

**TICE FIRE DISTRICT
9351 WORKMEN WAY
FORT MYERS, FLORIDA 33905
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

August 13, 2026

1.Call to Order: Chairperson Cannamela brought the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Tice Fire and Rescue District Station One located at 9351 Workmen Way, Fort Myers, Florida 33905.

Verification of Quorum:

Commissioners present:	Tim Barrett	Present
	James Burgess	Present
	T.J. Cannamela	Present
	Carolyn Miller	Present
	Ted Pickering	Present
	Chief Runk	Present
	Rena Smart	Present
	Attorney Pringle	Present

2. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, and a moment of silence and Chaplain Crump said a prayer for the meeting.

3. Adopt Agenda:

Commissioner Pickering made a motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Miller. Vote: Unanimously for.

4. Recognitions:

Chief Runk conducted a badge pinning ceremony for Firefighter Miles Morgan, Firefighter Brendan Reinek, and Firefighter Richard Young. Chief Runk stated we received a thank you letter from Copper Basin Fire & Rescue for donating bunker gear and equipment to their department. Chief Runk announced that Firefighter Ethan Janey finished #1 on the Engineer test; his first day as Engineer was August 1, 2026.

5. Financial Report

Rena Smart gave the financial report for July 2026. She stated the District received \$257,574.24 in ad Valorem taxes, \$1,100 in miscellaneous revenues (including fire inspections and CPR classes), \$13,213.99 in interest income, which includes the CDs, \$872.67 in impact fee interest, \$35,394.50 in impact fee revenue, and \$2,839.68 in proceeds from insurance, which is the PGIT worker's comp reimbursement for Brashear. The total income for the month of July 2026 was \$310,995.08.

The total expenses for the month of July 2026 were \$426,843.29. The checks that are out of the ordinary are the 2025-2026 final quarterly payment for PGIT worker's compensation for \$16,238 and the auditor payment to Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs for the year 2024-2025 audit for \$14,580.

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She stated that at the end of July 2026, the ending balance in the Synovus checking account was \$238,873.07, which earns 3.5 percent in interest and earned \$435.52 in interest. In the Synovus impact fee account, the ending balance was \$328,560.08, which earned 3.5 percent in interest and earned \$872.67 in interest. The ending balance in the Synovus money market account was \$1,163,051.10, which earned 3.5 percent in interest and earned \$3,874.51 in interest. The Synovus three-month CD ending in account #1936 opened in January and rolled over in April and just rolled over again in July, the balance was \$1,018,413.12, which earns 3.75 in interest and earned \$3,050.51 in interest. The Synovus six-month CD ending in account #8046 opened in February, the balance was \$1,014,903.76, which earns 3.60 percent in interest and earned \$2,998.42 in interest coming due in August 2026. The Synovus 12-month CD ending in account #7160 opened in February, the balance was \$1,014,195.03, which earns 3.43 percent in interest and earned \$2,855.03 in interest. She stated total interest earned in the month of July 2026 was \$14,086.66. Rena informed the Board that the District had total funds at the end of July 2026 of \$4,777,996.16 compared to July 2025, \$3,858,525.28 and compared to July 2024, \$3,314,499.71.

She asked the Board if they had any questions. They stated they did not. The Board reviewed the bills, and Commissioner Cannamela and Commissioner Burgess signed the checks.

6. Chief's Report

Chief Runk gave the Chief's report for the month of July 2026:

*During the month of July, the District responded to 304 calls for service. He went over the calls: 223 medical calls, 15 hazardous situations, 18 fires, 16 public service, 30 no emergencies found, and 1 law enforcement assistance.

*We conducted a written and practical test for the rank of Engineer.

*We completed annual maintenance on the fire sprinkler system at Station 1 and fire extinguishers at both stations.

*Update on pending litigation: We were officially served on Wednesday, August 5, 2026. Our insurance company has retained Hamilton, Miller, & Birthisel to represent the District.

7. Attorney's Report

Attorney Pringle spoke to the Board about the pending litigation and stated it is normal practice for the insurance carrier to hire the litigation counsel. He stated he would be working with them, as necessary. The litigation counsel is hired and paid for by the insurance carrier. He also stated he will discuss items on the agenda, but nothing more now.

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8. Union Report

a) District 8

b) District 26 Nothing at this time for both Districts by BC Williams.

9. Public Input on Consent & Business Agenda Items:

None.

10. Consent Agenda Items:

a. Approve prior meeting minutes:

Commissioner Barrett made a motion to approve the prior July 2026 Board meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Burgess. Vote: Unanimously for.

b. Approve District disbursements and required fiscal action:

Commissioner Barrett made a motion to approve the consent agenda items for the month of August 2026 and approve District disbursements and required fiscal action, seconded by Commissioner Burgess. Vote: Unanimously for.

11. Old Business Agenda Items

None.

12. New Business Agenda Items

a. Annual Fire Chief Evaluation

Attorney Pringle explained the procedure and language for Chief Runk's annual fire chief's evaluation, which needs to occur before the budget approval process. The Board discussed it. The Board stated they are in agreement and satisfied with Chief Runk's performance as provided. The Board discussed the salary increase. Commissioner Burgess made a motion to give Chief Runk a \$1,500 increase effective October 1, 2026, for the next fiscal year, seconded by Commissioner Miller. Vote: Unanimously for.

b. Budget Amendment

Chief Runk presented the amended budget document to the Board in their packets. Attorney Pringle stated to the Board that he has prepared a resolution with Chief Runk's direction for the amendments to the budget, and this is the first budget amendment of the year. The resolution shows the amendment line items. Chief Runk explained the amended line items as questioned by the Board. Commissioner Burgess made a motion to adopt resolution #2026-08-01, seconded by Commissioner Pickering. Vote: Unanimously for.

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13. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items:

None.

14. Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Miller: She stated she is glad to see we are repurposing the gear. She thought this was very nice. Chief Runk explained to the Board that our retired BC, Christopher Rennie, volunteers at Copper Basin Fire & Rescue in Tennessee.

Commissioner Barrett: He stated everything is good; he stated he would like to chat with Chief Runk about the pending lawsuit. Chief Runk stated it was from the vehicle accident in 2024, and Commissioner Barrett stated he is good with that.

Commissioner Pickering: He stated he is good to go, and he appreciates Chief Runk's efforts and everybody else.

Commissioner Cannamela: He stated no problems here.

Commissioner Burgess: He stated no problems here, and everybody is running good.

- a. Adjournment:** Commissioner Burgess made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Vote: Unanimously for.