

MINUTES FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2022
FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

Wednesday, November 16, 2022, 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. Kimberlin, Mr. Loisell, Mr. Knauf, Lori Emery and Chief Easton. Mr. Benedetti was absent.

CONSENT AGENDA FROM LAST MONTHS MEETING

Mr. Davison asked if there were any questions, corrections or additions to the consent agenda from the October 26, 2022 Board Meeting. Mr. Kimberlin made a motion to accept the consent agendas. It was seconded by Mr. Knauf and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Knauf made a motion to accept the financials subject to audit. It was seconded by Mr. Loisell and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comment

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chief Easton updated the Board on the Florida Special Fire District Performance Review. Fitch and Associates will start after the first of the year; need the remaining runs for the year for statical purposes. A small discussion ensued.

Chief Easton updated the Board on the Brush Truck; the Skid Unit is scheduled for installation/mount in plus, other preparations will be made for the upcoming brush fire season. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton updated the Board on the current Fire Impact Fee Study with Raftelis. He hasn't received the final reports yet however, he believes Raftelis representatives will present the reports at the next Board meeting. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton updated the Board about the station security. He explained that this project has been suspended due to Hurricane Ian storm damage.

Chief Easton updated the Board about the lightning protection for Station 75. The purchase order has been signed and submitted. The lightning rod is expected to be installed first and then the surge protection. Chief Easton is feeling hopeful that this project will be complete by the end of December.

Chief Easton updated the Board about the new generators. The purchase order has been submitted to Florida Power Supply and the project has been placed into priority status. Chief Easton also confirmed that the generator selected for Station 71, 60KW is an adequate size for that station. Chief Easton also has reviewed the contract with Crown Castle for restrictions and requested to utilize the concrete pad inside the tower property. A small discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Easton spoke to the Board about hiring another Firefighter/Paramedic. The new employee who is currently employed with Charlotte County Fire & EMS however, he resides in Englewood and applied to work in the Englewood District. He will give his notice and is scheduled to start with EFD on November 23, 2022. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton informed the Board that he has received nine (9) applicants for the Deputy Chief positions; one (1) was disqualified. Chief Easton has organized an interviewing panel for November 29, 2022 and invited the Battalion Chiefs to sit in during the interviews. He will update the Board on the candidates at the next Board meeting. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton updated the Board about the Fire Marshal position. The application period will expire Friday, November 18, 2022. Chief Easton has only received one applicant at this time. He will update the Board on the candidates at the next Board meeting. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton spoke to the Board about a recent update he received from the insurance company concerning the damage sustained to the Assistant Chief vehicle. The insurance company has totaled the vehicle therefore, it will need replaced. Chief Easton added that it's a two (2) year wait for replacements. Chief Easton will be looking in outer counties; possibly something used. Chief Easton also spoke about others concerns for the take home vehicle policy. He went onto explain, the policy has expired and questions the need for a new policy. Chief Easton also confirmed that the new Fire Inspector would not have a take home vehicle unless he is Certified Fire Investigator. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton reminded the Board about the upcoming Fire Academy graduation; Thursday, December 15th at 6:00pm.

Chief Easton spoke to the Board about an employee currently out on workers comp. He explained that the District worker's comp has denied the claim as it's been founded to be a former condition that was filed with the employee's former employer. Chief Easton has spoken with the Districts' labor attorney regarding the matter. The employee has been placed on Sick Leave. The employee has also obtained an attorney. A small discussion ensued.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Patrick Maley inquired about the propane supplies at the fire stations. Chief Easton confirmed that some, not all stations have back up tanks.

DVP COMMENT:

No DVP comment at this time.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Mr. Davison spoke about how excited he was about the administrative changes & growth; speaking of the two new Deputy Chief positions. He also expressed his appreciation to Chief Easton for all his continued hard work but was looking forward to seeing Chief Easton get the additional support he needs. Mr. Davison also expressed his agreeance with the Fire Inspector position being redefined to a Fire Marshal position.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am.