

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2011
FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

Wednesday, February 9, 2011, 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 9:00 A.M. by the Chairman, Ms. Hawkins. Those present were: Ms. Hawkins, Mr. Davison, Mr. Bray, Mr. Kern, Mr. Bacon and Chief Gorski. Ms. Emery was not in attendance.

OPEN TO PUBLIC:

No one from the public wished to address the Board at this time.

FIVE YEAR SERVICE PIN AWARD:

Chief Gorski recognized FF Dustin Henry and presented him with his five years of service pin.

JOURNEYMEN CERTIFICATES:

Chief Gorski recognized the following firefighters who complete the journeymen program:
FF Jonathan Dausy, FF Dustin Henry, FF Shane Williams, FF Chris Miller, FF Derek Kemerer, FF Jonathan Faulkner and FF Lee Pasick (not in attendance).

MINUTES FROM LAST MONTHS MEETING:

Ms. Hawkins asked if there were any questions, corrections or additions to the minutes from the Board Meeting of January 26, 2011. Mr. Bacon made a motion to accept the minutes from the Board Meeting of January 26, 2011 as presented. It was seconded by Mr. Kern and passed unanimously.

SECRETARY REPORT:

No correspondence had been received.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

There were no Commissioner comments at this time.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

The Chief advised the Board that he met with Chief Pete Reilly from Little Gasparilla Fire Rescue to discuss the Mutual Aid/Automatic Aid agreement. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Chief Gorski advised the Board that the 12 volunteers have started. The Chief commended Steve Riley from the Englewood Sun on the article he did regarding the volunteers.

The Chief advised the Board that we have a volunteer, David Elson working at the Administration Building revamping our inspection files.

On February 1st Sarasota County had their surplus furniture distribution. We were fortunate enough to get file cabinets, chairs and office supplies. All items were received at no cost to the District.

The Chief updated the Commissioners regarding building within the District. He advised them that a new development "Gateway Square" at the corner of Indiana Avenue and Old Englewood Road was projected. A lengthy discussion ensued.

The Chief advised the Board that since the last commission meeting we had four working fires. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Gorski updated the Board regarding House Bill #303 that pertains to all pensions. This bill has been withdrawn. The Governor is also addressing pensions. A lengthy discussion ensued.

The Chief has a meeting scheduled with the Charlotte County Property Appraiser for February 17th at 10:00 A.M. to introduce him self and discuss parcels that have not been assessed within the District.

The Chief addressed the Citizens Academy which we are partnering with Local 2548. Each Commissioner should have received a letter inviting them to participate in this first class. Also invited are Commissioners from other counties and Representative Vern Buchanan. A lengthy discussion ensued.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Chief updated the Board in detail regarding cost comparisons of non ad valorem assessment rates with neighboring departments. A lengthy discussion ensued. Copies are attached for the record.

Chief Gorski updated the Board regarding the Fire Inspector's position. He advised the Board that he spoke with Fire Marshall, Jane Ross from Sarasota County and we may want to contract with Sarasota County to do our inspections. This would be at no cost to the District. They would set up our inspection program and collect the fees until we are able to hire an inspector. The Chief will ask Ms. Ross to attend a Board Meeting to discuss this issue. A lengthy discussion ensued. The Board authorized the Chief to work up a draft for an inter-local agreement with Sarasota County. This would be presented at the next Board Meeting. The Chief advised the Board that we need to adopt the Fire Prevention Code prior to securing Sarasota County's services.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Gorski updated the Board regarding the costs of repairs versus replacement (both new and used) of the two engines; the ladder truck (truck 71) and the teleboom (copies attached for the record). Estimated costs for repairs to Truck 71 would be \$70,050.00. The value of this truck is approximately \$50,000 with the ladder operational and without the ladder the value is \$15,000.00 to \$18,000.00. The estimated repair cost for the Reserve Engine is \$19,000.00. The value of this truck is approximately \$15,000.00 and \$25,000.00 with repairs and without the repairs the value is \$10,000.00 and \$15,000.00. The cost to purchase a new ladder truck is approximately \$997,787.00 without equipment and a new engine would cost approximately \$425,000.00 also without equipment. A lengthy discussion ensued. The Chief advised the Board that we can purchase two used engines from Sarasota County for the cost of \$307,500.00 (ladder truck \$265,000.00 and the engine \$42,500.00) fully equipped, except for air packs. He advised the Board that he knows the history of both these engines. The Chief presented three options. Option 1, is repair the current engines for a cost of approximately \$89,000.00, Option 2, is to purchase new engines (Chief does not recommend) and Option 3, Replace with used engines. The Chief also explained that we could sell the current engines on Gov Deals for approximately \$25,000.00 this would be for the both engines. The Chief recommended choosing Option 3 for the replacement of the two engines. Chief Gorski has looked at short term borrowing for five years with an interest rate of 3.7%. We could take the money out of the reserves to purchase the engines and replace it when the loan is secured. Mr. Bacon asked several questions regarding repairing these engines. He would like to put a portion of the reserve monies on the purchase and finance the balance. A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Bray made a motion Chief Gorski secure a loan in the amount of \$307,500.00, total purchase price of both engines and purchase the two vehicles from Sarasota County. Prior to the loan being secured the money would be taken out of the reserves and replaced when the loan is secured. It was seconded by Mr. Davison. Mr. Bacon asked if we were going to finance the entire purchase amount or are we going to use some of the reserve monies. Ms. Hawkins called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4 to 1.

The Board recessed from 10:40 A.M. to 10:53 A.M.

Chief Gorski presented and explained a survey regarding the non ad valorem assessment methodology comparisons from the surrounding communities. Copy of survey attached for the record. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Chief Gorski received an email from Homeland Security regarding surplus equipment from the Federal Government. He has registered the District so we can take advantage of this program.

The Chief presented and explained the 2010 Annual Report. This report detailed all our accomplishments and procedures put in place for the year 2010. Copy attached for the record.

OPEN TO PUBLIC:

Mr. Allen Bell, former Commissioner for the District addressed the Board and stated that after all that was accomplished in the year 2010, it's hard to believe he was beaten in the election.

Mr. Jon Bednerik, CEO of the Englewood/Cape Haze Chamber of Commerce, invited all the Commissioners and staff to the Hob Nob that will be held at the Tringali Center on the evening of February 24, 2011. He said we could bring the new engine to the Expo for display.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

_____ DATED: _____
Denise Hawkins, Chairman

_____ DATED: _____
Attest

Bdmt February 9, 2011