

Murrells Inlet – Garden City Fire District
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of July 24, 2017

Board Members Present: Al Hitchcock, Booty Shelley, Moe Wells, Kay Benton, George Oldroyd, Steven Sellers.

Others Present: Chief Knight, Assistant Chief Haney, Pat Walsh.

At 6:00 p.m. Chairman Hitchcock called the board of directors meeting to order.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: Minutes for the June 26th meeting were reviewed. Kay Benton made a motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by George Oldroyd, and the motion carried unanimously.

Financials: The financial statements were reviewed with increases in the GEAR program and medical billing over the previous year. Booty asked about the Insurance Recovery Program, to which Chief Knight explained the program continues, but not all accidents qualify. George Oldroyd made a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion was seconded by Booty Shelley, and the motion carried unanimously.

Firefighter's Report: None.

Chief's Report: Chief Knight distributed reports which showed a breakdown of runs for the first half of this year; how this year compared to last year; a breakdown of EMS calls by county; and, a breakdown compared to neighboring departments. So far, we are above everybody except Georgetown in call volume. Also discussed was the report of building projects in the District.

Chief Knight had included in the board's packets a job description for Fire Marshal and made a request to change the title of Fire Inspector to Fire Marshall. This would be a change in title only, and would be in line with the other departments in our area and across the state. George Oldroyd requested a copy of the Fire Inspector job description and asked to table the matter until the two could be compared side by side.

Also included in the packets was a list of things volunteers could do to help out around the stations. George Oldroyd added some items to the list; he also passed out a printed motion which would form a committee to find ways to recruit and retain volunteers.

The motion reads: "Whereas in previous business this board has indicated by consensus that Volunteers are of value to this Fire District and that it is the desire of the Board to support the continuation of various volunteer services as programs within and for the Murrells Inlet –

Garden City Fire District; therefore towards this end the MIGCFD Board of Directors shall appoint a committee to investigate ways and means for the expansion and development of volunteer opportunities to service the needs of the MIGCFD. This committee shall be composed of a minimum of five but no more than seven voting members to include two members of this board (one of whom shall serve as the committee chairman), current MIGCFD volunteers, representative(s) of paid personnel and representative(s) of the District civilian community. This Committee shall report their findings back to the Board of Directors with initial target date for completion four months from their first meeting.”

Moe Wells seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. Steven Sellers volunteered to serve on the board, as did George Oldroyd. Chairman Hitchcock turned the committee over to Mr. Oldroyd, who said the committee will form at the next board meeting.

Assistant Chief’s Report: Assistant Chief Haney asked to revisit the topic of security. It was agreed that the money was budgeted for a camera system and that the vendor had been approved. Current security measures were discussed, as were lighting and fencing. Booty Shelley would like to see additional lighting along with the security system. Steven Sellers agreed, and made the motion, which was seconded by Moe Wells, and the motion carried unanimously.

Ambulance from Georgetown: We are going with a 2018 Excellance – identical to last year’s ambulance purchase. Moe Wells asked if there have been any problems with that ambulance. Assistant Chief Haney reports there have been no problems with Excellance work. He has good reviews with the LiquidSpring.

Radios will switch over July 26th. We will have a representative at Georgetown County. Will need updated system at Royal Gardens.

EMS numbers are solid; there are no issues. Captain Howerton’s next appointment is scheduled for August 16th.

Chairman Hitchcock had reviewed the hurricane procedures and asked about the plan for fuel. Chief Knight stated there was a plan in place, but was not included in the procedures handbook.

Chairman’s Report: None.

Old Business: George Oldroyd would like to discuss increasing the millage. He distributed papers showing millage rates from around the state. Our District is still in need, and is still at the bottom of the barrel. Mr. Oldroyd made a motion to contact our attorney and ask, by letter, how to proceed. Moe Wells seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

New Business: None.

Executive Session: Moe Wells made the motion to move to executive session to discuss a personnel matter, which was seconded by Kay Benton, and the motion carried unanimously. No action was taken during executive session.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 28, 2017.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Booty Shelley made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Moe Wells. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved on 8/28, 2017



Booty Shelley, Secretary/Treasurer