

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 23, 2007  
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

Wednesday, May 23, 2007, 9:00 A.M.  
Meeting held at Fire Station No. 4, 403 Boundary Boulevard  
Rotonda, Florida

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 A.M. by the Chairman, Ms. Hawkins. Those present were: Ms. Hawkins, Mr. Kern, Mr. Davison, Mr. Seneca, Chief Bonakoske and Ms. Wolff. Mr. Bell was not in attendance.

**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 Meetings of April 11, April 21 and April 25, 2007. Mr. Seneca made a motion to accept the minutes of the Board Meetings of April 11, April 21 and April 25, 2007 as presented. It was second by Mr. Davison and passed unanimously.

Mr. Kern advised the Board that a letter has been received from the IFF regarding the State of Florida Tax Reform. A short discussion ensued.

**SECRETARY/TREASURERS REPORT:**

Ms. Hawkins asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2007. Mr. Davison made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for April 2007 subject to audit. It was seconded by Mr. Seneca and passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Ms. Hawkins advised the Board Mr. Bell has agreed to take over the Grievance and Public Relations committees.

Ms. Hawkins advised the Board the firefighters did a tremendous job on the Prom Promise held at Lemon Bay High School.

**APPARATUS AND VEHICLES:**

Mr. Seneca asked the Chief for the status of the Boat. The Chief stated the committee is in the process of selecting a pump. A short discussion ensued. The committee is also looking at a space in the new park for the boat.

The Chief advised the Board the 1988 E-One has been moved to Station 74 to be used as an additional brush fire vehicle.

Mr. Kern addressed the Impact Fee account and the need to keep eye on the funds in this account since building has slowed down. A short discussion ensued.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT:**

The Chief asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the three months of written reports submitted.

Chief Bonakoske advised the Board because the drought index is so high both Charlotte and Sarasota Counties have put a no sale of fireworks ordinance in effect. This ordinance will be reviewed every two weeks and will be lifted only in conjunction with the drought index.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Davison asked what the next step is to move forward with the securing of a new office space. Ms. Wolff thinks the next step is to get a better idea what the sellers will do for the District, (i.e. repairs and purchase price) if a decision to purchase the property is made. The Board would like more information regarding financing of this property. This information will be available at the next Board meeting. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Ms. Hawkins addressed the reorganization of the department. The Chief presented and explained to the Board his proposal pertaining to the reorganization (the salaries, job description and title). A very lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Davison made a motion to accept the Assistant Chief's position as proposed by the Chief (a copy of this proposal is attached for the record). It was seconded by Mr. Kern and passed with a 3 for and 1 against vote.

Chief Bonakoske advised the Board Charlotte County is asking for a payment of \$81,000.00 to cover the shortage in the building fund for Station 75. They would like an answer as to whether we will be coming up with this money by Friday. The Commissioners requested a history pertaining to the monies and cost increases for this Station. They would like to get concerned citizens and the Chamber of Commerce involved with this issue as soon as soon as more information is available. A lengthy discussion ensued.

The Board took a ten minute break.

Mr. Seneca addressed the press conference to be held at Station 76, May 29, 2007, 10:00 A.M. Ms. Hawkins stated that is still on schedule.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Davison addressed and discussed the site plans for the Training facility. A lengthy discussion ensued. This issue will be discussed further at the June meeting.

The Chief addressed the possible change in the District's health insurance. He advised the Board that Self Insured Plans, the Districts current health insurance carrier, presented their renewal rates with no increase. He also stated that he received a quote from Great Western Insurance. A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Seneca made a motion to appoint Mr. Kern to work with the Chief to get insurance rates. It was seconded by Mr. Davison and passed with a vote of three for and one abstention.

The Chief addressed the maximum cap increase for the assessment rates. A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Kern made a motion to accept an increase of 5.78% on the cap rate for assessments, as permissible by law. It was seconded by Mr. Davison and passed unanimously.

The Chief addressed the Extrication Team and the funding of their registration fee for the next competition. The Board decided that the District would fund their registration fee out of the training budget. All other expenses incurred by the team will be paid through fund raising projects. Ms. Hawkins is going to look into finding a corporate sponsor for the team.

The Chief updated the board on the status of the Securian Pension plan close out. A lengthy discussion ensued. The Chief may ask Terry Lewis to write a letter to one of the participants of the plan, who has not responded to requests for information.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 A.M.

\_\_\_\_\_ DATED: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Denise Hawkins, Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_ DATED: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Attest**

Bbmt May 23, 2007