

Metro-Dade Fire Fighters

08-27-19

IAFF Local 1403

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, AFL-CIO, CLC
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



UNION MEETING MINUTES

August 27, 2019 (C-Shift)

12:00 PM

2019

Lisa Bullard(A)
Christian Chuck(P)
Andre Cruzeta(A)
Dan Cuoco(P)
Nick Digiacoimo (P)
Ralph Fernandez (A)
Billy McAllister (A)

2020

Richard Andrews(P)
Bridget Keating(A)
Rocky McAllister(P)
John O'Brien(P)
Lazaro Pereda(P)
Tim Porter (P)
Rick Ramirez(A)

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

Meeting called to order at 12:00 PM: Quorum of 63

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of Silence observed: Retired CFO Pat Lyons, Retired FF Mike McFall,
Retired FF Steven Bahr, Retired Lt. Andrew Clavelo, Retired Lt. Robert Maher

President Blanco explained that the downstairs ballroom is being remodeled and that is why we are upstairs. He also spoke to the membership on his decision to run for Congress, with the anticipation of the discussion he turned the meeting over to 1st VP Lynch as the Chair.

Guests: none

Treasurer's Report:(1220)Blake presented Financial report on the 3 corporations and their respective balance

Correspondence: Numerous thank you cards to Firefighter Charities from previous donations.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

2nd VP Steele –

- We just returned from The Redmond/Barbera Conference in Nashville taking classes on Health & Safety firefighter topics
- Longevity Settlement – waiting for county to give us the names of those members they believe to be affected so we can verify the list. Last time frame update might be just a few more weeks. The \$1.8 million settlement will be divided equally among members affected.

Secretary Nemeth – Reminder that we are updating the union database in an effort to improve communications. Please fill out the Form that is being either emailed or being passed around by battalion reps. The Local will be changing over to The IAFF's SMART platform to be used as our website which will have numerous improved options for communication with our members.

Benefits Officer Buzzo –

- Open Enrollment for both Life and Health Insurance will be from October 7th to October 21st.
- Medical bill secondary to your department physical – If you are receiving any please email to Claudine.Buzzo@local1403.org
- Cancer Bill – Effective on July 1st and we unfortunately have our first diagnosis. We are having difficulties with the process as it is new and being developed.

Unfinished Business: none

New Business:

Motion by Jason Suite to suspend President Blanco's activities in such things as contract negotiations to include the re-opener and other activities. Second by Digiacoimo. Discussion.

Motion to table by Nathan Watarz. Second by Errol Johnson. For 39; Against 17. Motion to table passes.

Motion by Javier Ginoris to take his proposal on how we elect the Executive Board members to the By-Laws committee. Second by Paul Blake, Motion passes.

Motion by Miguel Bustamante that no voluntary move be used until all contractual moves are exhausted. Second by Cuoco. The Chair explained that this was already in place in the contract and if it was not being followed to file a grievance. The Chair also explained that the CBA allows 4 moves and it does not matter if they are voluntary or not. Motion withdrawn by the maker.

*Dade County Fire Fighters
"Not a Job – A Commitment"*

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Discussion on CBA Re-opener and the meeting with the county – the Chair explained that the information out in the field reference the meeting being very short is correct. The Local proposed 5% COLA and \$500,000 to the Insurance Trust. The County did not come back with a counter proposal and did not give us dates for future meetings as the local requested. We have formally in writing to have dates scheduled and they have not replied.

Motion by Nick Digiacoimo for a vote of no confidence on the President. Second by Paul Chang. Discussion. Motion to table by Mark Fabian. Second by Errol Johnson. Motion to table fails. Discussion continued. Motion to table by Michelle Steele. Second by Claudine Buzzo. For 52; Against 12. Motion to table passes.

Motion by Nathan Watarz that the local develop an MOU that allows EMT OIC's to ride ALS units. Second by Chris Kavalir. The chair explained that there is currently a career service grievance, and this is a contract issue that can be directed to the negotiations committee. Motion withdrawn by the maker.

Motion by Chris Kavalir to have the uniform stipend be increased to \$375 from \$285. The Chair advised for this to also go to the negotiations committee since it would require language in the contract.

Motion by Paul Chang that the grievance committee meeting be recorded either digitally or in audio. Second by Digiacoimo. Friendly Amendment by Gabe Nemeth to record only the voting whether to proceed to arbitration. Motion passes.

Motion by Clifford Barbick to have members be paid 100% of sick leave upon retirement regardless of years of service. The chair advised that this was a negotiation item and it needed to go to the negotiation committee. Motion withdrawn by the maker.

Motion by Nathan Watarz that if the county does not have proper replacement bunker gear for our members that the members be place on no duty with pay. The Chair advised that this was a negotiation item and it needed to go to the negotiation committee. The Chair further advised that if the Dept cannot properly replace a member's gear, the member should file a grievance. Motion withdrawn by the maker.

Discussion on the recent Station break-ins to members vehicle at the stations. Lynch advised that the President will make contact with management to seek a solution.

Discussion on bringing the grievance committee back to the entire E-board not just the principal officers. The Chair advised the need to bring it to the By-Laws committee for a By-Laws change.

Good and Welfare: none

Motion to adjourn by Paul Blake at 1431. Second by Miguel Bustamante. Motion passes.

In Unity,
Gabe Nemeth, Secretary
IAFF Local 1403

Next Meeting September 24, 2019.

12:00 PM A-Shift