

# *East Niceville Fire District*

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1709 27<sup>th</sup> STREET NICEVILLE, FLORIDA 32578 PHONE 678-2311

## **August 8, 2016 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Dunbar called to order the regular meeting of the East Niceville Fire District Commission at 6:00 p.m., August 8, 2016 at the East Niceville Fire Department. The first order of business was the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation given by Commissioner Matt Ruckel.

### **Roll Call**

The following people were present: Chief Wright, Firefighters on duty, Chairman Dunbar, Vice Chairman Schwab, Treasurer CJ McEntire, Commissioner Ruckel, and Commissioner Brunson.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the July 11, 2016 meeting were read by Chairman Dunbar and approved unanimously per motion by Commissioner McEntire and a second by Commissioner Schwab.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer McEntire gave the Treasurer's Report and distributed copies. All copies will be included in the official book of proceedings and will be filed as appropriate. There was a motion to approve the report by Commissioner Schwab with a second by Commissioner Brunson. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

**2016-17 Millage/Budget:** Commissioner Dunbar distributed copies of a preliminary budget for the next fiscal year. The proposed tax rate for purposes of discussion and preliminary budgeting is 3.0176 mills per thousand dollars in taxable value. This rate reflects an increase over the current and roll back rates. Chairman Dunbar reviewed the impact of the increased rate on property owners and also reviewed historic tax rates for the District and the revenues generated. The proposed budget was reviewed in detail with several items being discussed in detail and compared to the Chief's 5-Year Plan. He noted that equipment is purchased as needed for the firefighters. No action was required because the final millage rate will be determined during the September meetings advertised to taxpayers. Item open.

**Personnel Issue Update:** Chief Wright gave an update regarding the firefighter out of work due to an injury. He is currently recovering and will return to full time employment as soon as the physician clears him for duty. Item closed.

**OIs/OPs:** Chairman Dunbar reported that he has completed his edits of the OI section and discussed the updates with the Chief. Commissioner McEntire submitted his comments and questions via email and Commissioner Ruckel has compiled his comments into the word document. Tricia Brunson will incorporate and document the proposed changes and provide them to everyone in order to finalize and approve at an upcoming meeting. Item open.

**Chief's Employment Agreement:** Chairman Dunbar distributed a draft to update the employment agreement between the ENFD and Chief Wright. The agreement has been reviewed by the Chief. Commissioner Brunson moved to table action on the agreement to allow Commissioners to review the draft. Item open.

### **New Business**

#### **No New Business**

**Chief's Report:** Chief Wright had reported during the budget discussion that a repair cost of about \$3,800 will be incurred to the motor that opens one of the doors to the bay. He also reported that the firefighters

have been doing a great job even with the extreme temperatures. There are also continued efforts to freshen up the landscaping at the station.

Commissioner Ruckel asked for an update on the District Lines/Response issue. Chief Wright reported frustration at continued response by the City Department when we have already responded. Overall the newly established system for allowing the nearest truck to respond to calls has helped to get assistance faster. The County is planning to purchase software that will allow the dispatcher to locate everyone on a virtual map which will further streamline the process.

**Adjourn:** Commissioner McEntire motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. There was a second to the motion by Commissioner Ruckel. Motion carried.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 beginning at 6:00 p.m. followed by a meeting on Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Minutes submitted by Commissioner Brunson.**