

**MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 16, 2010**  
**FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF**  
**THE ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

Wednesday, December 16, 2010, 9:00 A.M.  
Meeting held at the Englewood Area Fire Control District's  
Station 74  
403 Boundary Blvd., Rotonda, Florida 33947

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 A.M. by the Chairman, Ms. Hawkins. Those present were: Ms. Hawkins, Mr. Davison, Mr. Bray, Mr. Kern, Mr. Bacon, Chief Gorski and Ms. Emery.

Ms. Hawkins called for a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Seneca, who passed away. There will be a memorial service held on December 30<sup>th</sup> at the Lemon Bay Funeral Home.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC:**

Pastor Phillip Williams, senior pastor of Suncoast Worship Center, addressed the Board regarding the assessments on churches. He feels it is a Board issue not a State or Federal issue and the Board has the power to solve this problem. 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 November 10, 2010. Mr. Bray made a motion to accept the minutes from the Board Meeting of November 10, 2010 as presented. It was seconded by Mr. Bacon and passed unanimously.

**SECRETARY REPORT:**

Ms. Hawkins asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Reports for October and November 2010. Mr. Davison made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports for October and November 2010 subject to audit. It was seconded by Mr. Kern and passed unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE COMMENTS:**

There were no committee comments at this time.

**CHIEF'S REPORT:**

Chief Gorski advised the Board that Monday he was on WENG Radio discussing fire safety. A lengthy discussion ensued.

The Chief discussed the mutual aid agreements with Boca Grande and Sarasota County, which have been submitted.

The Chief gave the Commissioners an updated list of Board Meeting dates for 2011.

The Chief gave each Commissioner a copy of the customer service reports that had been received, all with positive responses.

Chief Gorski invited the Board to the Bike Presentation at Station 71, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 P.M. The firefighters purchased bikes for local children in need.

The Chief advised the Board the CPR Instructor class has been completed. We can now give CPR classes to the public. Two have already been scheduled.

Chief Gorski updated the Board regarding the dedication of Sarasota County's Station 10 in his honor and gave them a copy of the program.

All the fire fighting personnel have had their EMT licenses renewed until December 1, 2012.

The Chief advised the Board of the need for a Fire Inspector/Fire Marshall. He explained the benefits of this position and its ability to be a revenue generating opportunity. A lengthy discussion ensued. Chief Gorski would like to address this further at the next Board Meeting. Mr. Bacon asked the Chief to put together a plan regarding the financial impact this would have on the District.

Chief Gorski addressed the Board's committee assignments. He feels the Board hired him to address the inner workings of the District as the administrator. He feels the Board can set goals in each area for him to follow. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Chief Lane advised the Board that the third academy graduation was held on December 4. The next class will be starting in January.

Chief Lane updated the Board regarding the progress on the repairs to the CAF system. The second engine is in Ocala at this time. He advised the Board that the ladder truck has an issue with a bolt backing out. E-One will run tests to see if the ladder can be used. Chief Lane should have an answer on this issue at the next Board Meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Chief Gorski presented a power point presentation explaining the process needed to change from non ad valorem assessment to an ad valorem tax. Copy of his presentation is attached for the record. A lengthy discussion ensued. He feels we need to conduct an in depth economic impact survey and get public input through numerous meetings.

The Chief addressed the Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating for the District which is 5/9 at this time. He went on to explain what that means. The last time this rating was addressed was in 1998 and since that time there have been a lot of improvements completed in the District. If this rating is lowered it could result in a decrease in home owner's fire insurance. A lengthy discussion ensued. A copy of the Chief's presentation is attached for the record.

The Chief and Ms. Emery have been working with GSG on updating our information from one year of data to five years of data. He advised the Board that with non ad valorem assessments the information should be updated every couple. A lengthy discussion ensued. The Chief has checked with surrounding districts to see their methodology and we may want look at a tiered system and other forms of revenue, i.e. user fees. Mr. Bacon would like the Chief to check into the 501 3c's in the District. A copy of the Chief's presentation is attached for the record.

Mr. Bacon made a motion to move the Open to the Public portion of the meeting to the end of the meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Kern. Mr. Bacon withdrew his motion.

Mr. Bacon made a motion to allow the public to speak at the end of this meeting and from this meeting forward have the Open to the Public portion of the meeting at both the beginning and the end of the meetings, with a time limit set for three minutes per speaker. It was seconded by Mr. Bray and passed unanimously.

The Chief addressed the Fairway Vistas Development that is within the Myakka Pines Golf Club. The developer has set aside land for a fire station. This development is anticipated to start in 2014. A short discussion ensued.

The Chief updated the Board regarding the volunteer program and explained that the oral interviews have been conducted and we have 14 applicants to do background checks on, as soon as this is completed the final selections will be done and they will be introduced at a Board Meeting.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC:**

Ms. Hawkins recognized Mr. Peter Watson. Mr. Watson addressed the ad valorem method verses the non ad valorem method of taxing/assessing. He feels changing to an ad valorem method is a waste of time, effort and money. In his opinion we should stay with the non ad valorem assessment system. He also likes the tiered system. Mr. Watson also stated that he did not hear anything about cutting spending or the size of the budget overall. He would ask that the Board consider looking at the budget first before deciding upon a methodology. A short discussion ensued.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 A.M.

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

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

**Bdmt December 16, 2010**