



DISTRICT BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES
JULY 13, 2015 – DRAFT

1. AGENDA

1.A. Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Beyer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.C. Roll Call

Vicky Fay called the roll. The following Commissioners were present: Tony Allen, Marilyn Beyer, Kay Cullen, George Mirabella and Bob Thomas. Bob Thomas attended via Skype due to health issues. There was a quorum.

Also present were Chief Bock, Vicky Fay, Ronnie Fell, James Griffeth, Jennifer Johnson, Scott Robinson and Theron Simmons. The meeting was held at Station 24.

1.D. Approval of Agenda – July 13, 2015

MOTION: Commissioner Cullen made a motion ***to approve the July 13, 2015 Budget Workshop Meeting Agenda.*** Commissioner Beyer seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously passed the motion.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerry Wilkinson, President of Harry Harris Park Community Association is also a member of the Tavernier Community Association.

Mr. Wilkinson is the spokesman for the Tavernier Fire & EMS Ad Hoc Committee addressed the Board and requested the KLFR&EMS District's southern boundary be extended to Tavernier Creek due to the tax rate differential between the KLFR&EMS District and the Monroe County Ad Valorem tax rate. Mr. Wilkinson also requested the Tavernier Fire & EMS Ad Hoc Committee be added to a future District agenda. The Tavernier Community Association's membership voted to become a part of the KLFR&EMS District.

Burke Cannon a member of the Tavernier Fire & EMS Ad Hoc Committee and member of the Hammerpoint Homeowner Association requested that Tavernier be included in the KLFR&EMS District, and requested an item be added to a future agenda for the Tavernier Fire & EMS Ad Hoc Committee to make a presentation to the KLFR&EMS District Board. Commissioner Thomas requested the item be added to the next District Meeting Agenda.



KEY LARGO FIRE RESCUE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT

Seat 1: Tony Allen; Seat 2: Kay Cullen; Seat 3: Bob Thomas; Seat 4: George Mirabella; Seat 5: Marilyn Beyer

3. **DISCUSSION: KLVFD Proposed FY 2015-2016 Budget**

The KLVFD is requesting an increase of \$139,659, and \$93,155 is for operations and \$46,504 is for capital.

Account 120 (Regular Salaries & Wages): Includes step-plan increases; 3% raise for the Supervisor, Firefighter II and Drivers; as well as, sick leave and personal time off for part-time employees.

Account 121 (Volunteer Pay): \$10,731 includes a 3% increase for the Volunteer Assistant Chief's reimbursement; budgeting for 5 volunteers instead of 6 with a 3% increase; a 3% increase of 3% For 2 volunteer firefighters and home shift coverage; 3% raise for holiday pay for volunteers a% raise for emergency hurricane volunteer support.

Account 140 (Overtime Wages): \$8,180 includes a 3% increase in overtime wages.

Account 220 (Retirement Plan): \$50,041 includes \$53,541 for the three full-time and four part-time firefighters to join the Florida State Retirement System. Commissioner Thomas expressed concern about how the State Retirement would work, and he favors a 401k-type plan. Miami Dade has converted from a FRS retirement plan to a 401K program.

Commissioner Allen agrees. Scott Robinson reported at signup 3% would be funded by the employee and 19% funded by district. It is expected to be about \$8,600 per employee and part-time firefighters would be a little less. The KLVFD would utilize a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) similar to the MOU between the District and the County for Betsy to contract the firefighters. The Fire Department, paid firefighter employees would now become District employees. Scott indicated the purpose is to keep the core individuals intact for departmental continuity. Commissioners Thomas and Mirabella are concerned this may be opening the door for a paid department. Commissioner Cullen questioned if all of the legal sides have they been reviewed, and Theron Simmons indicated the District would need to review this. Commissioners Beyer and Cullen agree in principle but not at the taxpayer's expense. There needs to be full disclosure on legal issues, and the District needs to understand the dollars involved. Commissioner Thomas has concerns this will open the door to where they will want more. He felt a good starting point would be to consider placing \$25,000 to \$30,000 into a 401K plan. Commissioner Mirabella stated this is the Key Largo Volunteer Fire Department, and everyone knows the benefits when they are hired. We need to do something for everyone not just a select few. Marc Cuesta would like to find ways to keep experience in the department. Commissioner Allen indicated that retirement is killing other states, and these types of retirement programs are killing the taxpayers, and Monroe County loses 25% of their firefighters every year. Marathon has a Chapter 175 Plan. Commissioner Cullen agrees with the concept; however, there should be another way to do it. Scott reported the alternate is a 457B plan, which is a 401K-type plan. They would remain Corps employees. The Commissioners requested Scott research other items, and bring something back to the Board. Commissioner Allen recommended that Scott go to financial advisors for their ideas and plan costs.



KEY LARGO FIRE RESCUE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT

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Account 460 and 461 (Repairs and Maintenance): were increased by \$18,725 based on actual anticipated results for FY14-15. Account 491 (Training): This account was increased by \$6,100.

Account 520.02 (Operating Supplies): Daily Operating Seasonal and miscellaneous supplies were increased by \$8,500.

Account 520.03 (Operating Supplies): Medical supplies were increased by \$3,400.

Account 540 (Capital Outlay-Equipment): This item was increased by \$87,155.

Commissioner Thomas requested Chief Bock prioritize the list, and Donald will get with department. Commissioner Allen recommended one set of gym equipment per year. Last year the fire department really did say they needed the equipment.

Account 440 (Rents & Leases): Station24 Copier/Scanner/Fax is costing the District about \$3,522 per year. Commissioner Allen requested the department check to see if there is a better copier available where the department can piggyback on the state

Account 640 (Capital Outlay-Equipment): Commissioners Mirabella & Allen recommended the department look at some different types of windows-based computers.

Ronnie Fell asked the District if there was a percentage increase they might be looking at for FY 15-16. The response was 3% to 5%. Give what you need, not what you want.

4. **ADJOURN**

Commissioner Beyer made a Motion to adjourn the Budget Workshop at 6:44 p.m., which was seconded by Commissioner Cullen.

DOCUMENTS

KLVFD Proposed Budget FY 2015-2016 dated 150615