

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

*Minutes of June 18, 2024
Administration Building*

Special Presentations: Firefighter's Misiura and Larkin promoted to 3rd Class and were pinned.

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. with the following members present: Larry Jennis, David Bishop, and Derrick Warner. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence. Chairman Warner stated the oath will no longer lead each meeting since all members have been sworn in.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Bishop motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Jennis; motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: Administrative Assistant (AA) Wright stated that we received letter thanking first responders for what they do day in and day out.

CARRIED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Transient Public Lodging Establishments (TPLE): No update currently. Chairman Warner asked how inspections are going to which Fire Marshal (FM) Kwiatkowski said they are going fantastic.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Memorandum of Understanding – Light Technical Rescue Team (LTRT) 636 – Chief Rigney explained LTRT 636 was originally the City of Bradenton's team and now North River Fire District has also joined. Chief Rigney stated that this is the team that gets deployed during states of emergencies to other counties, whereas the previous team we were on typically responds in county. Chief Rigney stated our personnel are very excited to join this team and we have seen more participation due to this decision. Commissioner Jennis motioned to approve the LTRT 636 MOU with the City of Bradenton and North River Fire District; seconded by Commissioner Bishop; motion passed unanimously.

B. Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) – Deputy Chief (DC) Johnson thanked Finance Clerk Larson, Administrative Assistant Wright, DVP Gonzalez, Labor for the successful negotiations conducted for the 2024-2027 CBA, and the Board for their direction. DC Johnson stated a main take away was the 7% increase in wages each year. DC Johnson stated Labor had the opportunity to vote on the drafted contract and did so 35-0. DC Johnson recommended that the Board approve the 2024-2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented. Commissioner Jennis made that motion. Hearing no second, Chairman Warner passed the gavel and control of the meeting to Commissioner Jennis. Chairman Warner seconded the motion to approve the 2024-2027 CBA. Board discussion ensued. Commissioner Bishop stated he is in favor of the agreement and that it is a historic contract and for that reason and because the approval is not time sensitive, he believes the full Board should have the opportunity to vote on it. Chairman Warner said he would love to have the other Commissioners here but explained their excused absences. Chief Rigney then stated that Commissioner Burke is out due to a family emergency but previously expressed his support of both the LTRT 636 MOU and the CBA. Chief Rigney also stated that Commissioner Bennett is in support of the CBA. Commissioner Bishop referenced his Ethics Training and reiterated his opinion to wait until the whole Board is present. Commissioner Jennis and Commissioner Bishop discussed the option of tabling this item until the next meeting. Commissioner Jennis removed his original motion. Chairman Warner expressed that he would not remove his second, however Chief Rigney explained the motion was removed which makes the second null. Chief Rigney then explained that a motion to table would need to include the date and time of continuance. Commissioner Bishop motioned to table this vote until the July Commission meeting. No second was heard. Chairman Warner stated that the group worked very hard on this contract, and he would like to vote on it. Commissioners Jennis and Warner reinstated their motion and second to approve the CBA as presented and took a vote. The motion carried 2-1, with

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

*Minutes of June 18, 2024
Administration Building*

Commissioner Bishop voting no. Discussion followed on whether a super majority was needed to pass this vote to which Chief Rigney explained that a super majority is not required, however a super majority was still reached with a two thirds vote. Commissioner Bishop reiterated his point that he only voted no due to the principal of having the whole board vote on the matter, but he is in support of the CBA. Commissioner Jennis passed the gavel back to Chairman Warner.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Rigney congratulated the union employees in the room on the passing of the CBA and the MOU. Chief Rigney then congratulated FM Kwiatkowski on his accomplishments in his designations of CFO and Fire Marshal. Chief Rigney then congratulated Commissioners Burke and Warner for completing the Certified District Official program.


OTHER REPORTS: Administrative Assistant (AA) Wright reminded the Board that financial disclosures are due by July 1st.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: Commissioner Bishop congratulated the Union on the great contract that is going to a very dedicated group. Commissioner Bishop said this is a good step for everyone involved including the taxpayers. Commissioner Jennis stated he is happy to see the CBA approved and appreciates the hard work. Chairman Warner said he is excited to see where things are going and spoke on the busy weekend the District had noting 18 calls on Sunday. Chairman Warner stated that none of the calls seem to be simple anymore, but WMFR personnel are handling them well and he is happy to be a part of the District.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Administration building.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Warner adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.


Chairman


Secretary

