

Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District
Minutes for Special Commissioners Board Meeting
September 16, 2020
Subject to Board Approval

Call to Order: Commissioner Player called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Invocation: Mr. Dreikorn led everyone in the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Player led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call: Commissioner Player, Valcarcel, Price and Cammick were present.

Chief Mickuleit, Deputy Chief Brant, Assistant Chief Davis, Mr. Pritt(via phone), Captain Barr, Captain Russell, Engineer Simer, Firefighter Peer and Administrative Assistant Miles were present.

Guest: Michael Dreikorn, Darlene Soler, Jamie Delacey, Gordon Short, and an unidentified guest were present.

Setting of Agenda: Commissioner Player reminded everyone that this is a special meeting so there can be no discussion of anything other than what is on the agenda. **Commissioner Cammick moved to approve the agenda, Commissioner Valcarcel seconded. Unanimously approved.**

Seat 5 Vacancy: Commissioner Player let everyone know that there were two resumes submitted for the vacancy, Mr. Short and Mr. Dreikorn. She asked them both to stand up and tell everyone a little about themselves and why they think they would be a good fit.

Mr. Dreikorn: Was on the Board up until recently, when he had to leave to run for Lee County BOCC. He held his seat for quite a few years and feels that he is qualified based on his knowledge of the Board and District. Although, he knows that Mr. Short is just as qualified and no matter what the Board decides it will be a good decision. Commissioner Valcarcel asked what he felt was his best attribute that made him right for the position. Mr. Dreikorn replied that his critical thinking skills will make him an asset to the Board.

Mr. Short: Mr. Short gave a brief history of his time here on the island. He has owned a home in Bokeelia for 15 years and just recently began living here full time. What interested him in being a part of the Board was that he noticed that the taxes paid to the District seemed high compared to other areas that he has researched. He knows that he will have contradicting views, but believes that it is healthy for a Board to be diverse. Commissioner Valcarcel asked what skills Mr. Short felt he had that made him a good fit. He believes that his long history in business and financials will play a huge role in the position as well as his leadership skills that he has developed over the years. She additionally asked, not knowing Mr. Short personally, what kind of community service has he been involved in locally. He replied that since he just recently became fully retired here he hasn't had much time to get too involved, but has shown his loyalty to local community in California, where he lived and worked before moving here. Commissioner Cammick, noted that he met Mr. Short when serving on a local board and felt that he had great potential for the District. Mr. Price noted that he felt that both candidates could be great fits.

Commissioner Player asked both candidates where they see the District going in the next 5 years. Mr. Dreikorn commended the work of the District over the prior 5 years and the major financial improvements they have made. He then discussed some of the future plans that he was aware of, being on the Board in the past. Mr. Short brought up discussion of a 5 year plan, he was not sure if it is something that has been looked at or conducted in the past, but he feels that it is an absolute necessity to keep the organization on track.

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Public Comment: One community member stood and gave his opinion in favor of Mr. Short. Jamie Delacey also stood and agreed that she felt Mr. Short would be a good fit.

Commissioner Cammick nominated Mr. Dreikorn. Commissioner Price noted that he feels that Mr. Short would provide some diversity that would be good for the Board. **Commissioner Price nominated Mr. Short.** Commissioner Cammick asked Commissioner Price if Short were to be voted in he would have no one to run against in the election, Neil replied that Mr. Serell is still on the ballot as well. **Vote was called 3 in favor of Mr. Dreikorn and 1 in favor of Mr. Short.**

Commissioner Cammick asked Mr. Pritt if Mr. Dreikorn could sit now or is there a waiting period. Mr. Pritt replied that the Oath needed to be filed with the state in order for him to be official. Admin Assistant Miles presented the Board with the resolution and asked Mr. Pritt if it was necessary. He said it wasn't necessary, but a good idea.

RESOLUTION No. 2020-09162020 (1): A resolution appointed a board of commissioner's member for seat # 5 for the remainder of the current term; and providing an effective date. Commissioner Price made a motion to accept the resolution with Michael Dreikorn filled in, Commissioner Cammick seconded, unanimously approved.

Commissioner Player noted that she hopes that Mr. Short will continue to attend the meetings and provide the Board with his opinions.

Discussion of Health Insurance:

Chief Mickuleit opened by explaining to the Board that every year our insurance broker goes out to bid for us and returns with multiple quotes, in prior years we were not able to get the same coverage without a significant change in cost. Mr. Atkinson is here this year to present an option that admin believes is good move for the district. Mr. Atkins discusses how the quote process works on their end and why it is always a time crunch. This year however there is a new product by Cigna that looks like a great fit for the District. It is the exact same coverage, but is partially self-funded, which means it is significantly less expensive and also has the option of getting some of the premium back at the end of a good claims year. Capt. DVP Barr, gave the Board the union's approval. They have all had the chance to sit down and ask all their questions and feel comfortable with the decision.

Public Comment: Mr. Short, coming from a large business believes that self-funded is the direction that the District needs to move. Mr. Atkinson, agrees that self-funded has good penitential, however if the organization is less than 300 people a fully self-funded plan is not an option. This plan by Cigna is a great move in that direction though. Mr. Dreikorn asked if the fact that we were a fire department changed the price we are quoted. Mr. Atkinson said yes, most defiantly, Firefighters are subject to a significantly larger amount of health concerns than others.

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There was some questions from the Board on pricing and concern with the Union's feelings on all of it. But they were answered by the respective parties. **Commissioner Cammick made a motion to move forward with Cigna for next FY's insurance coverage. Commissioner Price seconded. Unanimously approved.**

At this time the Board is resolving into executive session to discuss the Union Contract.

The Board resolved back into the regular meeting, there was no addition action needed by the Board at this time.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Cammick moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Price. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Miles
District Administrative Assistant

Board Secretary