

Metro-Dade Fire Fighters

09-09-19

8000 N.W. 21st Street, Suite 222, Miami, FL 33122-1605

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Omar Blanco
President

Brian Lynch
First Vice President

Michelle Steele
Second Vice President

Paul Blake
Treasurer

Gabe Nemeth
Secretary



Executive Board Minutes (A-shift)

September 9, 2019

0830

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

President Omar Blanco(present)
1st Vice Pres. Brian Lynch(absent)1045
2nd Vice Pres. Michelle Steele(absent)0852
Secretary Gabe Nemeth(present)
Treasurer Paul Blake(present))

2019
Ralph Fernandez(absent)0855
Lisa Bullard(present)
Christian Chuck(present)
Andre Cruzeta(absent)0856
Dan Cuoco(present))
Nick Digiacomo(present).
Billy McAllister(present)

2020
Richard Andrews(present)
Bridget Keating(absent)0846
Rocky McAllister(absent)
John O'Brien(absent)1000
Lazaro Pereda(present)
Tim Porter(absent)
Rick Ramirez(absent)0836

Executive Assistants: Chris Fink(present), Felipe Lay(present)

Benefits Officer: Claudine Buzzo(present)

Trustees: John Askham, Randy Brown, Jeff Hackman

Meeting called to order at 0835: Pledge of allegiance, moment of silence

Member/Guest: DVP Walt Dix

Previous Meetings Minutes:

Motion by Ramirez to approve the previous E-Board meeting minutes. Second by Pereda, motion passes.

- Member/Guest Presentation:**

DVP Dix – 0839 – Thank you for helping out Jacksonville Local 122 with PEER Support during the search for missing Firefighters. Hurricane Dorian was first time IAFF had in place a go-team with a truck and supplies to assist our members after impacted by the hurricane. The truck has generators, chainsaws, wood, hand tools, tarps. The goal is to dry out our members home to stop any further damage. We have 2 sets of cache one in Tallahassee and the other in Cape Coral. Recognize the FDNY Heart 9/11 Foundation that volunteer and responds with equipment and personnel to help firefighters after disasters.

Correspondence: None

Reports of Officers:

Omar Blanco: President's report –

- Online Store – The store is up and running and selling our breast cancer shirts, additional merchandise will be added
- Hurricane Dorian – Thanks to Gil Velasquez and Randy Brown for setting up the hall to be used as a shelter if it was needed. Initial relief efforts are under way for the Bahamas at the OEM warehouse.
- MDA – rescheduled and TBD
- Online Grievance database – we continue to have issues and they are being addressed. Let us know when you have an issue so it can be resolved.
- Fire Chief – Still no knowledge, interviews have been re-scheduled for this week.
- CBA Discrepancies – language discrepancies have been clarified and we are scheduled to sign in on September 16th at 1300. Spoke with our attorney and the language corrections do not constitute re-negotiations.
- CBA Re-opener – Negotiation meeting with the county on 8/7, we proposed 5% and \$500,000 to the health trust. County had no counter, we requested future meeting dates and they advised they would get back to us.
- Chang ULP- Hearing scheduled for October 15th
- Staffing reduction- CARTS at Dolphin game reduced from 3 to 2; need determine the reason and discuss and determine strategy and take a position.
- Budget Hearing- attended
- Raises rumor – MDPD did not get 1% offered to them.
- IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial Colorado Springs – Barbera, Balboa, Morales will have their names placed on the wall

“Not a Job – A Commitment”

Metro Dade Fire Fighters IAFF Local 1403

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, AFL-CIO, CLC

Gabe Nemeth Secretary's report –

- Meeting 8/17 to finish up By-Laws and should have them available for vote by next meeting.
- The database update is making progress but slow. We currently have about 800 completed.
- Election – Nominations are on 9/24 and acceptance by 10/1 at 1500. A debate night will be determined if it is practical. The committee has been selected (Nemeth, Fundora, Lizzaraga, Pita, Sheridan). Ballots will go out 10/25 and counted 11/22.

Brian Lynch 1st VP report – Grievance committee meeting coming up to resolve some issues.

Michelle Steele 2nd VP report – Thank you to those that covered me while I was out. Grievance committee to meet as we have some reaching 30 day window.

Report of Committees:

Health & Safety –

- The committee requesting that Jairo Rodriguez be the uniform person assigned to resolve our concerns with bunker gear cleaning/replacement.
- Hand sanitizers have been installed in all but 4 stations, still working on re-ordering procedure.
- Department looking at another contract for a direct capture exhaust system as well as maintenance for current AirHawk system. Needs to be added to labor/management as we have concerns.

Benefits Officer – Department still not following the intent of the law. DVP Dix stated that attorneys have all advised that currently only way is to file a grievance or go to circuit court. Essential that benefits office is aware when a this is occurring to keep continuity on our end. Members are encouraged to file a grievance.

Unfinished Business:

Blanco – Discussion on congressional seat run – Intention is to build a firewall that would protect the local from issues that might come up reference duties and priorities with my position as president. Looking to meet with principal officers and develop a plan and report back to the board.

Arkham – Credit card policy – deferred to next meeting

Nemeth – 12th District PEP – finalizing rooms verifying no additions or deletions.

Nemeth – Dahlonga – finalizing cabins and need to verify if anyone else wants to attend.

New Business:

Motion by Blake that any members who has accepted nominations for upcoming union election and attends the retiree picnic and whose trip is paid for by the local, reimburse the local. Second by Bullard

Amended by Ramirez for the purpose of campaigning will not be reimbursed. Second by Bullard.

Roll call vote: For- Steele, Blake, Bullard, B. McAllister, Keating, O'Brien; Against – Blanco, Nemeth, Fernandez, Chuck, Cruzeta, Choco, Andrew's, Ramirez.

Bullard – Need to look at special assignment and the time some are lasting and possibly negotiate a solution during our next contract negotiations.

Motion by Bullard that prior to the By-Laws committee bring recommendation to the next board meeting they look at the Benefits Officer position and that it has a requirement of a 2/3rd vote by the Executive Board prior to removal. Second by Keating, motion passes.

Good and Welfare:

Motion by Cruzeta to adjourn at 1205. Second by Chuck, motion passes.

In Unity,

**Gabe Nemeth, Secretary
Metro-Dade Firefighters
IAFF Local 1403**