

Minutes for the Meeting of
the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District Board of Commissioners
July 22, 2026 5:00pm
Diamondhead Beach Resort
2000 Estero Boulevard

In attendance: Chairman John Bennett, Vice-Chairman Jim Knickle, Secretary/Treasurer Ronald Fleming, Commissioner Jacki Lyszak Commissioner Keran Farrell, Fire Chief Scott Wirth, and District members.

1. Meeting Called to Order 5:00pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adoption of Agenda [Discussion/Approval]
4. Restate Agenda Items [Information]
5. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items - *none*
6. Consent Agenda [Approval]

Items listed are considered routine and action will be taken by one motion; if a commissioner desires discussion, the specific item will be removed during the Adoption of the Agenda and considered separately.

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 22, 2026
- B. Approval of June General Fund Checks 50130-50166 and e-checks 8-21 total
\$127,673.86
- C. Approval of June Capital Improvement Fund Checks 1142 total \$343,614.10

Commissioner motioned to approve the consent agenda, Commissioner seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

7. Oath of Office Ceremony

Chief Wirth recognized Captain Chilson for his 17 years of service and recent retirement.

The District celebrated the swearing in of the following:

Firefighter Alvarez

Firefighter Angelo

Firefighter Agustoni

Firefighter Brucker

Firefighter Fornel

Firefighter Gormly

Firefighter Lugo

Firefighter Pacheco

Firefighter Richards

Life Safety Specialist Tiffany Avella

The Board took a brief recess and reconvened 6:05

8. Chief's Report

Chief Wirth reported on the District's performance from April, May, and June of 2026.

9. Unfinished Business

A. Timeline of Fire Boat [Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth presented a rough timeline of the new administrative building and a fire boat.

10. New Business

A. 2026/27 Budget Presentation [Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth presented information on the 2026/2027 budget. The Board had no questions.

B. Forecast- Impacts of Homestead Legislation [Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth shared number on anticipated impact of the Homestead Legislation.

C. Establish Truth in Millage (TRIM) Rate [Information/Discussion/Approval]

Chief Wirth presented information and proposed a TRIM rate of 2.76. Commissioner Farrell motioned to set the TRIM rate to 2.76, Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

D. Date for Tentative Budget Hearing [Information/Discussion/Approval]

The Board discussed a tentative budget hearing date. Commissioner Knickle motioned to set the tentative budget hearing for Monday, September 14th at 5:05PM, Commissioner Lyszak seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

E. Fire Chief Evaluation Grading Matrix [Information/Discussion]

The Board discussed the grading matrix for the Chief's annual evaluation. The annual evaluation will be graded on a scale of 1-5.

F. Purchase One Pierce Fire Engine [Information/Discussion/Approval]

Chief Wirth presented a purchase package for a Pierce engine. He thanked Chief Sullivan and committee members for their work on designing the engine.

Commissioner Fleming motioned to approve the purchase of one Pierce Fire Engine for \$1,167,642.00 with up to an additional 5% for unforeseen expenses,

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

11. Chief Remarks [Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth thanked everyone for a good meeting and recognized District staff for all of their hard work with the new recruits. The District has participated in multiple meetings for upcoming beach events. Chief Wirth shared that he has had people reach out for more information on upcoming legislation.

12. Attorney Report [Information/Discussion]- *none*

13. Commissioner Remarks [Information]

Commissioner Lyszak shared she is proud to be able to purchase the best equipment for the district and she is proud of the hard work of District members.

Commissioner Farrell congratulated everyone recognized and sworn in at the meeting.

Commissioner Knickle shared that he was impressed with the recent boat fire response and the drone footage.

Commissioner Fleming thank Chief Wirth for his hard work and leadership and recognized District staff for their good work.

Commissioner Bennett congratulated everyone for the swearing in and shared how impressed he is with the size of the new recruitment classes.

14. Adjournment 7:21PM