



**Marion County
Board of County Commissioners**

Fire Rescue

2631 SE Third St.
Ocala, FL 34471
Phone: 352-291-8000
Fax: 352-291-8098

**Marion County Fire Rescue Emergency Services
Advisory Board Meeting
October 9, 2012**

I. Call To Order: 3:06 by Vice chair Paul Clark

II. Members Present:

Lance Hill
Butch Verrando
Randy McVay
Dr. Frank Fraunfelder
Adam Woods

Others in Attendance:

Chief Stuart McElhaney, Chief Hall, Chief Cooper, Carl Crabtree, Cindy Marihugh, Keith Poole-Ocala Shriner's Club

Attendance taken by: Felicia Grasty

III. Minutes

April 10th, 2012 and July 10th, 2012-Adopted

IV. Old Business

A. Adopted Budget

- The board adopted the final budget
- This is the second year of the CBA, which means 1 more year of no increases.

B. Department Update

- East Marion Fire Station (Station4, 40/314) is scheduled to begin renovating.
- Chief Cooper advises this may take 10months
- Chief McElhaney shares that the crew will move to the Electra Station-Lake Bryant area
- Chief Cooper explained that we have 8 ambulances to convert over to CNG (Compressed Natural Gas). We went with GMC chassis. We also have 5 brush/foam trucks converting over as

"Meeting Needs by Exceeding Expectations"



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well. We have 1 under construction now and the other four are waiting board approval.

- Chief McElhaney shares that the CNG fuel station will be at the Maricamp Rd site. This will be a dedicated site. This site should be up and running around June.
- Paul Clark asks "What's the difference between gas and CNG?" Butch Verrando explains that it is a high compression fuel, it burns cooler, and that you don't have the hydro carbon that breaks down and gets into your oil. Chief McElhaney also explains that the cylinder walls of the gas tank are hardened.
- Chief McElhaney also shares that there are 2 ladder trucks being order. We are waiting for the approval of the BCC. By preordering these trucks, we saved \$48, 000.

VI. New Business

C. Write Off Policy

- Chief Hall shares that \$5.2million will be written off from 2008 to date.
- Chief Hall explains that these are the type's accounts that are written off: Probate, charities, deceased, bankruptcies and small balances.
- Chief Hall explains that the charity application is a 7 page process, similar to MRMC.
- Chief McElhaney will receive a letter that outlines what needs to be written off. This will come from Chief Hall on a monthly basis. The reporting aspect of this will be done on a quarterly basis.
- Chief Hall shares that \$380,000 was written off last year. This consisted of: small balances, workmen's compensation claims, negotiated discounts, and charities.
- The board moves to approve the write off policy

D. Standby Fee Discussion

- Chief McElhaney explains to the board that Keith Poole with the Shriner's Club is present today to discuss the possibility of having a committed unit at their yearly Ocala Shriner's Rodeo with the cost associated. The rodeo benefits the children with burns, orthopedic

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problems, spinal cord injuries and cleft lips and palates. The Fire Advisory Board agrees that it's a great cause to waive the fee for.

- The Fire Advisory Board approves having a committed unit at the event with no cost associated

E. Annual Report

- Chief McElhaney reviews the annual report.
- Handouts are provided.
- Chief McElhaney would also like for the handouts to be sent out electronically.
- Chief McElhaney shares that the ambulance mileage rate increase went in to affect 8/21/12.

F. Communications Consolidation Update

- Karl Oltz shares that there are 3 areas of the calling taking: Fire, Medical and Law Enforcement
- The original way of call taking before the consolidation, there was a delay of about 20 to 30 sec in regards to routing the call for its appropriate nature.
- The consolidation has saved about \$400,000 a year. It also is a savings of about \$380,000 with the Sheriff department.
- Karl shares that Ocala Fire came aboard effective October 1, 2012.
- Karl shares that the Ocala Police Department is on another frequency. However, they would like to come on board with Tritech as well and bridge that gap.
- Karl invites anyone to come and tour the new Comm. Center. Please get with him to schedule a day and time.

VIII. Board Items

N/A

IX. Adjournment-4:52

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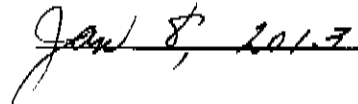
**Next Meeting will be held January 8th, 2013 at 3:00 p.m., Fire Rescue
Headquarters
Minutes submitted by Felicia Grasty**

Approved:

Date:



Pat Gabriel, Chairperson



Jan 8, 2013

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