TICE FIRE DISTRICT
9351 WORKMEN WAY
FORT MYERS, FLORIDA 33905
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 9, 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	Excused absence
	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 announced that Joseph Gambino was elected unopposed to seat 1, Commissioner Pickering was re-elected unopposed to seat 3, and Commissioner Burgess was re-elected unopposed to seat 5.

5. Financial Report
Rena Smart gave the financial report for June 2026. She stated the District received $42,259.09 in ad Valorem taxes, $50,000 in grant income (for the drones), $2,333.88 in Firefighter Supplemental Compensation, $1,734.45 in miscellaneous revenues (including fire inspections and CPR classes), $13,951.56 in interest income, which includes the CDs, $838.29 in impact fee interest, $10,862.74 in impact fee revenue, and $22,255.87 in proceeds from insurance, which includes PGIT reimbursement for Brashear and Blue Cross Blue Shield class action lawsuit claim. The total income for the month of June 2026 was $144,235.88.

The total expenses for the month of June 2026 were $432,960.21. The only check that is out of the ordinary is the Lee County Property Appraiser quarterly ad valorem levy of $9,342.47.

She stated that at the end of June 2026, the ending balance in the Synovus checking account was $40,508.68, which earns 3.5 percent in interest and earned $284.20 in interest. In the Synovus impact fee account, the ending balance was $292,292.91, which earned 3.5 percent in interest and earned $838.29 in interest. The ending balance in the Synovus money market account was $1,508,328.95, which earned 3.5 percent in interest and earned $4,659.99 in interest. The Synovus three-month CD ending in account #1936 opened in January and rolled over in April and need to decide tonight if we are rolling over again, and the balance was $1,015,362.61, which earns 3.65 in interest and earned $3,041.37 in interest. The Synovus six-month CD ending in account #8046 opened in February, the balance was $1,011,905.34, which earns 3.60 percent in interest and earned $2,989.56 in interest coming due in August 2026. The Synovus 12-month CD ending in account #7160 opened in February, the balance was $1,011,340, which earns 3.43 percent in interest and earned $2,941.76 in interest. She stated total interest earned in the month of June 2026 was $14,755.17. Rena informed the Board that the District had total funds at the end of June 2026 of $4,879,738.49 compared to June 2025, $4,113,802.11, and compared to June 2024, $3,719,639.15.

She asked the Board if they had any questions. Commissioner Cannamela asked about the Blue Cross Blue Shield class action lawsuit claim, and Rena explained it. 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 June 2026:

*During the month of June, the District responded to 315 calls for service. He went over the calls: 197 medical calls, 22 hazardous situations, 22 fires, 21 public service, and 53 no emergencies found.
*We conducted Officer's, Labor Management, and Safety Committee meetings.
*We conducted Pre-Fire Plans and Safety walkthroughs at all the schools in our district.
*We participated in Vehicle Extrication Training.
*Most everyone was sized for Bunker Gear; we are still catching a few stragglers.
*We hosted a Latent Investigations class.
*Breathing Air Systems performed maintenance on our air system.
*We attended PR events throughout the community.
*Ms. Smart, Mr. Burgess, and Chief Runk attended the FASD annual conference.
*Chief Runk attended the annual GEO Division meeting at EOC for this year's hurricane season.
*Chief Runk attended a meeting with Commissioner Petrosky at our Buckingham station.

