

**MINUTES**  
**EAST NAPLES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**August 12, 2014**

**I. Meeting Opened**

Chairman Hemping called to order the regular meeting of the East Naples Fire Control & Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners at 5:34 PM on August 12, 2014 at the Fire Code Office. Present were Chairman Hemping, Commissioners Cottiers, Cross, and Page. Commissioner Boyer attended via Face time. In attendance, Fire Chief Schuldts, Assistant Chief Sapp, Director Bishop, Chief Biondo, Chief Hanson, Admin Asst. Packard, Exe. Asst. Chesser, Tony McGee, Craig Weinbaum, Dr. Horner, Angie Davis, Don Raimey, Shar Hingson, Greg Speers, Jeff Macasevich, Charlotte Johnson, Sean Hunt, Terry Anderson and family, Steve Liford, Wayne Martin, Manny Arroyo, Chris Diaz, Rob Potteiger, and Jim Burke. Others were in attendance but did not sign in.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Chairman Hemping opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the invocation.

**B. Line of Duty Deaths Reading and Moment of Silence**

Chief Schuldts stated that there were a total of 5 FF fatalities for the month of July, bringing the total for 2014 to 52 followed by a moment of silence.

**C. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

Director Bishop requested that I. New Business H.1, Fire Chief's Report, be moved under I.D. in order to accommodate the Chief's early departure from the meeting.

Chairman Hemping requested an addition to the Agenda; Transition Strategy for Benefits under III. New Business, D.

**D. Approval of the Agenda**

Commissioner Cottiers moved to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Cross seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**E. Approval of the Board Minutes for July 8, 2014 - Regular Meeting**

Commissioner Boyer requested the removal of the word "employee" under III. New Business, D. Health Insurance, stating he did not reference the employee deductible.

Chairman Hemping requested that "Chairman Cottiers" be corrected to read "Commissioner Cottiers" under IV. Adjournment.

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the amended board minutes for the July 8, 2014 regular meeting. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**F. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

1. ENFD's Treasurer Report
2. FCO's Treasurer Report
3. Operations Report – Assistant Chief Sapp
4. Administration and Finance Report- Director Bishop
5. Logistics Report - Deputy Chief Biondo
  - a) Fire and Life Safety Report - Division Chief Hanson

**MINUTES**  
**EAST NAPLES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT**  
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**August 12, 2014**

**G. Awards and Recognition**

1. **Retirement Award – Lieutenant Anderson**  
Chief Schuldt and Asst. Chief Sapp presented a retirement axe to Lieutenant Anderson to recognize him for his 24 years of service to the District.
2. **15 Year Service Award – Firefighter Mike Leal**  
Not in attendance.
3. **10 Year Service Award – Firefighter Chris Citak**  
Not in attendance.
4. **5 Year Service Award – Firefighter Aaron Cline**  
Not in attendance.
5. **Introduction of Administrative Assistant Sarah Pike**  
Chief Schuldt introduced Sarah Pike to the Board as the new Administrative Assistant to the Shop, transferring from Fire Code.
6. **Deputy Fire Marshal Shar Hingson Captain Pinning**  
Postponed until the September meeting.

**H. Fire Administration - Chief Schuldt**

1. **Fire Chief's Board Update**  
Chief Schuldt highlighted the following:
  - The Chief participated in a webinar with Dr. Pat Lynch in reference to the merger through the IAFC.
  - A weekly email blast has been initiated where members of the community can sign up through the District website. As a result of the first email blast going out, the merger playbook was viewed 215 times.
  - Three town hall meetings have been held in the last month to provide information on the potential annexation with Isles of Capri in the hope of a successful referendum vote August 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - Division Chief Hanson is working on a transition plan to handle routine fire inspections for Isles of Capri with a tentative start date of October 1st.
  - Effective August 4<sup>th</sup>, all plans review for East Naples and Golden Gate are under the County Growth Management Division; the Fire Code Office is physically closed.
  - The ALS training program continues; ENFD division is testing with Collier County EMS to prepare for the implementation.
  - Fire inspector interviews were held on July 31, 2014 and firefighter interviews will be held on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Two firefighters from Isles have applied for a position.
  - The joint district has begun collecting for the Annual Sneaker Drive. Monetary or new sneaker donations will be accepted until September 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - Squad 72 has been up and running for a couple of weeks. A piece of fire apparatus and crew is soon to be stationed at EMS station 75.

