

**MINUTES FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF JULY 19, 2023**  
**FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF**  
**THE ENGLEWOOD AREA FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

Wednesday, July 19, 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. Kimberlin, Mr. Loisell, Mr. Knauf Lori Wellbaum and Chief Easton. Mr. Benedetti was via telephone.

**CONSENT AGENDA FROM LAST MONTHS MEETING**

Mr. Davison asked if there were any questions, corrections, or additions to the consent agenda from the 06/28/2023 Board Meeting. Mr. Kimberlin made a motion to accept the consent agenda and financials from 06/28/23 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 about the station security. He anticipated getting a card reading system, however the quote was nearly \$150k. Chief Easton explained that he will be moving forward with the code entry system and hardware for the buildings; cameras will be installed, and surveillance services will be provided Next Generation Security Solutions for the cost of approximately \$19k. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton updated the Board about the new generators. Chief Easton explained that he is still waiting for the units to arrive from the manufacturer. He also explained a small delay for Station 71 permitting; the plot plans were not sufficient as they were outdated. Chief Easton is working to provide an updated set of plans to get permitting finalized. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton updated the Board about vacation rental property inspections. He explained that he and the Fire Marshal, Kyle Brooks, are still collecting data but they have determined that it's an estimated 700-1100 properties that will require inspections. Chief Easton added that two applications have been received for the Fire Inspectors position, who will be assisting with the additional inspections. The deadline to apply is August 4, 2023; interviews will be scheduled in late August. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton spoke to the Board about the replacement apparatus for Engine 72. Chief Easton is currently working on the financing with E-One. He continued to explain that interest only payments can be made during the build, however he needs to confirm the rate. The total cost for the new engine is \$785,178k. A short discussion ensued.

Chairman, Mr. Davison addressed the Board about Chief Easton's contract renewal. He asked if any of the Board members had any concerns, suggestions, or revisions they would like to discuss. A short discussion ensued. Mr. Knauf made a motion to set forth a graduating pay increase for each year of the contract; Year (1) one at \$130,000, Year (2) two at \$133,500 and Year (3) three at \$137,500. It was seconded by Mr. Loisell. Chief Easton added a necessary revision to Item 12 of his contract regarding severance payments; it does not reflect the current state code therefore, it will need to be revised. After a short discussion ensued, Mr. Knauf amended his motion to include the contract being compliant with the correct State statutes and codes. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Easton spoke to the Board regarding the Per Diem rates. He confirmed that the department is current with the Florida Statute, Chapter 112.061; \$6.00 Breakfast, \$11 Lunch and \$19 Dinner is the current rate and cannot be changed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chief Easton reviewed the rate scenarios provided by GSG with the Board. Chief Easton confirmed that the department budget has been prepared with the maximum rate of 6.7%. He continued to speak about proposed costs to expect in the new fiscal year. A short discussion ensued.

Chief Easton reviewed the proposed 2023-2024 Budget with the Board. He explained the costs and expense categories plus defined some of the highlighted sections. A long discussion ensued.

Chief Easton spoke to the Board about the performance review program, Tenzinga. He reminded them to complete the annual evaluation by August 1, 2023, and provided each member with step by step training instructions. A short discussion ensued.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

No Public Comment at this time.

**DVP COMMENT:**

No DVP comment at this time.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Mr. Loisell complimented Chief Easton on the prepared budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.

  
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Ron Davison, Chairman      DATED: 08/23/2023

  
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Attest      DATED: 8/23/2023