

## BLACKMAN FIRE DISTRICT MEETING

DATE: 30 January 2025

( ) REGULARLY SCHEDULED

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

( ) EMERGENCY

(X) WORKSHOP

### ROLL CALL

### PRESENT

Commissioner Steve Lawson	(X) Yes	( ) No
Chairperson Larry Cunningham	(X) Yes	( ) No
Commissioner Holley Cook	(X) Yes	( ) No
Commissioner Wade Merritt	(X) Yes	( ) No
Commissioner Ronnie Miller	( ) Yes	(X) No

Welcome/Call Meeting to Order at 7:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

### PUBLIC WORKSHOP #1

#### 1) Impact Fee Update

Discussion on increases to Impact Fees within the fire district in order to address the anticipated growth within the 32531 zip code. According to the Inspire Study Final Report, Okaloosa County has not followed their own Comprehensive Strategic Plan to prevent urban sprawl and therefore is currently seeing elevated growth rates in Northern Okaloosa County areas. Jurisdictions West of Yellow River have already begun the process of increasing Impact Fees. The average impact fee rate for residential in Florida is currently \$3.83 per square foot. We will need two public workshops scheduled to support public input in this process.

#### Current Rates:

Residential \$0.20 per square foot  
Commercial \$0.30 per square foot  
Industrial \_\_\_\_\_

#### Proposed Rates:

Residential \_\_\_\_\_  
Commercial \_\_\_\_\_  
Industrial \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion on increasing Impact Fees with public input commenced. Average rates were reviewed across Florida and discussed for the Blackman Fire District increases. Several members of the community discussed how any impact to the district would put a major strain on emergency response in our area. The expectation would be that new development would need to pay higher rates in an effort to offset the impact as these fees are designed to do. Several rates were discussed and the item was tabled until the next public workshop meeting so that commissioners can do more research on this topic.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Wade Merritt submitted to the board his immediate irrevocable letter of resignation due to the Resign to Run Law. Resignation was reviewed and approved.

Motion: Holley Cook

2<sup>nd</sup>: Steve Lawson

Motion Passed

### ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment of meeting at 8:45pm

Motion: Steve Lawson

2<sup>nd</sup>: Holley Cook

Motion Passed

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING February 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

These minutes were approved and accepted as read this date \_\_\_\_\_

Larry Cunningham, Chairman

or Other Authorized Board Member \_\_\_\_\_

