

On March 17 the Fire District conducted a Budget Retreat at the Treasure Coast Public Safety Complex. The Retreat reviewed changes in the Fire District over the last ten years. It also covered the changes made to help meet the budget during these tough financial times. Some of the topics covered:

- Continuing education and the advanced degrees attained by SLCFD personnel.
- The increase in EMS calls over the years (Averaging 5% each year.)
- The operational changes and the improved equipment.
- A review of our current fleet and the schedule to replace apparatus.
- The recent reorganization which added District Chiefs and made several changes in Communications, Training and with the FTOs.
- The impact of the economy in Fire Prevention and how they have reorganized to meet the challenge.
- The money saved by having Buildings and Grounds maintain the SCBA equipment.
- The changes in Communications over the past decade and how they now average 269 calls every 24-hour period.
- The increase in Training hours which is now 65,000 hours in 2009.

The Retreat presentation will be available on the website in the near future. It provides more information on all the improvements at the Fire District.