7. Attorney's Report
Attorney Pringle stated he has a lot of items to discuss on the agenda, but nothing in addition to.

8. Union Report
a) District 8
b) District 26
Nothing at this time by BC Williams.

9. Public Input on Consent & Business Agenda Items:
None.

10. Consent Agenda Items:
a. Approve prior meeting minutes:
Commissioner Pickering made a motion to approve the prior June 2026 Board meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Burgess. Vote: Unanimously for.
b. Approve District disbursements and required fiscal action:
Commissioner Pickering made a motion to approve the consent agenda items for the month of July 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. Stipend
Chief Runk stated to the Board that the District received a check from Blue Cross Blue Shield in the amount of $10,600.87. The check is the result of a class action lawsuit that Ms. Smart enrolled us in several years ago. We would like to create a stipend and share the unexpected funds equally with all 29 employees, $365.55 each. After FICA deduction, it would equal $338 per employee. The Board discussed it. The Board decided to leave it alone and see what happens with the property tax reform and give it to the employees at the end of the year. Attorney Pringle states at the next Board meeting, the District will be making a budget amendment resolution and will add this as income to the reserve line item. Commissioner Pickering made a motion to place the funds ($10,600.87) into the reserve line item at this time on the budget amendment resolution, seconded by Commissioner Burgess. Vote: Unanimously for. Attorney Pringle stated you can use the funds at any time.

b. Record Management Software

Chief Runk stated we currently use software from ESO. We currently pay $14,786.04 annually with an expected 3 percent increase at renewal ($15,229.63). He stated he has been previewing a new software from First Due. Their pricing is $10,719.50 annually, which would start in October. We would have a $900 implementation and configuration fees that would be due now. He would like to change vendors and start the implementation now so that it will be ready to switch on October 1st. Chief Runk stated we would be saving money. The Board discussed it and asked questions. Commissioner Burgess made a motion to allow Chief Runk to change the software vendor to First Due, seconded by Commissioner Miller. Vote: Unanimously for.

c. Re-Invest CD 1936

*CD 1936 matures July 15, 2026.
*We would like to re-invest it for an additional three months. The new maturity date would be October 15, 2026.
The new rate for three months would be 3.75 percent. The Board discussed it. Commissioner Burgess made a motion to reinvest the CD at 3.75 percent for three months, seconded by Commissioner Pickering. Vote: Unanimously for.

d. Property Control 000-701

*2005 Ford F250.
*111,990 miles
*Purchased in October 2008 for $14,351.50.
*Would like to delete the property control, declare it as surplus property, and sell it at auction.
Attorney Pringle explained the motions to the Board. Commissioner Burgess made a motion to declare property control #000-701 as surplus property and to dispose of by selling at the Royal Auction, seconded by Commissioner Pickering. Vote: Unanimously for.

e. Establish Negotiation Team

The Board discussed establishing a negotiation team for Union negotiations. Chief Runk explained the articles that are being opened. Commissioner Burgess made a motion to establish the members of the negotiation team as Chief Runk, legal counsel, and Rena Smart, seconded by Commissioner Pickering. Vote: Unanimously for.

f. Set Millage rate for DR-420 TRIM notice

Attorney Pringle explained the budget adoption process to the Board. This is the first step. The Board declares the maximum millage rate, and it may not be the final millage rate. The Board discussed the rate. Commissioner Burgess made a motion to set the preliminary millage rate at 3.75 for the DR-420 TRIM notice, seconded by Commissioner Miller. Vote: Unanimously for.

g. Set dates for Tentative Budget Hearing

Hearing Dates:

***Lee County BOCC: September 3rd and 15th.**

***School District of Lee County: September 8th**

Suggests September 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

The Board discussed the dates. Chief Runk suggested September 10 at 7:00 p.m. since it is the same night as our Board meeting. Commissioner Burgess made a motion to set the date for the tentative budget hearing on September 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., and this date will be published on the TRIM notice, seconded by Commissioner Pickering. Vote: Unanimously for.

13. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items:

None.

14. Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Miller: She stated the employees are doing a great job; and thank you for your assistance the other day, and she appreciated it.

Commissioner Barrett: Excused absence

Commissioner Pickering: He stated to keep up the good work. He asked about the property tax reform.

Commissioner Cannamela: He stated everyone is doing a great job. He discussed the property tax reform with the Board. Chief Runk stated there are projections in the packet that the Board was given for the property tax reform, and he discussed it with the Board. Attorney Pringle explained what the Board can say when questioned about the property tax reform.

Commissioner Burgess: None.

a. **Adjournment:** Commissioner Pickering made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Burgess. Vote: Unanimously for.