

**IMMOKALEE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
12/15/11**

**Chairperson Pam Brown called the meeting to order, all Commissioners were present; Pam Brown, Bonnie Keen, "Ski" Olesky and Lonzo Morgan.**

**Commissioner Olesky made a motion to approve the agenda, Commissioner Keen seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.**

**There were no meetings notes available from November. Administration is to have them for approval at the January meeting.**

**Treasurers Report was viewed by Commissioners. Chief Greenberg stated IFD received two ad valorem checks, but is currently about \$600,000 shy of the annual total. She does not know if the Seminoles had IFD on their agenda for December or not, but we should have a check from them by the end of January 2012.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Olesky to approve the consent agenda, which consisted of the Chiefs report and the Fire Marshalls report. Commissioner Morgan seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Union Report was given by Tom Cunningham. He stated that FF Cody Rodgers attended the Christmas Around the World event, where he handed out pamphlets concerning the upcoming referendum in both English and Creole (Spanish version not yet available). He also assisted in the coffee and chili fund raiser. Estimated profits were \$65.00 (above costs) to be used for the printing of informational fliers for the referendum. The expected overall cost for printing is between \$250-\$300. The Union Locals of IFD and BCIFR are to meet January 9, 2012 to discuss by laws and constitutions, meeting days, etc.. He will keep the Board apprised of any outcome from the meeting. Commissioner Keen asked for clarification on how the Unions are established, and Commissioner Olesky asked about the benefits of combining the Locals. Mr. Cunningham's clarification was that the International Fire Fighters Union has branches of independent Locals under it, including IFD and BCIFR, combining the two would make one branch. The benefits include more manpower for events, use of joint funds, and more numbers in force. It will not affect the interaction between each group and their corresponding Boards, as each half will have independent contracts, negotiations, and agreements with their own Board of Commissioners for their own Districts.**

## **Old Business**

**Seminole Update**– Signed contract from IFD has been submitted to the tribal council, no word on if it made it to the December agenda, if not it will be on the January agenda and payment will be made following signatures.

Chief Greenberg also informed the Board of a current table top exercise held at the Casino, where the Casino had an explosion (exercise only). Seminole Fire Control and local area responders were invited. The event went very well. It was determined that should such an event actually occur the fire department will be the lead agency until Seminole Police determine otherwise.

**Referendum Update**- Information is being passed out to local citizens through special events. Staff is still working on getting the Fact sheet done in Spanish. Chief Greenberg is speaking on the Districts behalf at the Chamber of Commerce Breakfast, and the Rotary Club meeting. Staff is working on getting names of Community Leaders to assist getting information out to their groups. Chuck Mohlke has been hired to seek funding, put together information on numbers and create pamphlets and documents. Some concern has been raised on the limit of funds Mr. Mohlke is to collect, what if he collects more than needed, and does excess of funds go to him or the District? Attorney Ken Thompson said excess can be distributed to charities, or government organizations. He does not foresee a huge amount of excess being raised, but should it head in that direction, a committee will decide how to distribute funds. The ballot will not be in Creole, as the Supervisor of Elections has said they are only required by law to print the ballot in English and Spanish, and does not want to set a precedence of another language at this time.

Other - none

## **New Business**

**Policy Section 200 & 300** – Chief Greenberg stated she was unable to review the policies for this meeting. She will review and have recommendations for the next Board Meeting.

**Audit** – Packets were given to the Board with met qualifications from the companies of Grau and Associates (a special districts associate), Perrino and Associates, (the auditor for BCIFR the past 7 years), Phillips Harvey (the auditor for IFD last two years) and Tuscan and Associates (auditor of recent forensic audit and past auditor for IFD for 12 years). Ken Thompson suggested the Board rank the companies in order of preference first, then compare the cost analysis. Each Board member stated their position and the rank was determined to be:

- 1) Tuscan and Associates
- 2) Grau and Associates
- 3) Perrino and Associates

#### **4) Phillips Harvey**

**Commissioner Olesky made a motion to accept the rank of the Auditor proposals, Commissioner Morgan seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.**

**After reviewing the cost proposals from each company a brief discussion ensued. All Auditor proposals were comparable between \$14,000-\$16,000 per year for the three year period. Commissioner Olesky made a motion to choose Tuscan and Associates for Auditor service. Commissioner Morgan seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Referendum Workshop – A workshop for the referendum had been discussed in prior meetings, as the ballots will be counted in less than 45 days. Chief Greenberg noted the upcoming open houses scheduled for January 21 and 28, between 10-1 to invite the community in for information on the referendum. Snacks and/or hotdogs will be served. A suggestion was made that the open house be advertised as an informational workshop, with Commissioners on hand to answer questions.**

**Other- Commissioner Brown suggest the Board Members attend a meeting with the Fire Chiefs Association in an upcoming discussion on the ALS program. (Dates will be given as soon as possible) Also, the Steering Committee is scheduled for February 2 at Station 73, 6:00PM.**

**A brief discussion ensued on consolidation concerns with the county, and concerns for EMS not knowing locations in Immokalee area.**

**It was also noted that Chief Rodriguez (Isle of Capri) was terminated by Dan Summers, the director of the Emergency Services with Collier County.**

**Commissioner Brown adjourned the meeting at 7:54PM.**

Minutes typed by Chelli Huddleston