

**June 15, 2023**  
**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**  
**SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT**

**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 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  
Assistant Chief, Rick Blanco  
Financial Specialist, Andrea Fullen  
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**

- **Presentation of 2022 General Pension Valuation**  
Chuck Carr presented the 2022 general pension valuation. *Commissioner Grote motioned to accept the 2022 general pension valuation. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*
- **Presentation of 2021/2022 Audit**  
Randy Dillingham from CS&L CPA presented the 2021/2022 audit. *Commissioner Grote motioned to accept the 2021/2022 audit. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

**Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda was included in the Board packet without the treasure's report. *Commissioner Center motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Grote 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**  
AC Blanco gave an update on the progress of the station 4 remodel. We are waiting on the proposal from Magnum Builders/Sweet Sparkman design build team.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 1. **Bids for station 5 painting**

AC Blanco presented three bids for painting to the board. AC Blanco recommended JCM painting because JCM painting previously painted another station. *Commissioner Center motioned to approve JCM Painting Florida INC to repaint station 5. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

### \* **Fire fee/review increase – Assistant Chief Blanco**

AC Blanco gave the board a handout containing a fee study schedule by the Manatee County Fire Chiefs' Association. This fee study was contained information to possibly raise SMFR's fire fees for building. The board agreed they will not raise the fire fees and not participate in the fee study.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### \* **Pension Committee**

Trustee Chairperson Chevalier updated the board on the pension plan status.

### \* **Union Report**

No attendees from the union.

## CHIEF'S REPORT

AC Blanco and the Board discussed Manatee County EMS putting a 12-hour unit at station 5. The board was opposed to EMS putting a 12-hour unit at station 5. Chief Bounds will follow up with Manatee County EMS Chief Crutchfield.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Marken called for Public Comment and there was none.

## COMMISSIONER'S/ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

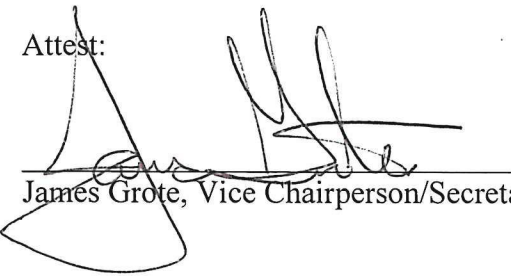
Commissioners thanked everyone for their work.

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.**



Melanie A. Marken, Chairperson

Attest:



James Grote, Vice Chairperson/Secretary/Treasurer