

Iona McGregor Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners  
August 12, 2020  
6:00 PM

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call of Commissioners –

Present are Commissioner Louwers via telephone, Treasurer Langford, Secretary Andersen, Vice Chair Barbosa, and Chair Walker

Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance observed

Amendments to the Meeting Agenda – none

Public Input on Business Agenda Items – none

Public Recognition – none

Business Agenda Items (Agenda Items Requiring Action)

1) Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2020

**Motion** (5724) to approve minutes of July 15, 2020 made by Secretary Andersen, second Treasurer Langford... carried.

2) Financial Report – July 2020

CFO states interest rates have dropped to about ½ percent and staffing overtime spiked due to retirement and COVID-19 challenges. Following brief discussion, **motion** (5725) to approve July 2020 Financial Report made by Chair Walker with second by Vice Chair Barbosa... carries.

3) Medical Insurance Renewal

Chief mentioned that last month he provided Cigna renewal data of approximately 21%; and was directed to submit proposal for other carrier quotes which were received and submitted to board on Monday. Humana, Florida Blue, and United Healthcare submitted proposed coverage/cost for our 2020-2021 benefit year. United submitted quote of improved provider network with a realized increase of 8% from current costs. Next option is with design plan changes, second favorable from United increases co-insurance from 10% to 20% and District would realize 1.1% increase with a renewal cap of 9.9% which could go below. Either of these plan designs would be favorable to organization and available for questions. Chair Walker asked if he had recommendation? Chief replied that he would like to meet roll back rate adding the District can absorb the 8% increase to keep same coverage; however, as Chief, the other plan with 1.1% increase is not unreasonable. A brief summary of insurance rates and renewals from 2013 through current was given by Chief noting the flow of good and bad year claims experience. Following discussion, **motion** (5726) to select United Healthcare Option 1 at 8% for the health insurance carrier beginning October 1, 2020 made by Chair Walker, second Vice Chair Barbosa. Secretary Andersen directed query to DVP's asking if they had anything to add. DVP Tansey mentioned that the 8% increase is in line and the benefit is apples to apples and easy to sell to the membership. He added that the United formulary was better and with other option a person could potentially be out of pocket another three grand. DVP Mascarelli added that he agrees with DVP Tansey He would like representative from Gehring Group to come explain some of these benefits. Chair Walker

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replied that he is sure the Chief will have someone come in and explain the plan, adding that in all reality, as far as he is concerned, those that sit at this side of the table, indicating Chief Officers, and this side of the table, indicating Board members, where the money ends and they're the ones that are going to try and get the best deal as far as coverage. At the appropriate time I'm sure you'll have appropriate people in here to explain everything. After asking for any further discussion, Chair requested roll vote. Roll vote response was Chair Walker, Vice Chair Barbosa, Secretary Andersen, and Treasurer Langford were all in favor; Commissioner Louwers opposed. Motion carries.

4) Surplus Items

**Motion** (5727) to deem items presented as surplus and authorize Chief to dispose of in accordance with Florida Statute 274.06 was offered by Commissioner Louwers and seconded by Secretary Andersen, Walker commented that surprised that we gave away items to friend of friend out of state and should be in recommendation of where it is going and why on the agenda item form. Following discussion, motion carried unanimously.

5) Executive Report

Chair Walker questioned, of the four structure fires, what percentage of structure was saved from the fire? Chief noted the District's average is 95% saved. **Motion** (5728) to accept the Executive Report as presented made by Commissioner Louwers, second Commissioner Barbosa... carried.

6) Attorney Report

Attorney Pringle noted that the Governor continues to enter executive orders on COVID and the latest extended the order allowing boards to meet virtually. Although not being used by this board, he wanted to make you aware. This also applies for public hearings for budget adoption.

Mr. Pringle provided an updated Board Manual draft last Thursday. It is not on agenda for adoption this evening; however, board members with questions or concerns are asked to please contact attorney. The section regarding laws pertaining to district is quite large and are included to give commissioner the basic laws which govern this board. Chair Walker stated that wanted to consolidate all actions of the board where member could reference as specific policy such as what is required for disposal of equipment, Chief's authorization for signing checks up to \$30,000, education policy, etc. He would like to see this in the manual document. At some point, attorney would like to place on agenda for adoption if the pleasure of board.

7) DVP Reports – Districts 7 & 25

Chair noted that District 7 & 25 had nothing of note on their reports. DVP Mascarelli added that based on emails, he just wanted to make sure District made best decision, which it appears they have. He then asked for the following to be entered into the record, and read the following, "District 25 and District 7 members would like a representative of our broker Gehring Group, and not a member of this Administration, to present clear information to the members of the District, so specific questions and answers can be given. The members of Districts 25 and 7 are still unsure why it was decided last year to switch from a broker of 17 years with a proven track record including multiple reports of member satisfaction.

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The members feel this new broker has not made an initial positive impression based on no small part of the questions asked tonight by several commissioners. In addition, the members feel there has been little communication, from Gehring Group through the District and to the members for the change we are faced today and ask for improved communications in the future.” Following this statement, Chair informed that Chief has heard his recommendation.

Public Input on Non-Business Agenda Items – none

Commissioner Comments – none

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Louwers, second Commissioner Walker...

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_