



**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**April 10, 2024**

**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 April 10, 2024, at the Administrative Headquarters. Present were Commissioners Biondo, Cherney, Cross (Arrived at 9:07), Dearborn, and Duffy.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

**B. Consent Agenda**

1. GNFD Board Minutes March 13, 2024
2. GNFD Workshop Minutes March 27, 2024

*Commissioner Cherney moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of pulling the Treasurer's Report. Commissioner Duffy seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.*

**C. Treasurer Report**

Commissioner Cherney reviewed the Treasurer's Report as submitted. The Board agreed to have the Treasurer's Report as a separate item on the Agenda each month. *Commissioner Cherney moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Commissioner Dearborn Seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.*

**D. Approval, Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

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

**E. Fire Chief's District Report**

1. Interim Fire Chief Wolfe recognized the service awards and the You Are Our Hero Award for the month of March.
2. Interim Fire Chief Wolfe presented the Fire Chief's Report as submitted and announced five firefighter line-of-duty deaths for the month of March.
3. The Board agreed to move forward with the 80/20 split of the new Water Tender. The Board agreed to a change in the leave process for Interim Chief Wolfe. There was discussion regarding consolidation. There was discussion regarding raising money for candidates in the upcoming election who support consolidation. There was discussion about hiring a consultant/study regarding consolidation. Union President Humphrey stated a merger may hurt morale, and hopes there would be a plan to protect the Union members.

**F. Chapter 175 Firefighters' Pension Plan – Chairman Tim Sims**

No Report

**G. Local 2396 Report – President Justin Humphrey**

President Humphrey stated negotiations should finish up quickly after the next scheduled meeting. President Humphrey stated that the decrease in overtime is due to the number of promotions and the new contract will allow more individuals to promote sooner. President Humphrey stated the millage increase is a solution, but agrees that there needs to be a plan in place.



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**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Fire Chief Selection- Commissioner Cherney**

*Commissioner Cherney moved to approve the document allowing typographical and/or non-material changes. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.*

*Commissioner Cross moved to authorize Staff to get three bids not to exceed \$10,000 to select an HR company to handle the Fire Chief process and authorize Commissioner Cherney to work with Staff to select one of the three to not to exceed \$10,000. Commissioner Dearborn seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.*

**B. AIW-Resolution 2024-06 Future Direction of the District and Strategic Plan- Interim Fire Chief Wolfe**

Interim Fire Chief Wolfe presented the AIW as submitted and suggested removing the 8-year sunset.

*Commissioner Cherney moved to approve Resolution 2024-06 authorizing a ballot question asking whether the District shall be authorized to increase its millage rate by up to 0.5 mills, to improve the District's public safety facilities, technology, and equipment. Chairman Biondo seconded.*

Union President Humphrey supported removing the sunset. Connie Bullinger from the public supported removing the sunset. Wayne Martin discussed using the St. Lucie County model and reviewed the project list. Todd Eschmann supported removing the 8-year sunset. *Motion passed 4-1. (Cross)*

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Special Event Staffing and Fee Schedule- Interim Fire Chief Wolfe**

Interim Fire Chief Wolfe presented the documents as submitted and stated Staff and the Attorney will work on a formal resolution.

**B. AIW-Extension of Grant Agreement 5178-004-R- Assistant Chief McLaughlin**

Interim Fire Chief Wolfe presented the AIW as submitted.

*Commissioner Cross moved to approve the AIW as written. Commissioner Cherney seconded. Motion passed 5-0.*

**C. Public Input for Issues Not Listed on the Published Agenda**

Wayne Martin inquired if Interim Chief Wolfe received a pay adjustment for taking on the new role.

**D. Comments by Commissioners**

No Commissioner comments

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

*Commissioner Cross made a motion to adjourn at 10:31 a.m. Chairman Biondo seconded. Meeting adjourned.*