APPROVED MINUTES
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 14, 2026 ▪ 3:00 PM
Fire & Life Safety Office ▪ 2700 N. Horseshoe Dr. Naples, FL 34104

I. MEETING OPENED

Chairman Cherney called to order the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District's Board of Fire Commissioners Workshop at 3:03 p.m., on October 14, 2026, at the Fire and Life Safety Building. Present were Commissioners Cherney, Cross, Duffy, and Biondo. Commissioner Dearborn attended on Zoom, and arrived in-person at 3:30 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

B. Revenue Diversification

- Fire Chief Wolfe introduced the discussion on revenue diversification. District Legal Counsel Laura Donaldson outlined legal and procedural options for shifting funding between ad valorem taxes and non-ad valorem assessments.
- Laura Donaldson outlined the legislation that will be pursued to authorize non-ad valorem assessments without a referendum. The proposed legislation would establish a revenue-neutral transition in the first year and permit increases above the five-year CPI limit without a referendum, provided ad valorem taxes are proportionally reduced.
- Discussion was held on moving forward with a study to establish appropriate assessment rates based on service demand, to which staff confirmed readiness to proceed.
- The Board discussed Amendment 3 uncertainty, voter education on fire district funding, and opportunities to improve efficiencies if the amendment passes.
- There was consensus among the Board that Staff should continue preparatory work while remaining prepared to adjust plans based on the election outcome and potential legislative changes.

C. Administrative Complex Feasibility

- Fire Chief Wolfe presented facility options for Logistics, Fleet and Headquarters needs:
  - Existing Budweiser building
  - Phased development on District-owned White Lake property
  - Other existing facilities
- The advantages and disadvantages of each option were discussed, including cost, feasibility, and implementation timelines. Fleet and Logistics were identified as priorities, particularly given the District's ongoing lease expenses for its current logistics space. Staff was directed to explore available warehouse space that could accommodate both.
- Staff expressed concern regarding the number of ongoing procurement projects and noted that additional staff would be necessary to effectively manage current and future projects. The Board agreed that additional staff is needed to support the growing project workload. Discussion focused on the potential role of a project manager, funding options, and whether the position should be filled by someone from the public or private sector. To use

capital funds, project management would need to be added to the adopted project list. For any non-capital project related work, the funds would be charged out of the General Fund.

- The District agreed to work on creating a job description with salary range for approval in an upcoming board meeting.

D. Comments by Commissioners and Public

None

II. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Duffy moved to adjourn at 4:01 p.m. Commissioner Biondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0. The meeting was adjourned.