

Pace Fire Rescue District
Regular Meeting
April 17, 2023

1. Meeting Called to Order

- a. Commissioner Jonathan Page was absent from the meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Public Form

- a. No one was in attendance.

5. Minutes from the previous meeting

- a. Motion to approve 1st made by Treasurer Bob Jankowski and 2nd by Vice-Chair Nick Gradia.
- b. Motion approved.

6. Financial Report (Written report attached)

- a. Treasurer Jankowski inquired about purchasing CD's. He said, "CD's would be a way that we might be able to increase our money". Chief Whitfield explained that the money for CD's is tied up for 3 years and the interest rate is not very good at this time. Our savings account interest has bumped up so we're making money off that right now.
- b. Treasurer Jankowski inquired about the Sheriff's "utilities offset" and did we receive any type of monthly rent for their use of our building? Chief Whitfield explained how the "handshake" agreement was made before becoming Chief. Chief Whitfield has attempted to have the Sheriff's Office discuss signing an agreement, but it's been ignored by them. Chief Whitfield has sent an email and documents to our attorney for his review. Vice-Chair Gradia asked if the Sheriff's office had put any money into the construction of the building and Chief Whitfield said no.
- c. Motion to approve the Financial Report 1st made by Vice-Chair Nick Gradia and 2nd by Treasurer Jankowski.
- d. Motion approved.

7. Chief's Report (Written report attached)

- a. Treasurer Jankowski asked to explain "overlapping calls". Chief Whitfield and Vice-Chair Nick Gradia explained how a call could become "overlapping."

- b. Motion to approve the Chief's Report 1st made by Treasurer Jankowski and 2nd by Vice-Chair Nick Gradia.
- c. Motion approved.

8. Hurricane IDA Reimbursement Update

- a. Chief Whitfield proposed we could use the money from IDA and IAN reimbursement and with approximately \$5,000 of funds from our account, we could pay off the Engine early. He would need the Board's approval. Chief Whitfield stated, "Making the payoff early would save us approximately \$18,000 in interest. Treasurer Jankowski made a motion to approve making that payment early and it was 2nd by Vice-Chair Nick Gradia.
- b. Motion approved.

9. Fire House Subs Foundation Grant

- a. We submitted a request for \$24,248.00 for the purchase of eight (8) sets of PPE and it was approved by the foundation.
- b. Vice-Chair Gradia asked, "who would be wearing this equipment?" Chief Whitfield stated by the end of the year everyone would have new gear. Chief Whitfield said we were going with Glove. We're trying out Viking and Lyon currently. These companies say their delivery time should be shorter.

10. Station 4 Information

- a. Chief Whitfield informed the board that Extreme Modular Buildings had moved their home office from Arizona to Canada. They do still maintain an office in the States. Chief Whitfield has made contact with Mr. Middlesboro from Miami Dade Fire Rescue who purchased theirs from them and said they hadn't had any problems with the company. Vice-Chair Gradia asked if a site visit was scheduled, and Chief Whitfield said yes. Treasurer Jankowski was concerned that the plans didn't show a "training room". Chief Whitfield explained that we hadn't finalized the plans and could always add or take away at this point. Chief Whitfield also explained that if we add more the cost goes up.

11. L.O.S.T. Apparatus Purchases Information

- a. Chief Whitfield informed the board that the Squad (Mini-Pumper) we ordered will be a 2024 instead of a 2023 due to production at Ford. We are waiting on the cost specs for a 3000 Tanker, once received they will be reviewed by the Apparatus Committee. Chief Whitfield is looking at getting the Rescue (2009) refurbished. Refurbishment should be 2/3 % of the cost of a new one. A discussion on how everything was being grabbed up because delivery times and costs were going up. It's going to be very difficult for small departments to afford the cost of equipment. Currently an Engine costs between \$800,000 and \$1 Million.

12. Possible Station 2 Relocation

- a. Chief Whitfield met with the Eagle Group on a two (2) acre parcel on Luther Fowler at their cost and they agreed to it. Station 2 is only a mile and a half from where it is now. The Eagle Group will be going back to the county to approach the Community Developers in a different way in order to get it passed.
- b. Vice-Chair Gradia asked about the status on the football fields. Chief Whitfield said that he has been trying to contact someone but with no luck.

14. Add/Delete

- a. Treasurer Jankowski made a motion to add to the agenda the discussion of a Fire Commissioner Absentee Policy. It was 2nd by Vice-Chair Gradia.
- b. Treasurer Jankowski asked if there was a policy in effect, and if the Commissioner had called in an excuse as to why he couldn't make it. Chief Whitfield stated he hadn't heard from him since November 28th, 2022. A discussion on Chapter 191.005 with Chief Whitfield. Vice-Chair Gradia explained to everyone what it meant. Chief Whitfield went on to say that a Resolution would have to be approved and placed into effect. In the Resolution you must describe an "excused and unexcused" absence.
- c. Treasurer Jankowski made a motion for Chief Whitfield and his Administrative staff to write the Resolution and it was 2nd by Vice-Chair Gradia.
- d. Motion passed.

15. Motion to Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn 1st made by Vice-Chair Gradia and 2nd by Treasurer Jankowski.
- b. Meeting adjourned.

Approved this 15th day of May 2023.



Dean Anderson, Chairman