

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 24, 2007
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

Wednesday, January 24, 2007, 9:00 A.M.
Meeting held at Fire Station No. 4, 403 Boundary Boulevard
Rotonda, Florida

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by the Chairman, Ms. Hawkins. Those present were: Ms. Hawkins, Mr. Kern, Mr. Gerhardt, Mr. Davison, Mr. Seneca, Chief Bonakoske and Ms. Wolff.

Chief Bonakoske presented the Firefighter of the Year award for 2007 to Firefighter Keith Medvar. He read a letter of recommendation written by BC McCord into the record.

Next the Chief presented Terri Jacobs with her 10 years of service pin and congratulated her for her dedication to the District.

OPEN TO PUBLIC:

No one from the public wished to address the Board.

MINUTES OF LAST MONTHS MEETING:

Ms. Hawkins called for a motion to accept the minutes of the Board Meeting of December 20, 2006. Mr. Gerhardt stated the evaluation of the Chief was addressed and tabled at the last meeting and it needs to be added to this agenda. Ms. Hawkins asked for that topic to be added to the agenda. Mr. Kern made a motion to accept the minutes of the Board Meeting of December 20, 2006. It was seconded by Mr. Davison and passed unanimously.

SECRETARY/TREASURERS REPORT:

Ms. Hawkins asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the Treasurer's Report for the month of December 2006. Mr. Gerhardt made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for December 2006, subject to audit. It was seconded by Mr. Kern and passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Relations:

Mr. Gerhardt advised the Board he is working on a program to expand our public relations. He will address this further at the February 2007 Board Meeting.

Buildings and Grounds:

Mr. Davison advised the Board that he and Chief Bonakoske are still working to secure new office space. They should have a decision within the next few weeks.

Mr. Davison stated he and Chief Bonakoske attended the Charlotte County Board of zoning meeting where the new station in East Englewood was discussed.

Mr. Seneca advised the Board he and Mr. Davison were given a tour of the district by the Chief so they could be familiar with the workings of the District. He told the Board he was impressed with the Chief's knowledge and thanked the Chief for the information.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Bonakoske presented the commission with his five year summary report regarding call data. He asked if there were any questions or comments on the written report. There were no questions.

The Chief advised the Board that he has left several messages for Mr. Jordan regarding the brush fire he had expressed concerned about. As of this date he has not heard back from him. He stated that he has received all the information from Charlotte County on this issue. Ms. Hawkins stated that she has also tried to contact him to no avail.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ms. Hawkins addressed the new office space issue. Chief Bonakoske advised the Board that the Edgewater Center space is still available. He and Mr. Davison will be researching this space further and should have more information at the February Board meeting. A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Gerhardt would like to see a report from an architect regarding the plans to renovate this office space and he would also like to see a lease agreement at the February Board Meeting.

Mr. Kern addressed the purchasing of the years of service for the three general employees into FRS. He advised the Board that the final figures have been received. It will cost the district an additional \$3,390.90 to buy these years. Mr. Kern made a motion to pay FRS as billed for prior years of service for BJ Batchelor, Terri Jacobs and Paulette Tomlinson and continue with the project to move from Securian to Social Security and FRS for these three employees. It was seconded by Mr. Gerhardt and passed unanimously. In a prior resolution it was stated that any excess funds from this transfer will be refunded to the individual employees prior to January 2007. Mr. Gerhardt made a motion to amend Resolution Number 06/06-1090 to read, these monies will be paid to the employee by February 1, 2007. It was seconded by Mr. Kern and passed unanimously.

The Chief updated the Board on the closing out of the Securian. A short discussion ensued. Mr. Kern suggested that the Chief send a certified letter to the four remaining people in the Securian plan informing them that this plan is being closed. Mr. Gerhardt would like to see those persons still in that plan given an address, phone number and date the plan will be closed. He would also like them to be notified that the District will no longer pay any fees associated with the plan. Mr. Kern stated he would just like these persons notified of the closing and let them be responsible for contacting Securian directly. The final out come of this discussion was to have the Chief mail letters to the four remaining members of the Securian plan with an address, phone number and projected date the plan will be closed.

Chief Bonakoske would like to have a contract with Mr. Markus to perform to work on the Grid Map and web page. The Chief does not feel this will be a long term contract. A short discussion ensued. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Ms. Hawkins addressed the assessment protest for the Englewood Gardens Mobile Home Park. The Chief advised the Board that the tax assessments rolls did not pick up the mobile home parks. It's the odd ball of the assessment program. The owner of the park requested the Board lower the assessment. A short discussion ensued. Mr. Seneca made a motion to deny the request to lower the assessment for the Englewood Gardens Mobile Home Park. It was seconded by Mr. Gerhardt and it passed unanimously. Ms. Hawkins stated that a certified letter be sent to the owner of the mobile park advising her of the Board decision.

Mr. Gerhardt asked if the item on the agenda addressing the Chief's evaluation could be removed. He would like to this is issue discussed next year when the three new commissioners have had the opportunity to work with him before an evaluation is made. A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Seneca would like a copy of the evaluation form to look over.

The Chief asked the Commission if they had any questions or changes regarding the Inter Local agreement with Charlotte County regarding Station 14. Ms. Wolff addressed her concerns with this contract and advised the Board she will meet with the county attorney to address her concerns. The Chief advised the Board that all move-in expenses will be taken from impact fees. A short discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Bonakoske addressed the Cingular One rental agreement. He advised the Board we received a direct deposit on one room's rental and should be getting the rent for the other within the next few days. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Ms. Hawkins addressed the physicals for the three office personnel. Mr. Kern feels that this is a benefit and should be negotiated at the same time as raises. A lengthy discussion ensued. This issue will be addressed next year.

The next item on the agenda was the disability insurance. Mr. Gerhardt made a motion to discontinue the disability insurance at this time. Mr. Kern explained why the District no longer needs this polity. He explained that the employees are covered by disability insurance under their pension funds. A short discussion ensued. It was seconded by Mr. Seneca and passed unanimously.

Mr. Seneca asked about the status on the Sarasota County Agreement. Chief Bonakoske advised the Board that we are in this contract for another two years but he is working on new terms at this time. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Mr. Seneca asked about the pension plans. He wanted to know who the administrator for the plan was. Mr. Kern advised Mr. Seneca that the State of Florida was. Mr. Kern went on to state that the Firefighter's Pension Trust fund has a board that governs it. Mr. Seneca wanted to know who from this Board dealt directly with pension. Mr. Kern stated that this was one of his committees. Mr. Seneca would like to a copy of the quarterly report from the Firefighters Pension Trust Fund. Mr. Kern said he would ask for this report and present copies to the Board. A lengthy discussion ensued. Ms. Hawkins suggested that Mr. Seneca meet with Chief Bonakoske and Assistant Chief Gaskell regarding this issue and put it on the agenda for the February meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.25 A.M.

_____ DATED: _____
Denise Hawkins, Chairman

_____ DATED: _____
Attest