

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

July 10, 2025

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Cannamela brought the meeting to order at 6:31 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	Excused absence.
	T.J. Cannamela	Present
	Carolyn Miller	Present
	Ted Pickering	Present
	Chief Runk	Present
	Rena Smart	Present
	Attorney Pringle	Excused absence

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

3. Adopt Agenda:

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

4. Recognitions:

Chief Runk stated that we attended the FASD conference, and Rena Smart was awarded the “most valuable member” at the FASD conference. He also stated that she was elected to the FASD Board of Directors. He recognized that Firefighter Costello was being promoted to Engineer tonight, and Firefighter Costello read the Engineer’s oath during the ceremony. The Board congratulated him. Chief Runk stated that refreshments were next door.

5. Financial Report

Rena Smart gave the financial report for June 2025. The District received \$0 in ad Valorem taxes, \$3,120.00 in firefighter supplemental compensation, \$775 in miscellaneous revenues (including fire inspections and CPR classes), \$13,429.04 in interest income, and \$766.05 in impact fee interest. The total income for the month of June 2025 was \$18,090.09.

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Rena stated that at the end of June 2025, the District had \$21,980.03 in the Synovus checking account, which earns 4 percent in interest and earned \$282.32 in interest, \$233,402.63 in the Synovus impact fee account, which earns 4 percent in interest, and earned \$766.05 in interest, and \$3,858,419.45 in the Synovus money market account, which earns 4 percent in interest and earned \$13,146.72 in interest; and compared to the money market in June 2024, the balance was \$3,465,131.71. The total expenses for the month of June 2025 were \$480,803.84.

She stated everything was normal for the month, except the last quarterly payment to VFIS (property and vehicle) for \$18,583.00, the last quarterly payment to Lee County Property Appraiser for year 2024-2025 for \$8,529.05, and the six invoices from Bonita Springs Fire District for \$8,469.22 for vehicle annual maintenance. Rena informed the Board that the District had total funds at the end of June 2025: \$4,113,802.11. She showed a comparison of funds for this year's total funds compared to June 2024, which was \$3,719,639.15 and June 2023, which was \$3,244,460. She asked the Board if there were any questions, and the Board stated there were none. The Board reviewed the bills, and Commissioner Cannamela and Commissioner Barrett signed the checks.

6. Chief's Report

Chief Runk gave the Chief's report for the month of June 2025:

*During the month of June, the District responded to 253 emergency 911 calls:

Three structure fires

Two brush fires

170 EMS calls

40 canceled en-route

A small variety of other call types.

*I attended a TRIM compliance workshop.

*Attended a PR event at East County Regional Library.

*The department completed EVOG training on T-219, R-217, and B-208.

*Rena and I attended FASD annual conference.

*PM services were completed on our apparatus.

*Annual service performed on our SCBA, eight remaining (were not present).

*Held Union Negotiations with D-8 and D-26.

*Assisted Lehigh Acres and Fort Myers Beach Fire Districts with a funeral for their past Fire Chief, Stephen Markus.

7. Attorney's Report

Excused absence.

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8. Union Report

- a) District 8
- b) District 26

DVP Wooley for District 8 and BC Williams for District 26 reported all is good.

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 June 2025 Board meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Pickering. 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 July 2025 and approve District disbursements and required fiscal action, seconded by Commissioner Pickering. Vote: Unanimously for.

11. Old Business Agenda Items

None.

12. New Business Agenda Items

a. 2023/24 Audit Report Presentation

Teresa Da Costa from Ashley Brown & Smith presented the audit report for the year 2023/2024 in detail to the Board. She has been doing our audit for ten years. She explained each page to the Board. She stated they conduct tests during the audit, and the results found no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under governing auditing standards. She asked if there were any questions. Chairperson Cannamella asked if it was a very good audit, and Ms. Da Costa stated yes, definitely. The Board thanked her. Commissioner Barrett made a motion accept the 2023/2024 audit report, seconded by Commissioner Miller. The Board asked if there was any public input and stated there were not. Vote: Unanimously for.

b. Set Millage rate for DR-420 TRIM Notice

Chief Runk explained to the Board that they needed to set the millage rate for the DR-420 to advertise. Chief Runk handed out a document to the Board for review with property values, 2024/2025 budget, and 2025/2026 budget with the differing millage rates and ad Valorem taxes, and Chief Runk explained the numbers to the Board. The Board discussed it.

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The millage rate can be adjusted at the tentative budget hearing. Commissioner Miller made a motion to set the millage rate at 3.75 for the DR-420 TRIM notice, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Vote: Unanimously for.

c. Set the date for Tentative Budget Hearing.

***Hearing dates:**

***Lee County BOCC: September 4th and 16th**

***School District of Lee County: September 9th**

***Suggest September 11th, 2025, at 7:00 PM**

Chief Runk explained the hearing dates to the Board, and they cannot be the same dates as the Lee County BOCC or School District of Lee County. He suggested September 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., which is the same day as our Board meeting. The Board discussed it. Commissioner Pickering made a motion to set the tentative budget hearing date for September 11, 2025, at 7:00 PM, seconded by Commissioner Miller. Vote: Unanimously for.

The Board discussed having the 9-11 ceremony with Chief Runk. Chief Runk stated the District will have the ceremony if the Board would like us to.

13. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items:

None.

14. Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Pickering: He stated everything is good; glad the District is doing as well as it is; it takes coordination all the way around, from the top to the bottom firefighter.

Commissioner Barrett: He stated everything is going well; negotiations are looking good; all is good.

Commissioner Miller: She stated congratulations to Engineer Costello and Rena Smart. She thinks everybody is doing a great job.

Commissioner Cannamala: He stated everyone is doing a good job; congratulations to Rena.

Commissioner Burgess: Excused absence.

Adjournment: Commissioner Barrett made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Pickering. Vote: Unanimously for.