

**MINUTES FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 25, 2023**  
**FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF**  
**THE ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

Wednesday, October 25, 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. Kimberlin, Mr. Loisell, Mr. Knauf, Lori Wellbaum, and Chief Easton.

**CONSENT AGENDA FROM LAST MONTHS MEETING**

Mr. Davison asked if there were any questions, corrections, or additions to the consent agenda from the 08/23/2023 and 09/15/2023 Board Meetings. Mr. Benedetti made a motion to accept the consent agendas and financials from 08/23/2023 and 09/15/2023 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 Fire Prevention/Community Risk Reduction expansion project. He explained the project has stalled pending meetings with the county officials plus, the onboarding of the new Fire Inspector.

Chief Easton updated the Board on the Fire Inspector position. Chief Easton made a job offer to one of the candidates yesterday and is waiting to hear back. He also explained that should the candidate decline the offer; the second runner up will be offered the position.

Chief Easton updated the Board on the security camera installations. He proudly explained that the project is complete, and all the cameras have been installed at all the stations and the administration building.

Chief Easton updated the Board on the inter-local agreement with Charlotte County to collect impact fees on behalf of EAFCD. The agreement needs to be signed by the EAFCD Board Chairman Ronald Davison, District Legal Counsel, Lori Wellbaum and Board Secretary, Krista Powell. Once signed, it will be returned to Charlotte County to be presented before the Board of County Commissioners to approve and finalize. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton updated the Board about the new generators. He explained the installations have finally been scheduled; Station 71 is 11/01/2023, Administration Building is 11/06/23, Station 73 11/07/23 and that the project is nearly complete. A short discussion ensued.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chief Easton presented the Board with the Fire Prevention Ordinance 2023-01. Chief Easton provided an overview of the ordinance. After a small discussion, Mr. Loisell made a motion to approve the Fire Prevention Ordinance, 2023-01. It was seconded by Mr. Kimberlin and the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Easton presented the Board with Resolution IF2023-1419 provided by Scott Christiansen, the attorney for the Englewood Area Fire Control District Firefighter's Pension Trust Fund. The resolution is to amend sections of Resolution 07/06-1139. Chief Easton reviewed the changes of Section 1, Section 4, Section 7, and Section 26. Mr. Kimberlin made a motion to approve Resolution IF2023-1419. It was seconded by Mr. Benedetti and the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Easton updated the Board about a recent seat vacancy on the Englewood Area Fire Control District Firefighter's Pension Trust Fund Board of Trustees. He explained that he received a letter and resume from a local business owner, Mr. Jonathan Varner, who is interested in the vacancy. Chief Easton read his letter and reviewed Mr. Varner's professional experiences. A long discussion ensued. Mr. Kimberlin made a motion to appoint Mr. Jonathan Varner for the seat on the Board of Trustees. It was seconded by Mr. Knauf and the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Easton presented the Board with his 2023-2033 staffing plan. Chief Easton projected the plan via PowerPoint and reviewed each section with the Board. He explained the department is currently not meeting NFPA / NIST standards. Chief Easton explained that with his staffing plan, the department can obtain adequate apparatus personnel to reduce public risk but also spoke about positions needed other than First Responders. He went onto explain those positions and emphasized that the department mechanic he is recommending may need to be sought sooner than his plan. A long discussion ensued. Mr. Loisell made a motion to approve Goal 1 of the staffing plan subject to adequate budgeting, grants, and funds available. It was seconded by Mr. Knauf and the motion passed unanimously.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

No public comment at this time.

**DVP COMMENT:**

No DVP comment at this time.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Mr. Knauf and Mr. Loisell thanked Chief Easton for tremendous efforts and the positive improvements he continues to make for the department.

Mr. Benedetti spoke about the staffing plan and his support to obtain adequate manning on our apparatus' plus, reduce fires by fire prevention education to our residents.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am.

  
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Ron Davison, Chairman

DATED: 11/15/2023

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Attest

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_