East Niceville Fire District

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EAST NICEVILLE FIRE DISTRICT

Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

June 23rd, 2026

East Niceville Fire District Station
5:15 PM

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1. Call to Order

Chairman called the meeting to order at **5:15 PM**.

The meeting opened with the **Pledge of Allegiance** followed by an invocation. All commissioners were present, along with Fire Chief Jonathan Kramer. No members of the public were in attendance.

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2. Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the **May 12, 2026 Commissioner Meeting**.

Motion: Approve the May 12, 2026 meeting minutes.
Motion By: Commissioner Leo
Second By: Commissioner Kenny
Vote: Unanimous Approval

Motion Passed.

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3. Treasurer's Report

Chief Kramer presented the monthly Treasury Report.

Cash Position

Account	Balance
Money Market	$887,713.73
Payroll Account	$34,817.00
Bill Pay Account	$15,136.29
Certificates of Deposit	$40,369.00
Total Cash on Hand	**$971,038.02**

Monthly Activity

- Total Checks Issued: $81,000+
- Payroll:
  - Pay Period 1: $23,686.90
  - Pay Period 2: $21,869.26
- Total Payroll: Approximately $45,556
- Total Monthly Expenditures: $168,229.94
- Ending Balance: $971,038.02

Chief Kramer reported that June represented one of the district's most expensive operating months and expressed confidence in the district's financial position entering the final quarter of the fiscal year.

Motion: Approve Treasurer's Report.
Motion By: Commissioner Larry
Second By: Commissioner John
Vote: Unanimous Approval

Motion Passed.

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4. Old Business

New Fire Truck

Chief Kramer reported the new fire truck remains operational and no issues were reported.

Health Insurance Consolidation

No update was available regarding the proposed consolidation of health insurance programs. Discussions remain ongoing.

5. New Business

Sale of Mini-Pumper

Chief Kramer reported the district successfully sold the surplus mini-pumper.

Sale Price: $70,000

Funds have been received and deposited into district accounts.

Surplus Fire Truck

The surplus fire truck remains listed for sale.

Chief Kramer advised that a possible listing error involving mileage may be affecting buyer interest and stated corrective action would be taken with the seller.

Camera Installation

Installation remains pending. Chief Kramer expects scheduling information from the vendor within the coming weeks.

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6. ALS Program Update

Chief Kramer reported that implementation of the district's Advanced Life Support (ALS) program continues to be delayed due to the county's failure to provide the required ALS contract.

The contract has reportedly been pending for more than six months despite previous assurances from county staff.

The district remains operationally ready to launch the program upon receipt and execution of the agreement.

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7. Approval of ZOLL Cardiac Monitors

Chief Kramer recommended leasing two new ZOLL cardiac monitors to replace obsolete and unsupported equipment currently in service.

Proposed Lease

- Two ZOLL Monitors
- 60-Month Lease
- Monthly Payment: $2,058.83

Benefits discussed included:

- Compatibility with Okaloosa County EMS equipment.
- Improved interoperability during patient transfers.
- Replacement of equipment no longer supported by manufacturers.

Motion: Approve lease of two ZOLL cardiac monitors.
Motion By: Commissioner Larry
Second By: Commissioner Leo
Vote: Unanimous Approval

Motion Passed.

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8. Firefighter Cancer Insurance Program

Chief Kramer reviewed recent Florida legislative changes expanding firefighter cancer coverage requirements.

The district must now provide extended cancer coverage for qualifying firefighters, including:

- Coverage for active firefighters.
- Coverage extending up to ten years following separation from service.
- Reimbursement of medical copays and travel expenses.
- $75,000 death benefit for covered cancer-related deaths.

Chief Kramer recommended replacing the current provider with United Badges Insurance due to improved benefits and lower cost.

Proposed Annual Cost

$2,000.93 per year

Motion: Approve transition to United Badges firefighter cancer insurance coverage.

Motion By: Commissioner Leo
Second By: Commissioner Kenny
Vote: Unanimous Approval

Motion Passed.

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9. Property and Casualty Insurance Renewal

Chief Kramer presented insurance renewal information for district facilities, apparatus, and operations.

Proposed Renewal

- Property & Casualty Insurance: $43,118
- Cancer Policy (Current Carrier): $2,920
- Accidental Death & Sickness Policy: Approximately $500

Chief Kramer advised another insurance carrier is preparing a competing proposal and requested authority to secure coverage through the lowest responsible provider if savings can be achieved before the July 1 renewal deadline.

Motion: Authorize Chief Kramer to obtain insurance coverage through the current carrier or any qualified provider offering comparable coverage at a lower cost.

Motion By: Commissioner John
Second By: Commissioner Kenny
Vote: Unanimous Approval

Motion Passed.

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10. Deck Gun Purchase Authorization

Chief Kramer requested authorization to purchase a deck gun assembly for the district's new fire apparatus.

Proposed Purchase

- Deck Gun and Related Equipment
- Cost Not to Exceed: $5,000

Chief Kramer reported extensive price shopping had reduced the projected cost from approximately $12,000 to under $5,000.

Motion: Approve purchase of deck gun equipment not to exceed $5,000.

Motion By: Commissioner Larry
Second By: Commissioner Leo
Vote: Unanimous Approval

Motion Passed.

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11. Chief's Report

Apparatus Maintenance

Chief Kramer reported Engine 13 experienced a minor pump transfer switch leak.

Repairs were completed on-site by a mobile mechanic and the apparatus returned to service the same evening, avoiding extended downtime.

General Operations

- Station operations remain stable.
- Staffing remains stable.
- Fleet operations are satisfactory.

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12. Amendment 3 Discussion

Chief Kramer provided an extensive briefing regarding Florida's proposed Amendment 3 Homestead Exemption initiative and its potential impact on local governments, fire districts, municipalities, and counties.

Key discussion points included:

Potential Impact on East Niceville Fire District

Current Taxable Value:

- $548 million+

Projected Revenue Impact:

- Significant annual reductions beginning in FY 2027 if approved.

Chief Kramer presented multiple revenue projections comparing:

- Current 3.4000 Millage Rate
- Maximum 3.7500 Millage Rate
- Amendment Passes vs. Amendment Fails Scenarios

Discussion included:

- Long-term sustainability concerns.
- Potential staffing reductions.
- Potential elimination of employee health insurance benefits.
- Potential future referendum for implementation of a Fire Assessment Fee.
- Potential regional consolidation opportunities involving North Bay Fire District and neighboring agencies.
- Need to develop contingency budgets and financial plans prior to the November election.

No action was taken.

Board consensus was to continue studying Amendment 3 impacts and revisit budget strategies during future meetings.

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13. Next Meeting

The Board discussed scheduling and confirmed the next regular meeting would be held on:

July 14, 2026

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14. Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn Meeting.

Motion By: Commissioner Larry
Second By: Commissioner Kenny
Vote: Unanimous Approval

The meeting adjourned at approximately **6:28 PM** after approximately **1 hour and 13 minutes** of business.

Respectfully Submitted, Jonathan Kramer
Fire Chief / Clerk to the Board
East Niceville Fire District