

# *East Niceville Fire District*

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## **April 13, 2021 – Meeting Minutes**

### **Call to Order**

The meeting of the ENFD Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Evans at the East Niceville Fire Department at 6:00 PM. Chairman Evans led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation

### **Roll Call**

All Commissioners, Interim Chief Birch, Captain Kramer, several Firefighter and guests were in attendance.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Revell made a motion to approve the March 2021 minutes, seconded by Treasurer McEntire. Motion passed

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer McEntire gave his report and stated that there was \$816,000 in all accounts, including the CD.

### **Old Business**

ENFD community concerns – Firefighter Nyendorf referred to the last meeting in March that he was given permission by Vice Chairman Schwab to speak to the board. He was told that he could not speak from Chairman Evans. Firefighter Nyendorf presented 3 points: 1) Made a point that he was a resident of the district and could speak to the board whether he was on or off the job. 2) He has been in business for 25 years and 90% of his business is in this district. He addressed the new Chief's position supporting Interim Chief Birch. Nyendorf presented a recommendation signed by all the Captains and firefighters of the district supporting Interim Chief Birch. 3) Restructuring the staff; suggested that the 3 Captains become Battalion Chiefs, and the Engineers become Captains with a 30% increase in pay for the Captains. Also, he recommended that the assistant Chief's position be eliminated. Treasurer McEntire recommended that this proposal be tabled until next meeting so we could research the cost of this re-staffing. Captain Kramer suggested that the new Chief set the staffing. New Fire Chief Position-Chairman Evans reported that we received only 2 applicants for the Chief's position (Birch and Hohenstein). Chairman Evans stated that Birch does not meet the requirements set forth from the March meeting. Vice Chairman Schwab said that the requirements were just a wish list. Commissioner Revell made a point that the 20 years in military service and the certifications Birch has from the military was equal to the State of Florida qualifications. Commissioner Revell made a motion to hire Birch as the new Fire Chief with a 6 month probation period, seconded by Vice Chairman Schwab. Motion passed 4 to 1.

### **New Business**

April 13<sup>th</sup> Commissioner's Meeting Cont.

Commissioner Revell made a motion that the District cancel the Daily News subscription because the employees do not read it, saving the District \$380.00 a year. Seconded by Vice Chairman Schwab and the motion passed. Commissioner Revell questioned whether the District receives a stipend from Coke for the coke machine in the station. Captain Kramer will look into the matter. Treasurer McEntire reported that Chief's Wright's final payout would be \$28,836.00 including his remaining sick leave and annual leave.

#### Chief's Report

Chief Birch reported that the air packs have been delivered and training is in progress for the department. Chief has reported that it had been a hectic few days dealing with a tragic death in the District and a boat fire that damaged 4 boats. Chief Birch said that the vehicles were in working order and that one of the Apparatus was at 10/8 for annual maintenance. He stated that Captain Kramer fixed an electrical problem on the explorer command vehicle's warning lights. Chief said he would look into a new Fire Apparatus for the next fiscal year.

#### Adjourn

No further business. Chairmen Evans made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Treasurer McEntire.

Meeting adjourned 7:05

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Leo Tisa**