

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 11, 2011
FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

Wednesday, May 11, 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, Chief Gorski and Ms. Emery.

OPEN TO PUBLIC:

Chief Gorski read a letter into the record from Christ Lutheran Church of Englewood (copy attached for the record). A lengthy discussion ensued. The Chief advised the Board that if the churches want to change the exemptions for non ad valorem assessments it must be done in Tallahassee not with the District.

Mr. Russell Peterson addressed the Board regarding the church assessments.

Mr. Louis Douat thanked the Board for all their work and asked if anyone is charged a user fee for accidents, etc. The Chief stated that the District does not charge user fees. A short 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 April 27, 2011. Mr. Bray made a motion to accept the minutes from the Board Meeting of April 27, 2011 as presented. It was seconded by Mr. Davison and passed unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

No correspondence had been received.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

There were no Commissioner comments as this time.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Gorski recapped and addressed several items as follows:

At the next Board Meeting five firefighters will be receiving their five year certificates and pins.

The first town hall meeting was held yesterday. This meeting had great media advertisement but only one member of the public attended.

The Chief updated the Board regarding the issues being addressed in Tallahassee.

Foster and Foster's Doug Lozen advised the Chief that by mid to late May the information requested regarding the firefighters' pension should be ready. At that time Mr. Lozen will be in attendance to address questions from the Commissioners. The Chief suggested the Commissioners submit any questions for Mr. Lozen to him prior to his attendance at the Board Meeting.

May 7th there was an award ceremony at the VFW. Lt. Justin Blais was awarded Firefighter of the Year. Also, on that date the Knights of Columbus presented a plaque to the District in recognition of the service to the community.

The renewal of the CPR has cards been completed with the only cost involved being the actual cost of the cards from the American Heart Association.

The protocol testing with Dr. Newman has been completed, with the average score for all three shifts being 97.48%.

Another way to be efficient with costs would be to purchase fuel from Sarasota and Charlotte Counties in lieu of using commercial retailers. This would be a large saving to the District.

The Sarasota County surplus furniture give away was held on May 2nd. The Chief stated that we were able to secure several thousand dollars worth of furniture for the district.

EMS Appreciation week is May 15th through May 21st. The Englewood Community Hospital will be hosting a BBQ dinner from 4 P.M. to 6 P.M., May 17, 18 and 19 in recognition of EMS providers.

Brush truck 71 had a blow out in the front tire while heading to the shop off Laurel Road. FF Terry Miller kept control of the vehicle avoiding injury to the occupants.

The Chief received a call from Mr. Keith Rowley of Rowley Insurance requesting information from ISO regarding Palm Island's fire protection, i.e. paid vs. a volunteer department. The Chief will be discussing fire protection on Palm Island with Chief DiDio from Charlotte County. Regarding this discussion and recommendations Ms. Hawkins abstained from any comment.

Mr. Bacon asked if the DROP issue has been dropped by the Firefighters' Pension Trust Fund or just postponed. The Chief advised Mr. Bacon that he has been advised that this issue has been dropped.

The Board took a recess from 10:05 A.M. to 10:17 A.M.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief Gorski discussed the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) portion of the Strategic Plan for FY 2012 Budget Year in detail. A lengthy discussion ensued. The Chief advised the Board that at the May 25th Board Meeting the Goals of the Strategic Plan will be discussed.

The Chief would like to bring summaries of various categories within the budget for the commission to review.

Mr. Bacon stated that he would like to be notified when the next union negotiations meeting is being held so he can attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business to discuss.

OPEN TO PUBLIC:

No one wished to address the Board at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 A.M.

_____ DATED: _____
Denise Hawkins, Chairman

_____ DATED: _____
Attest