**MINUTES**  
**EAST NAPLES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT**  
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**August 12, 2014**

- The promotional testing for driver/engineer has been completed with new eligibility lists and the promotional testing for lieutenant is in process.

**I. Chapter 175 Firefighter's Pension Plan – Chairman Arroyo**

Chairman Arroyo highlighted the following:

- The 2013 Annual Report to the Florida Division of Retirement was approved. This approval assures that the Fire District's August distribution of the Insurance Premium Tax monies will be sent on a timely basis.
- The next quarterly meeting will be held on Friday, August 15, 2014 at 8:48 AM at the Fire Code office training room. A 10 year projection for the Plan will be presented and all are encouraged to attend.

There was discussion on what retirement plan the new district would go with if the merger is approved and when the new retirement plan would need to be implemented. Staff is still waiting on some answers from the Division of Retirement.

**J. Local 2396 Report – District President Craig Weinbaum**

District President Weinbaum reported:

- The Kevin Bee benefit was successful.
- The stations remain very busy, not much of a slowdown from "season".
- Commissioner Cottiers has been visiting the stations and the feedback from the guys has been positive. All commissioners are invited to visit anytime and ride on the trucks.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Isles of Capri Consolidation - Commissioner Page/Chief Schuldt**

Commissioner Page stated that three town hall meetings were held; one on Isles of Capri, Fiddler's Creek and Hamilton Bay. There has been advertising for both sides; ads and mailings going out to the residents.

Chairman Hemping shared his appreciation for Commissioner Page's coordination effort with Isles of Capri from cradle to grave. He went on to say that he has seen some of the information being distributed and it is misleading. If anyone hears anything that is misleading, please contact a commissioner or staff so that the information can be cleared up. The alternatives are not very pretty and he doesn't understand how anyone could vote no. He is glad that two Isles firefighters have applied with the District.

Commissioner Cross requested an update on the Isles inventory. Asst. Chief Sapp stated that work continues with Chief Martin and informed the board that one of the Isles trucks was in an accident with significant damage.

**B. GGFD/ENFD Merger - Commissioner Hemping/Chief Schuldt**

Chairman Hemping stated that the merger team meetings continue and he commended everyone from both districts on working well together.

**1. Cost Savings Worksheet**

The Joint District has realized a net savings of \$658,544.93.

**MINUTES**  
**EAST NAPLES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**August 12, 2014**

**C. District Owned Properties Updates - Commissioner Cross**

1. **US 41 and Outer Drive Vacant Land – Contract Terminated**  
Director Bishop reported that the contract has been terminated under the due diligence period. There is still a possibility that they may come back again in the future with an offer.  
There was discussion on listing the property but it was decided to table until October.
2. **951 and Sable Palm Road Update**  
Commissioner Cross reported that there is a finalized contract on this exchange and the closing should be completed by the next meeting.  
Commissioner Cross mentioned that there was an unsolicited interest in two of our Village Falls units and they wanted to sit down to discuss an offer.  
There was discussion among the Commissioners and Director Bishop on whether to accept a lease for the units to which the board stated that they did not want to enter into a lease. Commissioner Cross will meet with the potential buyer and he will come back to the Board with any offers.  
The remaining units future will be discussed in October.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. AIW – Station Alerting – Asst. Chief Sapp**

Asst. Chief Sapp reported that the District is in need of an upgrade in the fire station alerting process. The Sheriff's office is paying for the initial equipment purchase. The fire district is responsible for any equipment beyond what the Sheriff's office purchases and the annual maintenance for the receiver. Many of the fire stations are in dire need of an upgrade and inclusion of speakers where there are none. The request is for the purchase and installation of new speakers and required amps to drive the audio output into the stations. Commissioner Page moved to approve the purchase and installation of the upgraded speaker and amplifiers for four of the five stations of the East Naples Division at the quoted price of \$20,050.00. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**B. AIW – Engine 20 Motor Repair - Asst. Chief Sapp**

