

**WEST MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

*Minutes of September 13, 2022
Administration Building and via Zoom*

The meeting was called to order at 6:13 p.m. with the following members present: Larry Jennis, Robert Bennett, David Bishop, George Harris, and Al Robinson. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence and the oath.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2nd 2021-2022 BUDGET AMENDMENT: Administrative Assistant Wright verified that public notice was advertised in The Bradenton Herald on September 4th, 2022 and read Resolution #2022-05. Finance Clerk Leissler summarized the items that were changed highlighting rising costs, supply and demand issues, and debt services after paying off the Station 1 loan. Chairman Jennis opened the Public Hearing for public comment. There were none. Commissioner Harris motioned to close the public hearing; seconded by Commissioner Bishop; motion passed unanimously. No comments from the Board. Commissioner Bennett motioned to adopt the 2021-2022 Budget Amendment; seconded by Commissioner Harris; motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner Robinson dissenting. Chairman Jennis adjourned the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF 2022 FIRE ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATION: Administrative Assistant Wright verified that public notice was advertised in The Bradenton Herald on September 4th, 2022 and read Resolution #2022-06. Chairman Jennis opened the Public Hearing for public comment. There were none. Commissioner Robinson motioned to close the public hearing; seconded by Commissioner Harris; motion passed unanimously. No comments from the Board. Commissioner Bishop motioned to adopt the 2022 Fire Assessment; seconded by Commissioner Robinson; motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner Robinson dissenting. Chairman Jennis adjourned the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2nd READING OF THE 2022-2023 BUDGET: Administrative Assistant Wright verified that public notice was advertised in The Bradenton Herald on September 4th, 2022 and read Resolution #2022-07. Chairman Jennis opened the Public Hearing for public comment. There were none. Commissioner Harris motioned to close the public hearing; seconded by Commissioner Bennett; motion passed unanimously. No comments from the Board. Commissioner Harris motioned to adopt the 2022-2023 Budget; seconded by Commissioner Bishop; motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner Robinson dissenting. Chairman Jennis adjourned the Public Hearing.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: Deputy Chief Johnson requested to add the possible resignation of Commissioner Harris to New Business. Chairman Jennis approved this request.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Bishop motioned to approve consent agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Robinson; motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: Administrative Assistant Wright read a press release from WMFR that was published in the island newspapers. This press release was regarding the donation of a new Attack Pro Thermal Imaging Camera from Moose Lodge 2188 to WMFR. Commissioner Bishop voiced that he would like to invite them to a Board meeting so the Board can thank them in person.

CARRIED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Possible resignation of Commissioner Harris: Commissioner Harris explained that he is in the process of selling his home. He stated he does not have a set closing date yet, however, it could be as soon as September 22. If the sale does go through, Commissioner Harris will inform Chief Rigney as he will no longer hold residency in the WMFR District and would therefore not qualify to hold the Commissioner seat any longer. Chairman Jennis thanked Commissioner Harris for his knowledge and dedication to the District

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during his time in office and presented him with a Retirement Plaque. Deputy Chief Johnson also expressed his gratitude on behalf of the District for Commissioner Harris' service on the Board and highlighted some of the major accomplishments that occurred during and due to Commissioner Harris' tenure. The Board then conversed about their appreciation for Commissioner Harris for the past 8 years.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Johnson spoke on the new furniture and microphones for the Commissioners that replaced the dais due to it breaking. DC Johnson, along with Chairman Jennis and Mrs. Reed, attended the Manatee County 9/11 Ceremony that also honored one of our own, Brian Reed. He recognized the County and the 9/11 Committee appointed by the Fire Chief's Association for the great ceremony.

OTHER REPORTS: None


COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: Commissioner Bishop gave thanks again to the Staff for their hard work on the budget, spoke on his comfort level with the new employees, and gave kudos to Commissioner Harris. Commissioner Bennet also thanked Staff for the ease that was created throughout the budget process. He also that Staff for the new furniture set up. Chairman Jennis thanked Staff for their smooth process of the budget and for their continued transparency. Commissioner Harris closed the Commissioner comments with his goodbye.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, **October 18, 2022**, at 6:00 pm at Administration building.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Jennis adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary

(Seal)

