

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 28, 2009
FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

Wednesday, January 28, 2009, 9:00 A.M.
Meeting held at the Administration Building
516 Paul Morris Drive, Englewood, FL 34223

The meeting was called to order at 9:00. by the Chairman, Ms. Hawkins. Those present were: Ms. Hawkins, Mr. Bray, Mr. Bell, Mr. Davison, Mr. Seneca, Chief Bonakoske and Ms. Sara Boeller.

OPEN TO PUBLIC:

Joseph Blaze a resident of East Englewood addressed public safety. He advised the Board that the members of the Englewood East Crime Watch took a tour of Station 75 which was conducted by Lt. Raymond Bauer. A lengthy discussion ensued.

MINUTES FROM LAST MONTHS MEETING:

Ms. Hawkins asked if there were any questions, corrections or additions to the minutes from the Board Meeting of December 10, 2008. Mr. Seneca made a motion to accept the minutes from the Board Meeting of December 10th, 2008 as presented. It was seconded by Mr. Bray and passed unanimously.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Hawkins asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report for November 2008. Mr. Seneca made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for November 2008 subject to audit. It was seconded by Mr. Bell and passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ms. Hawkins advised the Board that she has a letter from the Englewood Water District regarding the denial of the waver for the \$7,064.25 "Capital Capacity Charges" (impact fee) for the Training Facility. A lengthy discussion ensued. A copy of this letter is attached for the record.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

Mr. Davison advised the Board that the renovations to Stations 74 are almost complete and the station looks great. Commissioner Davison stated that he went to the Training Facility and is amazed at the progress that has been made. He is proud of this facility and of the work done by both the men and Assistant Chief Lane.
Mr. Davison advised the Board that he would like to finish the renovations to the Administration Building.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Assistant Chief Gaskell addressed Station 74's progress. He advised the Board that the project is wrapping up and with the cuts made they are still going to be approximately \$1,000.00 over budget. He would like to purchase the same type of table that is at Station 75. A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Bell made a motion to authorize Mr. Davison to increase the budgeted amount as required to finalize the renovations to Station 74. It was seconded by Mr. Bray and passed unanimously.

Assistant Chief Lane advised the Board he anticipates the majority of the work at the training facility to be completed within two weeks and stated that the State inspection was requested yesterday. He is projecting the Grand Opening for the middle of February 2009 and barring any unforeseen problems it should be under budget.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief Bonakoske addressed the short fall in the receipt of Impact Fees and advised the Board that the budget will be addressed and adjusted to reflect these shortfalls. A short discussion ensued.

The Chief advised the Board that there was a meeting regarding the qualifications for the Lieutenants Exam. Lt. Fanti advised the Board that the contract has to be opened to address the qualification and how they will affect the incentives. A lengthy discussion ensued. The test will be conducted, February 16 and 17, 2009.

The Chief addressed the vacant lots and asked Mr. Seneca if he was requesting a fair market value for these lots or the taxable value. Chief Bonakoske advised Mr. Seneca that he has the taxable value of the lots but does not have the fair market value. Mr. Seneca stated he was really concerned, that if the District got into a financial bin, would we be able to use these lots as collateral for a loan. The Chief advised him that banks would not use real property as collateral but they use the projected assessment income to secure a loan.

The Chief addressed the handling of the instructors that will be working at the Training Facility. An extremely lengthy discussion ensued where Chief Bonakoske, Assistant Chief Lane and Assistant Chief Gaskell explained the pros and cons of starting up another entity as opposed to keeping everything within the District. The Chief advised the Board that something has to be done soon to be in place by the time the Training Facility is opened. The Board would like the insurance carriers to be in attendance at the January 28, 2009 Board Meeting to get a definitive answer on how the District should proceed. They would also like a list of pros and cons at that time regarding the forming of a new entity.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board addressed the vacant seat on the pension board. This is the seat that is appointed by the Board of Commissioners. Firefighter Chris Davis, who was in attendance, stated that he would like to be considered for this position. Mr. Bray advised the Board he would like to see someone that is not a firefighter fill the seat. He stated that Mr. Frank Calderone had expressed an interest in filling that position. Mr. Seneca said that he has spoken with Mr. Calderone and he told him he was interested in filling that seat Lt. Fanti also stated that he has spoken with Mr. Calderone and he also informed him of his interest in filling the seat. Ms Hawkins would like something in writing from him where he expresses his interest in filling that seat. A lengthy discussion ensued. Lt. Fanti will have a letter from Mr. Calderone by next week expressing his interest in filling the vacant seat on the Pension Board. Mr. Bray made a motion to appoint Mr. Calderone to fill the vacant seat on the pension board. It was seconded by Mr. Bell as passed unanimously.

The Chief addressed the registration for the Florida Association of Special District conference in St. Augustine, FL, June 2-4, 2009 C. He would like the Board's approval to proceed with the registration process. Mr. Bray made a motion to authorize the Commissioners to attend the Special District's Conference, June 2 – 4, 2009 in St. Augustine, Florida and gave Chief Bonakoske the authority to start the registration process. It was seconded by Mr. Seneca as passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 A.M.

_____ DATED: _____
Denise Hawkins, Chairman

DATED: _____

Attest

Bdmt Jan 14, 2009