. I am holding off transferring the funds at this time.

October 4, 2021 – Groundbreaking ceremony for station 2 renovation was held and Bounds, Blanco, Bloski, Thayer, Comm. Center and Comm Grote were in attendance.

Bounds & Blanco attended a drone demonstration by a new company in preparation for the elimination of our current drones made by DJI, which have been “black-listed” for local government usage.

Flu shots began for all personnel at admin.

October 5, 2021 – The last day and official retirement for Todd Pierce (22 years). A small gathering was held at admin and was well attended by family and shift mates.

CS&L was in for the FY21 pre-audit. All went smoothly. They will return in November for the final audit.

October 6 – October 14 – **Bounds on vacation. Entries for these dates are from Assistant Chief Blanco.**

October 7, 2021 – The EMS lieutenant position posting were taken down and we have two candidate employees applying for the position. Commissioner Grote came in and signed several large dollar amounts checks for PGIT, MCPAO, Boyd Insurance the new apparatus.

October 11, 2021 – Hiring interviews were conducted for new employees, six of the seven candidates showed.

October 12, 2021 – Conditional job offers were made to three of our seven candidates based on their assessments and interview outcomes. The Hiring Board agreed unanimously to only hire three of the individuals. Chief Bounds was consulted via phone, and he agreed with our recommendations.

October 13, 2021 – Our monthly SMFR Command staff meeting was held. All Command staff was present with exception of Chief Bounds on vacation.

October 14, 2021 – The new hires came in for uniform sizing and preemployment drug testing; all have passed drug testing and background checks. Commissioner Marken came into the Admin and signed all the biweekly checks. FF Duquette 120-day Workers Compensation evaluation came back as denied. Debbie Tuckerman and I spoke with Kiel on the phone and further explained the situation to him trying to reassure him that his health and return to work was important to all of us.