



FINAL APPROVED MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2025

I. MEETING OPENED

Chairman Biondo called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners at 9:00 a.m., on January 8, 2025, at the Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Biondo, Cherney, Cross, Dearborn, and Duffy.

A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

B. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Cherney seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

C. Awards & Recognition- Fire Chief Wolfe

1. Fire Chief Wolfe announced the service award for December.

D. Consent Agenda

1. GNFD Board Minutes December 11, 2024

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

E. Treasurer's Report- Finance Director Newman

Finance Director Newman presented the Treasurer's Report as submitted. There was discussion regarding the fiscal year end in reserves.

Commissioner Cherney moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Commissioner Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

F. Fire Chief's District Report- Fire Chief Wolfe

1. Fire Chief Wolfe presented the Fire Chief's Report as submitted.

2. There was discussion regarding creating a consistent lease between the cohabitated facilities with Collier County EMS. The Board directed Staff to send a letter to the County.

3. There was discussion regarding the Strategic Planning workshop which included a construction manager position and creating a capital improvement plan.

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

No report.

H. Local 2396 Report – President Justin Humphrey

No report.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Revised Local Bill- District Wide Election Seats- Laura Donaldson

Attorney Donaldson presented information regarding the Revised Local Bill as submitted.

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the revised local bill as presented. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. SERVPRO Presentation

Sal Blasi presented information regarding SERVPRO.



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B. AIW- Legislative Representation- Fire Chief Wolfe

Fire Chief Wolfe presented the AIW as submitted.

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the legislative representation agreement with Laura Donaldson's firm, not to exceed \$2,000 [for expenses] for the local bill. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

C. AIW- Division Chief Job Description- Fire Chief Wolfe

Fire Chief Wolfe presented the AIW as submitted. There was a discussion regarding the Division Chief salary.

Commissioner Duffy moved to approve the Division Chief of Fire Training job description as presented. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Commissioner Duffy withdrew his motion. Fire Chief Wolfe will re-present the Division Chief job description after discussions with each of the Commissioners.

D. AIW- Commissioner Officer Elections- Chief of Staff Chesser

Chief of Staff Chesser presented the AIW as submitted.

Commissioner Cross moved to nominate Commissioner Biondo for the position of Chair.

Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Chairman Biondo moved to nominate Commissioner Cherney for the position of Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Commissioner Dearborn moved to nominate Commissioner Cross for the position of Secretary.

Chairman Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Commissioner Cross moved to nominate Commissioner Dearborn for the position of Treasurer.

Chairman Biondo seconded. Commissioner Dearborn declined the position of Treasurer.

Commissioner Cross moved to nominate Commissioner Duffy for the position of Treasurer

Chairman Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

E. Public Input Not Listed on the Published Agenda

George Danz stated the East Naples Civic and Commerce opposed the District Wide Election seats.

F. Comments by Commissioners

There was discussion regarding Commissioner Dearborn's insurance invoice due to his absences. *Commissioner Cross moved to approve those two absences due to the death of his family to make them be excused and get him below the threshold. Commissioner Duffy seconded.* Chief of Staff Chesser stated the Policy doesn't have an exemption for excused absences and the Board would need to revise the policy. *Commissioner Cross withdrew his motion.*

Commissioner Cross moved to amend that [the policy] to allow it [the absences] to remain at three for excused absences, that the Board approves the excuse, based on the three criteria listed: medical reasons, family emergencies, death in the family or unavoidable absences (such as travel delay), those will count as excused absences and will not go towards the total of three. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Cross withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Cross moved to waive this penalty against Mr. Dearborn based on extenuating circumstances with family death. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.



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Chairman Biondo requested a Grant update every month under Old Business. There was discussion regarding the annual hydrant flushing.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cross moved to adjourn at 10:24 a.m. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0. The meeting was adjourned.