

July 30, 2013 - Regular Meeting  
Agenda Item #6

Subject

Confirm Appointment of Public Safety Director

Approved in Open Session 7/30/13  
Manatee Board of County Commissioners

Briefings

All

Contact and/or Presenter Information

Ed Hunzeker, County Administrator

Action Requested

Confirm appoint of Ron Koper, Jr., as Public Safety Director with an effective date of July 30, 2013.

Enabling/Regulating Authority

Florida Statutes, Chapter 125.74(k) and Manatee County Code, Sections 2-2-23(a)(12) and 3-2-1(c)

Background Discussion

Ron Koper began his career with Manatee County Government in November, 1993, as a Charge Paramedic. He was promoted to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Lieutenant in 1998 and EMS Captain in 2005. With his subsequent appointment to EMS Chief in 2009, Ron continued a longstanding culture of professionalism in the organization. In January, 2012, Ron was appointed Interim Deputy Director for Public Safety, and then in January, 2013, began serving as Interim Director of the Manatee County Public Safety Department.

Ron has developed a good understanding of the needs of the department. His experience in EMS created a multitude of opportunities to interact and understand the other divisions of the department, including the Emergency Communications Center (ECC/911), Emergency Management, Marine Rescue and Animal Services.

He is intuitive, knowledgeable and well spoken and consistently thinks through challenges to ensure the needs of the greater numbers are met. Balancing the staffing and the humanitarian components of a 24/7 operation is challenging and Ron continues to rise to that challenge.

Ron received his degree in Political Science from University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 1990. With that background and his field experience of 22 years, he is well suited to lead this department.

County Attorney Review

Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Explanation of Other

Reviewing Attorney

N/A

Instructions to Board Records

N/A

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name

Budgeted expense in Public Safety Department annual operating budget

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs

N/A