

**MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 22, 2008**  
**FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF**  
**THE ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

Wednesday, October 22, 2008, 9:00 A.M.  
Meeting held at the Administration Building  
516 Paul Morris Drive, Englewood, FL 34223

The meeting was called to order at 8:59 A.M. by the Vice Chairman Mr. Kern. Those present were Mr. Kern, Mr. Bell, Mr. Davison, Mr. Seneca, Chief Bonakoske and Ms. Emery. Ms. Hawkins was not in attendance.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC:**

No one from the public wished to address the Board.

**MINUTES FROM LAST MONTHS MEETING:**

Mr. Kern asked if there were any questions, corrections or additions to the minutes from the Board Meeting of October 8, 2008. Mr. Bell made a motion to accept the minutes from the Board Meeting of October 8, 2008. It was seconded by Mr. Seneca and passed unanimously.

**SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Kern asked if there were any question or corrections regarding the Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2008. Mr. Davison made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2008 subject to audit. It was seconded by Mr. Bell and passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

There were not committee reports given.

**CHIEF'S REPORT:**

Chief Bonakoske asked if there were any questions on the written Chief's report. The commission asked several questions.

Mr. Kern asked about the status on the Fifth/Third Bank line of credit. The Chief stated that we have to advise them of the amount. After that the paper work will be prepared. A lengthy discussion ensued.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Assistant Chief Lane presented and explained to the Board a detailed projection regarding the running of the Training Facility, (copy attached for the record). A lengthy discussion ensued.

Mr. Kern addressed the next item on the agenda, the Chief's Contract. Mr. Kern presented a copy of a proposed three year contract for Chief Bonakoske minus the information regarding wages. A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Bell made a motion to give the Chief the same pay raise and increases in benefits as the rest of the staff (i.e. 3% salary increase, an additional holiday, Columbus Day and a 3% increase in longevity); the wage increase is for one year. It was seconded by Mr. Davison and passed unanimously. Mr. Davison made a motion to accept the employment agreement as modified (copy attached for the record). It was seconded by Mr. Bell and passed unanimously.

Mr. Kern made a motion to cancel the meeting of October 28, 2008. It was seconded by Mr. Seneca and passed unanimously.

Ms. Emery notified the Board that the District have been officially sued by the entity that owns Gasparilla Marina. She presented and explained in detail the paper work received from the Draper Law Firm. Ms. Emery advised the Board that she will be working with Lewis, Longman and Walker as co-counsel in this suit. The Chief stated the Staff has been advised not to comment or give out any information regarding this case; all requests should be forwarded to Ms. Emery. A lengthy discussion ensued.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Chief Bonakoske advised the Board that the contract with Davidson, Jamieson & Cristini, P.L., the District's auditors, expired on September 30, 2008. After a lengthy discussion the Board decided that the Chief would contact Davidson, Jamieson & Cristini, P.L. and request they submit a new 3 year contact.

Mr. Kern reminded the Board that the memorial service for former commissioner Burton B. Witham, Jr. will be held Saturday, October 25, 2008, 2:00 P.M. at the United Methodist Church in Englewood.

Mr. Kern addressed the vacancy that will occur on the Board after the November 4, 2008 election. There is no candidate running for Mr. Bell's seat. Ms. Emery stated that the Board should wait to address and fill this seat until after the election when the vacancy actually occurs. Ms. Emery stated that the Board can either appoint or advertise for a candidate to fill this vacancy.

Mr. Seneca advised the Board that he will not be in attendance at the next Board Meeting.

Mr. Kern advised the Board that in the last week he has made it a point to have lunch with each shift commander. He advised the Board that he was informed on two separate occasions by different firefighters that they have been told they are not allowed to talk to the Commissioners because it is a violation of the chain of command. He stated that this is not true and the Board needs to be aware of this. A short discussion ensued.

Mr. Seneca addressed the boat not being under cover and made several suggestions regarding keeping the boat in service. Assistant Chief Gaskell will get a price on a cover for the boat. This will be discussed at the next Board Meeting.

Mr. Kern asked Assistant Chief Gaskell for the of the end year report from the pension fund.

The Board decided to change the next Board Meeting from November 12, 2008 to November 5, 2008 at 9:00 A.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 A.M.

\_\_\_\_\_ DATED: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Jeff Kern, Vice Chairman**

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

