



**JOINT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
MARCH 11, 2014**

I. MEETING OPENED

Chairman Hemping called to order the joint meeting of the East Naples and Golden Gate Fire Control and Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners at 6:04 PM on March 11, 2014 at the Fire Code Office, 2700 North Horseshoe Drive, Naples, FL 34104. Present were Chairmen Hemping and Gerrity, Commissioner's Cross, Cottiers, Boyer, Page and Stedman. Commissioner McMahon was absent. In attendance were Fire Chief Schuldt, Assistant Chief Sapp, Director Bishop, DC Biondo, Division Chief Hanson, Administrative Assistant Packard, Administrative Assistant Chesser, George Danz, Manny Arroyo, Grant Danskine and Michael Ramsey. Others were in attendance but did not sign in.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Hemping opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

ENFD Commissioner Cross moved to approve the amended agenda.

Commissioner Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

GGFD Chairman Gerrity moved to approve the amended agenda.

Commissioner Stedman seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

C. Approval of Minutes of January 8, 2014

ENFD Commissioner Cross moved to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2014 joint BOFC meeting. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

GGFD Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2014 joint BOFC meeting. Chairman Gerrity seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Consolidation- Golden Gate and East Naples

1. Cost Saving Sheet

The joint district has realized a net cost savings of \$430,548.

2. Supervisory of Elections Office update

Commissioner Hemping informed the Board that the State Supervisor of Elections is recommending that all amendments and referenda be placed on the Primary Election to which Collier County has put a policy in place. A request has been put in for a deviation to the policy since it has been the intent of the Districts to place the merger referendum on the general election ballot after the Isles of Capri annexation vote has taken place at the primary election.

Director Bishop did have an update stating that Representative Hudson received a phone call from Supervisor of Elections, Jennifer Edwards opposing the request. Legal has been contacted to address the legality of the two bills needing to be on staggered elections.



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After discussion, the Commissioners would like keep the elections staggered since the Bills are so far into the legislative process.

3. **HB 951 / SB 1286 update**
Director Bishop provided an update to both HB 951 and HB 949. Both Bills have been filed, referred to committee and introduced to the House and Senate. The Bills are currently in the Local and Federal Affairs Committee of the House. An attorney was been assigned to review HB 951 and HB 949 in detail and in doing so had found some issues but none that could not be corrected. With the changes, the Bills will have to go back to the Local Delegation for approval. Commissioner Cross and Director Bishop discussed how through bill drafting the referendum wording on HB 951 was changed to reflect a majority vote of the districts combined instead of the way it was originally written; a majority vote of each District independently. After discussion, it is the Board's intention to get the wording amended back to the original version especially since the message to the community has been that each District independently would approve the consolidation.

B. Annexation - Isles of Capri and East Naples

1. **HB 949 / SB 1186 update**
Update provided under II. A. (3).

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. AIW- Hiring a Temporary Part-time IT person

Director Bishop presented the AIW to hire a temporary part time IT person. There was discussion between staff and the Commissioners.

ENFD Commissioner Cross moved to approve the hiring of a part time IT person to be fully funded by GGFD. Commissioner Boyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

GGFD Commissioner Stedman moved to approve the hiring of a part time IT person to be fully funded by GGFD. Commissioner Gerrity seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

B. ENFD District Owned Properties

Commissioner Cross provided an update stating that the he is currently negotiating on the Sable Palm property and will provide an update at the next joint meeting. There was also discussion on the Village Falls units on whether to lease the units until sold.

ENFD Commissioner Boyer moved to approve the leasing of the Village Falls unit as an alternative to selling. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion.

Motion passed 5-0.

No motion needed by GGFD Board.



