

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 14, 2008
FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

Wednesday, May 14, 2008, 9:00 A.M.
Meeting held at The Administration Building
516 Paul Morris Drive, Englewood, Florida 34223

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 A.M. by the Chairman, Ms. Hawkins. Those present were: Ms. Hawkins, Mr. Kern, Mr. Davison, Mr. Seneca, Chief Bonakoske and Mrs. Emery.

OPEN TO PUBLIC:

No one from the public wished to address the Board.

MINUTES OF LAST MONTHS MEETING:

Ms. Hawkins asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes from the April 9th Board meeting. Mr. Kern made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 9th Board Meeting as presented. It was seconded by Mr. Bell and passed unanimously.

SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms Hawkins asked if there were any questions or corrections regarding the Treasurer's report for April 2008. Mr. Seneca made a motion to approve the April 2008 Treasurer's Report subject to audit. It was seconded by Mr. Kern and passed unanimously

COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

Mr. Seneca advised the Board that he, Mr. Kern and the Chief will be meeting with the union for negotiations, May 20, 2008, 9:00 A.M. at the Administration Building.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

The Chief asked if there were any questions regarding the written report. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Bonakoske advised the Board that he has received an offer from the Division of Forestry to purchase brush trucks. There are 2 ½ ton trucks available but Assistant Chief Gaskell would like to purchase two 5 ton trucks, as they would fit our needs better. A short discussion ensued.

The Chief advised the Board that the District's health insurance and the VFIS insurance policies will be coming up for renewal June 15, 2008. The increase of the deductible on the VFIS policy from \$500.00 to either \$2,500.00 or \$5,000.00 would save the District a substantial amount of money. The savings would be between \$7,500.00 and \$11,000.00. A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Kern made a motion to increase the deductible for the VFIS policy from \$500.00 to \$5,000.00. It was seconded by Mr. Davison and passed unanimously.

The Chief advised the Board that we had been on the call up list to aide in the Brevard County fires but we have been cancelled and put on stand by.

Mr. Seneca asked when the new vehicle will be delivered. Assistant Chief Gaskell stated that the final inspection will be May 19 and 20th.

Chief Bonakoske stated that most of tower for the training facility has been delivered. A short discussion ensued.

OLD BUSINESS:

The 25th Anniversary awards barbeque was a success. The Board wanted to thank every one involved, especially Assistant Chief Lane.

Chief Bonakoske presented a per diem policy and voucher form for the Board’s review. A lengthy discussion ensued. This will be discussed further at the next board meeting.

The Chief Bonakoske addressed the user fee issue. There had been a bill presented in the legislature to bar these fees but it was defeated. A lengthy discussion ensued. This issue will be discussed further at the next board meeting.

The next item on the agenda was the apprenticeship program. The Chief stated the biggest hurdle with this program is the insurance. He met with Ray Witkowski of VFIS, who advised him that our insurance coverage will be sufficient for this program. The Chief will meet with Lemon Bay High School staff to work on implementing this program.

The Chief, Assistant Chief Gaskell and Chris Krejic, our EMS mod coordinator, met with Dr. James for a second time regarding the Medical Director’s position with the District. A lengthy discussion ensued. They will meet with Dr. James again to finalize an agreement.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Hawkins advised the Board that the year book photos are being taken today and tomorrow. A short discussion ensued.

The Chief advised the Board that the auditors would like to start the audit on May 27th and stay until May 29th. He asked the Board if the May 28th Board Meeting could be cancelled and rescheduled. After a short discussion the Board decided to change the meeting date from May 27th to June 4th and cancel the June 11th Board Meeting.

Mr. Bell asked Mr. Kern how the union negotiations are progressing. Mr. Kern advised him they are going through the contract article by article and it is progressing fine.

Mr. Seneca wanted to set up a meeting with the Chief and Assistant Chief Gaskell prior to the next negotiations meeting to discuss the articles in the contract that are to be addressed. The Chief and Mr. Seneca decided to meet at 9:00 A.M., May 19th. Mr. Kern and Assistant Chief Gaskell stated he would not be available on May 19th.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 A.M.

_____ DATED: _____
Denise Hawkins, Chairman

_____ DATED: _____
Attest

