

**DAUFUSKIE ISLAND FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
November 19, 2014**

PRESENT:	CHUCK HENRY PAT BEICHLER MIKE BRYANT GEOF JENKINS	CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER
ABSENT:	TOM DICKINSON	VICE CHAIRMAN
OTHERS:	EDWARD BOYS GINNY TEERLINK	CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
GUEST:	LISA WECHSLER, CPA	CROWLEY WECHSLER & ASSOCIATES

- 1. Call to Order:** Henry called the meeting to order at 3:15 PM.
- 2. Minutes:** Henry opened the meeting with a review of the minutes of the September 17, 2014 commissioners' meeting. No one requested changes. The minutes were approved by Jenkins and seconded by Bryant
- 3. Citizen's Comment Period:** No one from the community was present.
- 4. SIGNALS Newsletter:** Boys reported that the Fall/Winter 2014 issue of the DIFD's newsletter, *SIGNALS*, had been distributed to all islanders' mailboxes and bulk copies had been placed in the Mansion at Haig Point and the store at Freeport Marina. Boys stated that, among other topics, *Signals* discussed the improved ISO rating of a PPC 3 island-wide that would be effective on December 1, 2014.
- 5. ISO Report:** Boys stated that the improved ISO rating of a 3 PPC island-wide would be promoted in an article in *The Island Packet* on or about December 1, through flyers distributed to islanders' mailboxes and in an article in Haig Point's weekly "blast" on December 1, in an article in the Thanksgiving issue of *The Front Porch* island newsletter distributed online and in hard copy to islanders during Thanksgiving week. Henry reported that he discussed the rating change and its potential advantages at the recent island council meeting.
- 6. CPR Training:** Boys reported that the volunteer firefighters would have CPR training at the November 24, 2014 training session, that paramedic Brian Brzycki would be the instructor and that the training would be conducted through the American Heart Association.

7. FY'14 Audit: Wechsler reported the financial highlights: The DIFD's assets (\$1,706,979) exceeded its liabilities (\$22,116 – vacation leave accrued) by \$1,684,863. Of this amount, \$48,368 (restricted net assets) represents cash held by Beaufort County for debt service payments, impact fees and 1% fees. Another \$1,382,017 represents the investment in capital assets less depreciation on those assets. The remaining balance of \$254,478 represents unrestricted net position. At the close of the fiscal year, the DIFD's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$205,825, an increase of \$77,552.

Governmental Activities: The DIFD total net position decreased by \$26,806 for several reasons. Personnel expenses increased due to increased salaries and related expenses. Fees are up due to a \$4,500 increase in impact fees. Taxes are up due to an increase in tax millage from 33.07 mills in year 2013 to 54.57 mills in year 2014 (This includes 2 mills for debt service.) This millage increase related to reassessment and a drop in property values. Materials and services are just under the previous year amount expended. Depreciation is consistent with prior year amounts. Miscellaneous revenues are down because no grants were awarded in current year.

Capital Assets: The DIFD's investment in capital assets for its governmental-type activities expense was \$97,929 for the fiscal year.

Debt Administration/Long-Term Obligations: The DIFD has no long-term debt outstanding. The long-term obligation consisted of the accrual for vacation leave (\$22,116).

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget: The FY'15 approved operations budget of \$1,068,509 is to be funded with a tax levy of 54.72 mills estimated to raise \$1,068,509 in taxes. Additionally, 2 mills were approved for debt service which is expected to raise \$39,052.

Subsequent Events: In June 2012, the GASB issued Statement NO. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for pensions, effective for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2014. The statement requires that most changes in the net pension liability be included in pension expense in the period of the change. The DIFD will be implementing this statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 and the beginning net position of the year ended June 30, 2014 will be restated. As of June 30, 2014, the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) has estimated a net pension liability of \$900 thousand obligation, representing unfunded contributions to the SC Retirement System based on current funding policy that will be reported as a liability in the financial statements of the DIFD.

8. September '14 Financial Report: Boys reviewed the financial report stating that expenses were well within budget. The financial report was approved by Beichler and seconded by Bryant.

9. Commissioners/Meetings Updates for Beaufort County Council: Teerlink distributed Conflict of Interest statements for the commissioners' completion and signatures. Boys reviewed the commissioners' meeting dates for 2015. The 2015 dates of the commissioners'

meetings are January 21, March 18, May 20, July 15, September 16, November 18, and December 4. Teerlink advised that this and other information would be sent to Beaufort County Council by the end of November.

10. Memorandums of Understanding (MOU'S) Between the DIFD and Haig Point Inc.:

Boys stated that he had signed MOU's with Haig Point for fuel, food and access in the event of an emergency (e.g. hurricane.)

11. Awards Dinner: Boys stated that the DIFD Annual Awards Dinner would be on December 6, 2014 at the Melrose Beach Club.

12. Other Commissioner Concerns:

Replacement of Equipment: Boys stated that he would be evaluating equipment for replacement and would have it be a subject for a future commissioners' meeting.

13. Next Commissioners' Meeting: The next commissioners' meeting is scheduled for Saturday, December 6, 2014 at the Annual Awards Dinner.

14. Adjournment: The meeting concluded at 5:40 PM.