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C. Fire Code Office Operational Modifications

ENFD Commissioner Page began by stating that he intended on bringing a motion to the ENFD BOFC on a plan for the Fire Code Official's office. The motion gives direction to the Fire Chief, with the assistance of an ENFD commissioner to meet with Collier County staff to draft an MOU that will place all ENFD plan review responsibilities under the management of Collier County Growth Management. The MOU will be brought back to the ENFD board for approval and will (at a minimum) include the following provisions: 1. The East Naples-Golden Gate Fire Chief will retain the authority having jurisdiction as provided under Florida Statute 633. 2. The ENFD-GGFD Fire Marshal, through the authority of the Fire Chief shall be appointed jurisdictional authority and responsibility for all fire plan review and inspection services within the areas agreed upon in Collier County, by Collier County and ENFD (or subsequent entity resulting from a merger between the ENFD and GGFD. 3. Collier County shall agree to hire a number of existing Fire Code employees, yet to be determined, for the purpose of maintaining a compliant, effective and dedicated fire plans review process within the Collier County Growth Management Division.

Commissioner Page went on to say that with NNFD leaving Fire Code, Fire Code would eventually collapse and that is the reason for the motion and to try to retain as many FCO jobs as possible.

GGFD Chairman Gerrity stated that he planned on bringing a similar motion to the GGFD Fire Commissioners at the GGFD BOFC meeting on March 12, 2014.

Collier County Commissioner Henning spoke to both boards stating the County is ready to work with the Districts and does not think there are any objections to the motion. He would like to see cooperation and communication with ENFD and the Fire Marshal. Administrator Nick Casalanguida from Growth Management and Transportation will reach out to the existing Fire Code Plan Reviewers to see if they can be brought on board. However, if they cannot perform in their capacity, they will be treated like any other employee.

ENFD Commissioner Boyer suggested that since Fire Code is getting into the Plan Review business again, would the County be interested in getting out of the fire service business, in regard to Everglades City; a possible trade, Fire Code for Everglades? Commissioner Henning responding clarifying that the referenced fire department is Ochopee and feels that this is two separate issues but if further direction is given from the Board then Commissioner Henning will do whatever he can in his capacity to make that happen. The County Manager is very supportive of this. He went on to say that there has never been cooperation between the fire districts and the County; this is a showing of good faith and this will be a new day; ENFD is in the business of fire and the County is in the business of permitting.

ENFD Commissioner Cross stated that he would like to see, if possible, the addition of Ochopee and the possible management/annexation of Ochopee into this MOU or if not possible, have these MOU's move simultaneously.



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Commissioner Page stated that the areas included in the MOU would be brought back with the draft version and specifics did not need to be added at this time. Managing/annexing Ochopee needs further discussion; financials need to be looked at, etc. before moving ahead.

GGFD Commissioners Stedman and Gerrity are in support of this.

Chief Schuldt did want on the record that an alternative plan for Fire Code was designed and the ENFD Board directed the Chief to take the plan to the other Fire Boards. After attending the NNFD and Immokalee BOFC meetings and receiving no interest, direction was given not pursue this any further.

Board of Fire Commissioners

(Topics initiated by the Board)

Commissioner Hemping did state that he would provide his merger team update later once the ENFD BOFC meeting reconvened.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cross moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 PM. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

ENFD BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

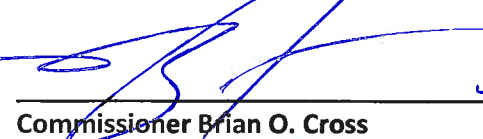
GGFD BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS



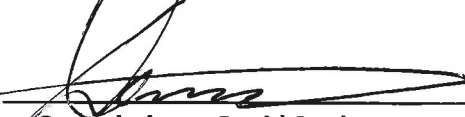
Chairman Steven E. Hemping 5-14-14
Date




Chairman Kevin Gerrity 5/14/2014
Date



Commissioner Brian O. Cross 5/14/14
Date



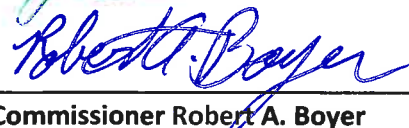
Commissioner David Stedman 05/14/14
Date



Commissioner Jeff Page 5/14/14
Date



Commissioner Chuck McMahon 5/14/14
Date



Commissioner Robert A. Boyer 5-14-14
Date



Commissioner Charles P. Cottiers 5/14/14
Date