Asst. Chief Sapp stated that Engine 20 experienced a fatal engine failure; a fuel injection pump stoppage which shut down the motor. The motor was also diagnosed with a "blow by on the piston head" which could result in catastrophic engine failure if allowed to continue. Commissioner Cross moved to approve proceeding with the repairs to Engine 20 for the necessary motor repairs and release funds from the Reserve for Contingency account funds not to exceed \$10,713.00. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**C. AIW – Fleet Additions – Asst. Chief Sapp**

Asst. Chief Sapp reported that with the recently hired deputy fire marshal and the future hiring of an additional fire inspector that there is a need to purchase additional fleet to accommodate these positions. The fire district would like to purchase two additional vehicles using the State of Florida concession pricing or the Florida Sheriffs Association concession plan as set forth with the Ford Motor Company. The State Florida concession pricing comes off the dealer's price of the vehicle along with an additional 2.25% dealer discount pricing. The two vehicles that the District would like to purchase are a 4X4 vehicle along with a smaller cargo van.

There was discussion between staff and the Commissioners on the actual cost of the vehicles, whether there is money budgeted for these purchases and if these are the appropriate vehicles to purchase.

**MINUTES**  
**EAST NAPLES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
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Commissioner Cross moved to approve proceeding with the purchase of a 4X4 type vehicle such as the Ford Explorer not to exceed \$30,000 in purchase price and a Ford Transit Connect service van not to exceed \$23,000 in purchase price. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**D. Transition Strategy for Employee Benefits – Chairman Hemping**

Chairman Hemping explained to the Board that with the benefits renewal coming up, there is a need to come up with a transition plan to get both districts on the same plan so that it will be easier to merge into one plan should the merger pass.

His recommendation is first to decide on one plan design for both districts with the only given that the Districts use a self funded model like the Benecon product with an effective renewal date of October 1, 2014. Use the current ENFD broker as well as the GGFD broker and Brown and Brown/Benecon to bid the business. The benefit committees would decide on one broker and propose the choice to their boards for approval for 10/1/14.

Don Raimsey from Leading Edge (ENFD broker) spoke out against this recommendation; there is not enough time to get everyone to agree to a plan to get everything accomplished by the October 1, 2014 renewal date. A self funded plan is not necessarily going to save you money. Also with a self funded plan you are locked into a year contract whereas with fully insured you can go month to month which would be easier if the merged district wanted to get into a new merged healthcare plan.

It would be best to wait until the Districts become one, get a new EIN number ,then go through a broker selection process and lay out what types of plans the new district would like to see quoted. The brokers for both districts have already put a lot of time into the renewals which have already been quoted for the October 1, 2014 renewal.

District President Weinbaum supports Don Raimsey's statements and thinks there is no rush in doing this at this time; the merger may not even pass.

Director Bishop did mention that Golden Gate was quoted a plan very similar to ENFD's which would actually move the two districts closer and be cheaper than the plan they are on now.

After much discussion, it was decided to continue with the renewal as is.

**E. Public Comment**

None

**F. Topics Initiated by the Board of Fire Commissioners**

None


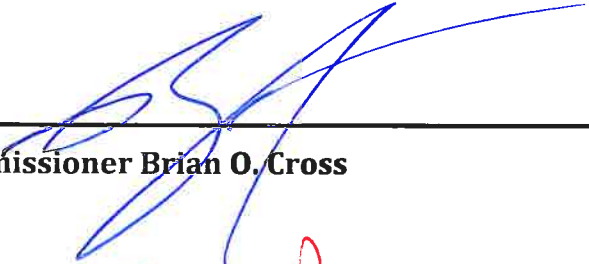

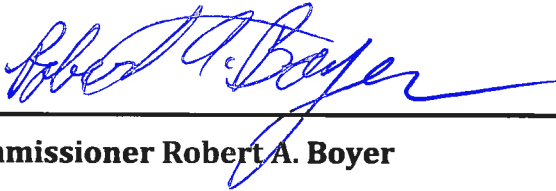

**IV. SIGNATURE OF BOARD APPROVED ITEMS**

None – July minutes will be signed at the September BOFC meeting after the changes have been made.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Page moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. Commissioner Cottiers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0

MINUTES  
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August 12, 2014

 Chairman Steven E. Hemping	9-8-14 Date
 Commissioner Brian O. Cross	9/8/14 Date
 Commissioner Jeffrey Page	9/8/14 Date
 Commissioner Robert A. Boyer	Date
 Commissioner Charles P. Cottiers	9/8/14 Date