



**MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
December 13, 2022**

I. MEETING OPENED

Commissioner Biondo called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners at 5:30 p.m., on December 13, 2022 at Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Duffy, Biondo, Cross, Cherney, and Dearborn.

A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

B. Swearing in of New Commissioners – Judge Tamera Nicola

C. Consent Agenda

1. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

D. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Deputy Chief Wolfe requested to remove III. C; and requested to change the order of Old Business to B, A, C. Commissioner Cross requested to add Ochopee and Grant Writer to New Business.

Commissioner Dearborn moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

E. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes for September 13, 2022

Commissioner Duffy moved to approve the GNFD Board Minutes September 13, 2022 as presented. Commissioner Cherney seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

F. Approval of the GNFD Board Minutes November 1, 2022

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the GNFD Board Minutes November 1, 2022 as presented. Commissioner Cherney seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

G. Approval of the GNFD Board Workshop Minutes November 29, 2022

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the GNFD Board Workshop Minutes November 29, 2022 as presented. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

H. Fire Chief's District Report

1. Deputy Chief Wolfe presented the Fire Chief's report as submitted. Attorney Laura Donaldson advised the District needs to schedule shade meetings to discuss the Districts' pending lawsuits on January 10, 2023.
2. Deputy Chief Wolfe announced the service awards for the month of November.
3. Deputy Chief Wolfe announced 7 firefighter line of duty deaths for the month of November.

Commissioner Duffy made a motion to hold off on filling the vacant Deputy Chief position. Commissioner Cross Seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

I. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan – Chairman Tim Sims

Chairman Tim Sims stated there are no updates for the Pension Plan and invited the Commissioners to attend the next meeting in February.



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J. Local 2396 Report – President Chris Diaz

There was discussion regarding the donations to the Firefighters affected by Hurricane Ian. There was a discussion on scheduling Contract Negotiations.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. AIW – Resolution 2022-15 Impact Fee Increase – Deputy Chief Wolfe

Commissioner Cross moved to approve Duncan Associates November 9, 2022, Fire Rescue Impact Fee Study Draft Report including Appendix B: Extraordinary Circumstances Needs Study.

Also, to approve the Board of Fire Commissioners find that there are extraordinary circumstances that necessitate the District's need to exceed the statutory impact fee phase-in limitations. Also, to adopt Resolution # 2022-15 establishing a final rate for impact fees of \$.433 per square foot for commercial and residential, with such rate not being phased in due to the extraordinary circumstances necessitating the need to exceed the phase-in limitation of impact fees as set forth in Florida Statute, with the resolution taking effect on April 1, 2023 for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2022/2023. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

B. AIW – Station 74 – Deputy Chief Wolfe

Deputy Chief Wolfe and Collier County Project Manager Tony Barone presented an informational PowerPoint regarding Station 74. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Cross moved to withdraw from Station 74 at this time and cease all further activity. Commissioner Biondo seconded.

Aaron Zwiefel and Michael R. Ramsey living in Golden Gate Estates came forward stating the need for Station 74. EMS Chief Butcher announced that the building team had the current need and the future need of the District in mind when the building was designed.

Motion died 1-4 (Cherney, Dearborn, Biondo, Duffy)

Commissioner Cherney moved to explore further options for Station 74 as far as downsizing it or if the county is unwilling to do that, they should be looking to constructing their own smaller facility with their land options and start their own facility. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Cherney withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Cherney moved to give our staff direction to go back to the County to see if the County is willing to build this current facility on a 66/33 split. In doing so, bring it back to us for approval; lacking that, we will not sign the Interlocal Agreement. Commissioner Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

C. AIW – State of Emergency – Deputy Chief Wolfe

Commissioner Cross moved to declare the end of the state of emergency for Hurricane Ian as declared in Resolution 2022-14 effective December 13, 2022. Commissioner Dearborn Seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.



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III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. AIW – 2023 Regular BOFC Meeting Dates – Chief of Staff Chesser**
Commissioner Cross moved to approve the Commissioner meetings to be conducted at 9:00 AM on the second Tuesday of each month for the next twelve months and calendar year. Commissioner Dearborn Seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.
- B. AIW District Check Signing – Chief of Staff Chesser**
Commissioner Cross moved to authorize the Fire Chief and his designees to sign District accounts, paychecks, and payable checks; so long as 24 hours before the check run, the check register is emailed to the Commissioners for review; with the right for the Commissioners to pull a check if there is a question. Commissioner Cherney seconded. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Cross amended the motion to clarify if the Chief is not available to require a Commissioner’s signature on the Check, but the rest of the motion remains standing. Commissioner Cherney seconded the motion as amended. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.
- C. RESOLUTION 2022-16 GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT PROVIDING FOR A REPEAL AND REVISE OF THE PLAN TO CONSOLIDATE THE VARIOUS AMENDMENTS MADE TO THE PLAN OVER TIME AND TO CLARIFY THE PROVISIONS OF THE PLAN; AMENDING THE PLAN BY CHANGING THE NAME OF THE PLAN TO REFLECT THE NEW IDENTITY AND BOUNDARIES OF THE GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE- 175 Pension Chairman Tim Sims**
Commissioner Cross moved to accept resolution 2022-16 for the repeal and revise 175 pension plan fund. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.
- D. Ochopee – Commissioner Brian Cross**
Commissioner Cross moved to direct staff to bring back a financial summary at next month’s meeting on what the financial impact is on Greater Naples to provide Fire Rescue service to Ochopee. Commissioner Duffy seconded.
Chief of Staff Nicole Chesser provided the financial information to the Board per Commissioner Cross’ request. *Commissioner Cross withdrew his motion.* There was discussion regarding the new MOU for Ochopee.
- E. Grant Writer – Commissioner Brian Cross**
The Board directed staff to find a grant writer in order to receive more funding.
- F. Public Input for Issues Not Listed on the Published Agenda**
There was no public comment.
- G. Comments by Commissioners**
There was a discussion regarding the temporary structure at Station 60. The board discussed the need for a workshop regarding the hiring procedure for the Fire Chief.



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IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Dearborn made a motion to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0, meeting adjourned.

Duly passed with a vote of _____ to _____ and adopted in session on the 10th day of January 2023.

Commissioner Nick Biondo

Commissioner Al Duffy

Commissioner Brian O. Cross

Commissioner Mark Cherney

Commissioner Patrick Dearborn



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