

**Immokalee Fire Control Board
Regular Monthly Meeting
June 16, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Pam Brown at 7:14 PM. Present were Commissioners Brown, Matthews, Keen, Morgan and Olesky, Deputy Chief Raul Dimas, Fire Marshal Leo Rodgers, Administrative Assistant Ann Carver, Union President Tom Cunningham, Chris Dawallaby, Board Attorney Kenneth Thompson, Jeff Tuscan, Mark, and Blair from Tuscan & Associates, Jason Burr, Firefighters and members of the Public. The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Brown followed by a moment of silence.

These Minutes are a summary of the meeting. Any further information can be obtained by the tape.

Approval of the Agenda: Commissioner Brown asked if Steve Rasnik could be moved to old business in order to present the semi-annual report from S.I.P. prior to budget discussion. Brown asked if there were any other changes to agenda. No more changes requested.

Motion made by Commissioner Matthews to accept the amended agenda. Second by Commissioner ? . The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Approval of May 19, 2011 Minutes:

Commissioner Matthews moved to approve the minutes, with a second by Commissioner Keen. Vote unanimous. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The report will be discussed during Jeff Tuscan's presentation.

Consent Agenda: After verifying that all the commissioners had seen both Deputy Chief Dimas' and Fire Marshal Rodgers reports, Commissioner Brown asked that they look at a letter from Chief Greenburg, of Big Corkscrew, advising that they will help IFD, and that a letter relative to that had been sent to their board for further discussion.

Commissioner Olesky moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, with a second by Commissioner Matthews. Motion carried unanimously.

Union Report: Union President Tom Cunningham reported that everything was still working toward a new budget, making presentations and continuing negotiations.

Business of District: None was brought up

Old Business:

1. **Report from Steve Rasnik:** Steve Rasnik, from S.I.P., delivered the semi-annual report on the Self-Insured Fund. Mr. Rasnik also explained what an HRA was to the new board members.
2. **Discussion on Budget:** Jeff Tuscan advised the Board that he gotten additional information together that reflects a more accurate picture of the Boards finances, along with the most likely causes of the shortfall. The drop in anticipated income was significant, approximately \$400,000, representing a drop from 2.2 million to 1.9 in ad valorem taxes.

Discussion included a possible referendum to increase millage from 3.00 to 3.75, as well as a referendum for a special assessment on non-taxable property, both of which could appear on the presidential primary ballot next January and decided by the voters. Jeff Tuscan advised that much more information is needed in order to evaluate which properties would qualify for the special assessment. Jeff said if the voters approved it, it would take from 18 – 24 months, minimum, to implement.

Motion was made by Commissioner Olesky to put the referendum to increase millage on the Presidential Primary ballot next January. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Keen. Motion passed with Commissioner Morgan casting the only nay vote.

Motion was made by Commissioner Olesky to put the referendum for a Special Assessment on the Presidential Primary ballot next January. Second by Commissioner Keen. Motion failed with Commissioner Olesky casting the only aye vote.

Discussion on Severance Agreement: Mr. Cunningham requested severance agreements be placed back on the table for the firefighters who were or will be laid off, including those who may seek more stable employment elsewhere.

Motion was made by Commissioner Olesky to accept Firefighters offer to waive any action against the Board in exchange for receiving their regular salary through July 1st, along with all accrued time off, sick time, plus any other benefits entitled to them by the laws of Florida. Second by Commissioner Morgan. Motion carried with Commissioner Matthews casting the only nay vote.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mathews to include Firefighter Alex Correa. Second by Commissioner Keen. Vote unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Olesky to extend this offer to up to a total of six (6) employees, but to allow it to expire on Monday, June 27th at 10:00 AM. Second by Commissioner Keen. Motion carries with Commissioner Morgan casting the only nay vote.

3. **Discussion on Audit General Comment # 3:** Chairman Brown advised that this is a list of the things Board members should be monitoring to prevent oversights.

4. **Draft Policies: Whistleblower**

Motion was made by Commissioner Matthews to adopt the single-page Whistleblower policy described in Exhibit A. Second by Commissioner Morgan. Motion carried with one nay vote from Commissioner Olesky.

5. **Update on Station 31:** Sharon Turrubiaters reported to the Board that all the work at Station 31 is now complete, including new paint, ceiling tiles and repairs, thanks to community effort. She thanked the Firefighters, Volunteers and Commissioners who helped out and/or stopped by. She, in turn, was thanked by all the Commissioners.
6. **Seminole Contract:** Chairman Brown advised that she had met with the CEO of the Seminole Casino, as well as Jerry Wheeler, of the Seminole Tribe, about the amount they are willing to pay for services. They want to meet with Board. Deputy Chief Dimas agreed to draft a proposal for them in time for the July meeting.
7. **End-of-Month Meeting:** Commissioners set up a special meeting on June 28th @ 6 PM in order to go over the budget, staffing and negotiations.
8. **Change of Agent of Record:** Chairman Brown requested that the Agent of Record for VFIS Property and Casualty be changed to an agent within the IFCD at time of renewal.

Motion was made by Commissioner Keen to change the Agent of Record to Jay Roth with Lutgert Insurance at Ave Maria. Second by Commissioner Morgan. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

1. **Discussion of someone to do the budget and work within the TRIM Compliance:**
Commissioner Matthews proposes to the Board to use Tuscan and Assoc. to look over things and help prepare the budget. Second by Commissioner Morgan. Motion carried unanimously.
Mr. Tuscan is to bring proposals for this to the meeting on June 28th.
2. **Topics Initiated by Commissioners:** Commissioner Brown stated that there is a need to establish Vice Chair and Sec/Treasurer and would entertain a motion for such. Ann Carver stated that for now the bank has advised her to remove the Vice Chair and Sec/Treasurer from the cards and let the Chairperson sign. Commissioner Brown also brought up that the people in the audience cannot hear. Discussion on getting a P.A. System. Fire Marshal Rodgers and Jason Burr to continue looking into this.
3. **Union Comment:** Mr. Cunningham asked how Mr. Tuscan can put this budget together without having knowledge of the negotiations. Mr. Tuscan will work with staff and Mr. Dawallaby to their time down and meet the requirements with the Statutes.
4. **Adjourn:** Commissioner Brown adjourned the meeting. 9:10pm.

Minutes typed by Allison Davis up to New Business. Fire Marshal Rodgers Completed New Business.