

**MINUTES FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 13, 2023**  
**FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF**  
**THE ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

Wednesday, December 13, 2023, 9:00 A.M.  
Meeting held at  
Englewood Fire Administration Office  
516 Paul Morris Drive, Englewood, FL 34223

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Chairman, Mr. Davison. Those present were: Mr. Benedetti, Mr. Knauf, Lori Wellbaum, and Chief Easton. Absent: Mr. Kimberlin and Mr. Loisell.

**CONSENT AGENDA FROM LAST MONTHS MEETING**

Mr. Davison asked if there were any questions, corrections, or additions to the consent agenda from the 11/15/2023 Board Meeting. Mr. Benedetti made a motion to accept the consent agenda and financials from 11/30/2023 subject to audit. It was seconded by Mr. Knauf and the motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No Public Comment

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Chief Easton updated the Board on the Fire Prevention/Community Risk Reduction expansion project. He met with Charlotte County regarding EAFCD handling new construction plan reviews and inspections within the district. It's very early in the discussion but he's hopeful the county will be as receptive as Sarasota County. A small discussion ensued.

Chief Easton updated the Board about the new generators. All three (3) units have been installed; final touches and testing are still in progress, but he is pleased that the project has ended.

Chief Easton updated the Board about the collection of fire impact fees for the district. The Charlotte County Board of Commissioners has approved and will begin collecting on behalf of the district starting January 1, 2024. Chief Easton added that he's spoken to Chief Rathbun with Sarasota County to establish the same process with their county but it's still very preliminary now.

Chief Easton updated the Board about the Englewood Fire Training Center well monitoring. He was recently contacted by Attorney Ron Noble, and he advised that the DEP will now be funding the well monitoring. Chief Easton met with Englewood Water District regarding this change; they approved and signed an agreement to allow the DEP access to the site. A small discussion ensued.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chief Easton spoke to the Board about a proposed committee bill that would limit the special district commissioner term to 12 years. Chief Easton confirmed that it was filed and is now in Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Specials Districts Subcommittee for study. Chief Easton will keep the Board informed of the situation. A small discussion ensued.

Chief Easton confirmed with the Board that six (6) new Firefighter/EMT's started on November 27, 2023, and have begun their four (4) week orientation. Chief Easton also introduced the new Administrative Assistant, Bernadette Kerr. A small discussion ensued.

Chief Easton spoke to the Board about two (2) assets that require disposal as they are no longer operable. Chief Easton requested to dispose the 2006 Ford F-250 and the 2009 Generac Generator. Mr. Benedetti made a motion to approve the disposal of both items. It was seconded by Mr. Knauf and the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Easton spoke to the Board about changing some of the 2024 meeting dates. A small discussion ensued. Mr. Benedetti made motion to approve the following meeting changes. It was seconded by Mr. Knauf and the motion passed unanimously.

- January 24, 2024, moved to January 17, 2024
- February 28, 2024, moved to February 21, 2024
- May 22, 2024, moved to May 15, 2024

Chief Easton spoke to the Board about the roofing repairs from Hurricane Ian. He and Chief Bennett have selected American Heating, Cooling & Roofing to make the repairs to the Administration building, Station 72, Station 73, Station 74 & Station 75. The repairs are to be completed approximately February 2024.

Chief Easton spoke to the Board about hosting citizen academy. He went onto describe it would be for a single day; sometime in February and would be available to officials in Manatee, Charlotte & Sarasota County. He also added that he would also like to offer an eight (8) week citizen academy to local business owners and local officials. A small discussion ensued.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

No public comment at this time.

**DVP COMMENT:**

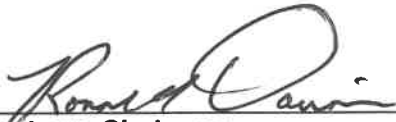
No DVP comment at this time.

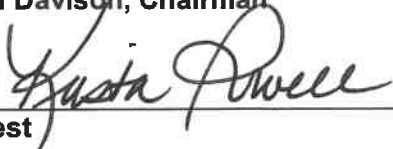
**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Mr. Davison spoke about how pleased he is with the department's growth and wished everyone a very happy holiday.

Mr. Benedetti welcomed Bernadette Kerr to your department. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36am

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ DATED: 1/17/2024  
 Ron Davison, Chairman

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ DATED: 1/17/24  
 Attest