

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2022**  
**2022 MILLAGE RATE HEARING & 2022/2023 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET HEARING**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
**SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

**Date:** Thursday, September 15, 2022

**Location:** Administrative Offices, Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District, 2451 Trailmate Drive, Sarasota, Florida, 34243.

**Present:** Melanie Marken, Chairperson; Jim Grote, Vice-Chair, Secretary & Treasurer; Daniel Center; and James Cena, Commissioners. Commissioner Anthony Evans joined the meeting at 5:25 pm. Also, in attendance were Chief Robert Bounds, Assistant Chief Rick Blanco, Training Chief Bobby Thayer; Executive Management Assistant Debbie Tuckerman and Financial Specialist Janee Ferguson.

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Marken called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

**Invocation/Pledge**

A moment of silence was observed. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**SPECIAL BUSINESS**

• **Life Saving Award**

Firefighter William Pratt received a life saving award for administering CPR and getting a spontaneous pulse while off duty.

**Public Hearing/Adoption of Resolution 2022-05 on the 2022/2023 Millage Rate**

• **Verification of Public Notice**

Chairperson Marken called for verification of the Public Notice. Financial Specialist Ferguson stated that the meeting was advertised as required and the affidavit has been received.

• **Presentation of Millage Rate**

Chief Bounds stated that the Board had Resolution 2022-05 for their approval. The rate of 1.2061 mills has been the same for several years.

• **Open Public Hearing for Comment**

Chairperson Marken opened the Public Hearing for the millage rate at 5:05 p.m. There was no public comment.

• **Close the Public Hearing**

*Commissioner Center made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 5:06 pm on the millage rate. Commissioner Grote seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

• **Consideration of Resolution 2022-05**

Chairperson Marken stated the Board has Resolution 2022-05 on the 2022/2023 Millage

Rate for consideration. *Commissioner Grote motioned to approve the fiscal year 2022/2023 operating millage rate for the Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District at 1.2061 mills which is higher than the rolled-back rate of 1.0700 mills by 12.72%. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

- **Adjournment of Public Hearing**

The Public Hearing on the millage rate was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

### **Public Hearing/Adoption of Resolution 2022-06 on the 2022/2023 FYE Budget**

- **Verification of Public Notice**

Chairperson Marken called for verification of the Public Notice. Financial Specialist Ferguson stated that the hearing was advertised as required and the affidavit has been received.

- **Presentation of Proposed Budget/Procedures**

Chief Bounds stated the Board has Resolution 2022-06 to adopt our 2022/2023 Budget. He went over the updates.

- **Open Public Hearing for Comment**

Chairperson Marken opened the Public Hearing for comments at 5:09 p.m. There was no public comment.

- **Close the Public Hearing**

*Commissioner Cena made a motion to close the Public Hearing on the 2022/2023 Budget at 5:10 p.m. Commissioner Grote seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

- **Consideration of Resolution 2022-06**

*Commissioner Grote motioned to approve Resolution 2022-06 on the 2022/2023 Budget. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

- **Adjournment of Public Hearing**

Chairperson Marken adjourned the Public Hearing on the budget at 5:12 p.m.

### **Continuation of Regular Board Meeting**

#### **Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda was included in the Board packet. *Commissioner Center motioned to accept the consent agenda items as presented. Commissioner Grote seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairperson Marken called for Public Comment and there was none.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Update on Station 2 Renovation**  
Chief Blanco gave the final update on the status of the renovation at Station 2.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. FY2023 – 2025 Agreement for Medical Director**

Chief Bounds presented an agreement with the medical director for FY2023-2025. The costs have stayed the same as FY2022. *Commissioner Center motioned to approve FY2023 – 2025 Agreement for Medical Director. Commissioner Grote seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

Commissioner Evans arrived for the meeting.

#### **2. Affiliation Agreement**

Chief Bounds presented the Affiliation Agreement with Landes Emergency Training Services LLC. After some discussion it was decided to not sign the agreement.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **\* Pension Committee**

Chairperson Adam Chevalier gave a brief report.

#### **\* Union**

Derek Foss noted that there are rumors that commission candidates are being approached by builders in the county. He also noted that FF Lear retired after 17 years.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT**

#### **\* Chief's Report**

Chief Bounds noted that we have hired Janee's replacement who should start 9/26. He also presented the letter to Shokee Berry denying her claim for disability. This letter will be emailed and sent certified on Friday should the board approve. The board approved the letter. First Responder checks should arrive within 7-10 days. Captain Chevalier reported that shirts have been ordered for commissioners and surplus items have been sold. Chief Bounds gave a short report for Fire Prevention. We will be back in the schools for public education. There was no report for Covid or Operations.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairperson Marken called for Public Comment and there was none.

### **COMMISSIONER'S/ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS**

Chairperson Marken asked for comments. Commissioner Center spoke on the HazMat agreement. Commissioners also thanked personnel for doing an outstanding job.

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 5:00 pm.

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Melanie Marken, Chairperson

Attest:

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Jim Grote, Vice Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer