



SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

Interoffice Memorandum

TO: The Southern Manatee Board of Fire Commissioners
FROM: Robert Bounds, Fire Chief
RE: **Chief's Report (April & May)**
DATE: May 13, 2022

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.

Additionally, Chief Blanco will include all information related to the construction of station 2 as a separate item, including change orders, time schedules, etc.

April 25, 2022 – EMS Officer Anderson and I met with our VFIS representative to review department procedures and operations. EMSO Anderson escorted the representative to stations 1, 2 and 3 for a quick tour. He was very impressed with our personnel and apparatus and had no recommendations to make at this time.

April 26, 27, and 28 2022 – Help meetings with all three (3) shifts and staff to update them on the status of the department as a whole. This was the fourth meeting I have held with them since becoming Chief and the crews and staff expressed their desire to continue. We discuss many topics including budget, station 2 construction, future planning, and any other topics they bring up.

May 03, 2022 – Met with DVP Foss to go over a few dates for upcoming negotiations. We have scheduled two meeting at this time, they are May 24th and May 31st. Additionally, DVP Foss is moving forward with the kidney donation. His surgery is set to occur on June 02, 2022. In the event more meetings are required he believes he will only need two (2) weeks to be able to

continue with negotiations if required. He anticipates that to return to full duty he will need approximately two (2) months.

May 03, 2022 – The SCBA Committee met with both MSA and Scott for an in-depth tutorial about the packs and their features. Three (3) packs of each company will be delivered next week and will be circulated from station to station with enough time for all personnel to have a chance to wear/work (non IDLH) with each style. This process will take approximately three (3) weeks. Captain Chevalier will receive “grade” sheets from each crew and the majority will determine the decision of which pack to purchase.

I spoke with Randy Dillingham of CS&L accountants in regards to our audit. Randy stated that due to changes in personnel at SMFR as well as several changes in GASB and their own personnel shortages the audit will not be fully vetted by both SMFR and peer review at CS&L and ready for presentation until the June BOC meeting.

May 04, 2022 – I had a virtual meeting with Pam Hancock from Public Risk Underwriters of Florida, Inc. who provides some of our insurances, including Workers Compensation. I will be participating in a collaborative presentation on wellness/safety at the upcoming FASD conference in Orlando on June 15th.

I spoke with Chief Rigney of West Manatee about the RFP for FS 189 (Uniform Special District Accountability Act). The plan with the Manatee County Fire Chiefs Association was for one (1) department to issue an RFP and the others would be able to “piggyback”. Chief Rigney stated that they released the RFP on 05/02 and was giving it a month. FS 189 officially takes effect on October 1st and the report is due by July1, 2023 and every five years thereafter.

May 05, 2022 – I met with Lisa Growel from The Eye Associates who is offering a number of services to our firefighters at a very deeply discounted rate. The Eye Associates has several offices throughout the State, including three (3) in Manatee County. Flyers have been posted at all stations and admin.

May 09, 2022 – I received a call from Sweet/Sparkman regarding the remodel of station 2. Todd Sweet stated that they have far exceeded the projected date of completion for the project and would like to discuss additional funds to cover the excessive time.

May 11, 2022 – I also received a call from Atlas construction referencing the same concerns as Sweet/Sparkman (see May 09). I have informed both

companies to submit me detailed invoices on which items caused the extension of the project completion and I would speak with the Board to see how they would like to proceed. We are still scheduled to have a move-in date of 06/02.

The new Battalion Chiefs car was received from Alan Jay. There are a couple of issues with it which will be corrected fairly easily. For now the car is at the radio shop having the mobile and VHF units installed.