



APPROVED MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 12, 2025

I. MEETING OPENED

Vice-Chair Cherney called to order the regular meeting of the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners at 9:00 a.m., on March 12, 2025, at the Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Cherney, Cross, Dearborn, and Duffy. (Biondo absent)

A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

B. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

There was discussion on removing III.A from the Agenda, the Board requested to leave III. A on next months Agenda under Old Business.

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

C. Awards & Recognition- Fire Chief Wolfe

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

D. Consent Agenda

1. GNFD Board Minutes February 12, 2025

Commissioner Cross moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

E. Treasurer's Report- Finance Director Newman

Finance Director Newman presented the Treasurer's Report as submitted.

Commissioner Duffy moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Commissioner Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

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 the purchasing of new trucks. There was discussion regarding ISO ratings and the Board requested that the packet of information on ISO be sent to them. The Board has requested that all new RFPs and bids be distributed to the entire Board and posted in additional public channels to increase visibility and attract more attention.

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

Chairman Sims reported last quarter was down .9%. The Board requested that the Finance Director meet with the 175 Pension Plan Actuary to discuss any potential future additional costs. The Board requested Chairman Sims to survey the 175 Pension Plan members approaching retirement to gather information on their anticipated retirement timelines.

H. Local 2396 Report – President Justin Humphrey

President Humphrey emphasized the need for increased funding for education reimbursement. There was discussion about using the EMS and training budgets to support specific educational courses. The Board requested an AIW with a specific amount to add to the education fund. There was discussion regarding merging Local 2396 and North Collier's Union. President Humphrey stated the Union has a neutral opinion regarding merging.



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II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Grant Update- Deputy Chief Bauer

Deputy Chief Bauer reported that the HMGP Grant is waiting for FDEM's response. There was discussion regarding the timeline for completing the projects. Deputy Chief Bauer reported that the Yacono Grant is stuck at FEMA.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fire Plan Review- Chairman Biondo

There was discussion regarding a potential conflict of interest between Chairman Biondo and the Fire Plan Review topic. Attorney Donaldson stated an ethical opinion would provide protection on the District. Jamie French discussed the County's fire plan review process and stated that Fire Plan Review is cost-neutral to the District. Commissioner Dearborn emphasized that the public should be pleased that the plan review process takes about two days to complete. Assistant Chief Hanson stated she would bring any issues with the plan review to the Board. Attorney Donaldson outlined the steps for an ethics review, which would need to be requested from Chairman Biondo. Amelia Vasquez mentioned that the County's plan review process is functioning well and would prefer it to remain under the County's management.

B. FLS Cost Neutrality- Assistant Chief Hanson

Assistant Chief Hanson presented the costs for the FLS Division which are not cost-neutral; discussion ensued. The Board directed Assistant Chief Hanson to come to the Board to request additional staffing as needed.

C. AIW- Florida Forest Service Operating Plan- Fire Chief Wolfe

Commissioner Cross moved to authorize the Fire Chief to execute the Florida Forest Service Operating Plan on behalf of the District. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

D. Public Input Not Listed on the Published Agenda

Fire Chief Wolfe mentioned that the committee will soon review the local bill for the election seats. Wayne Martin told the Board they are on the right track with the ethics issue. He also discussed the 175 Pension Plan's 13 check and mentioned that he is part of a Government Accountability group, sharing information from local fire departments. Marvin Easton requested an update on the letter regarding consolidation. There was discussion about sending a Board representative to the North Collier Commissioner meeting to discuss consolidation.

E. Comments by Commissioners

No comments by Commissioners

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cross moved to adjourn at 11:16 a.m. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0. The meeting was adjourned.