

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

February 12, 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.

3. Adopt Agenda:

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

4. Recognitions:

None.

5. Financial Report

Rena Smart gave the financial report for January 2026. She stated the total interest the District earned in 2025 was \$9,164.46 in impact fee interest, \$4,683.99 in checking account interest, and \$152,477.04 in money market interest. She also stated she turned in points on our Elan credit card and received a \$750 credit. She also stated she deposited a \$7,771.70 check today for the first quarter of the 2025-2026 impact fees, and this will appear on the financial report next month. She stated the District received \$232,825.49 in ad Valorem taxes, \$380 in miscellaneous revenues (including fire inspections and CPR classes), \$17,798.47 in interest income, which includes our new CD, \$848.46 in impact fee interest, and \$5,180 in proceeds from insurance (Brashear worker's comp). The total income for the month of January 2025 was \$257,032.42. The total expenses for the month of January 2026 were \$498,252.72.

Rena stated the bills were normal for the month of January. She stated that at the end of

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January 2025, the balance in the Synovus checking account was \$101,771.75, which earns 3.5 percent in interest and earned \$385.14 in interest. In the Synovus impact fee account, the ending balance was \$285,864.91, which earns 3.5 percent in interest and earned \$848.46 in interest. The balance in the Synovus money market account was \$4,693,304.43, which earns 3.5 percent in interest and earned \$15,562.39 in interest. The new Synovus CD ending in account #1936 was opened in January, and the balance in the Synovus CD was \$1,001,850.94, which earns 3.75 in interest and earned \$1,850.94 in interest. Rena informed the Board that the District had total funds at the end of January 2026 of \$6,082,792.03, compared to January 2025, \$5,355,671.55, and compared to January 2024, \$4,622,941.54.

She asked if there were any questions, and the Board stated there were none. 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 January 2026:

*During the month of January, the District responded to 314 calls for service. He went over the calls; two structure fires, one vehicle fire, seven brush fires, and a variety of other calls. He stated there is a burn ban, and brush fire season is in full swing.

*Our Hurst rescue tools received their annual service.

*Crews completed annual fire hose testing. We had multiple failures and are evaluating what needs to be replaced.

*We attended a PR event at East County Regional Library.

*Our bunker gear has received its semi-annual cleaning.

*He attended the FASD legislative forum in Tallahassee.

Commissioner Miller asked questions about the hose that needs to be replaced and is it any new hose that was recently purchased. Chief Runk went over the breakdown of hose that he knows at this time needs to be replaced, and he stated no new hose failed.

7. Attorney's Report

Attorney Pringle stated he reserves his comments for Old Business, item 11A.

8. Union Report

a) District 8

b) District 26

BC Williams reported for both Districts and stated nothing at this time.

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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 January 2026 Board meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. 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 February 2026 and approve District disbursements and required fiscal action, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Vote: Unanimously for.

11. Old Business Agenda Items

a. Fire Chief Contract

Attorney Pringle handed out the first amendment of Chief Runk's employment agreement to the Board with some revisions to it with the pay increases, and he explained the incentive pay that is included in his base salary. The contract also states Chief Runk's promotion to Fire Chief on March 12, 2025, after Chief Ross's retirement. Attorney Pringle pointed out all the revisions he made to Chief Runk's contract to the Board. Attorney Pringle will enter in the contract his hourly rate if he is paid overtime at \$72.54 per hour. The next revision is the step pay plan, and Attorney Pringle discussed this with the Board. The Board gave their opinions and discussed the step pay plan compared to a yearly pay increase. The Board stated it should be a yearly pay increase and based on the budget for that year. Attorney Pringle stated he will remove the step pay plan language and replace it with as part of the budget adoption process, the Board and Chief will discuss the pay increase for the upcoming budget year. Attorney Pringle stated the cap on the vacation is 500 hours, and no cap on sick pay according to his contract and to be paid 33 percent of the total sick leave at retirement. The Board discussed it. Attorney Pringle also discussed the severance pay on the contract. The Board discussed the accumulation and accrual of vacation and sick pay with Attorney Pringle. The only change made was the accrual of vacation and sick pay from annually to weekly. Commissioner Burgess made a motion to continue Chief Runk's contract to the March's Board meeting, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Vote: Unanimously for.

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12. New Business Agenda Items

a. New Certificate of Deposit

Rena Smart made a presentation to the Board regarding the CD choices with Synovus Bank. The Board discussed it. Commissioner Burgess made a motion for a 1,000,000 CD for 3 months at 3.65 percent, a \$1,000,000 for six months at 3.60 percent, and a 1,000,000 CD for 12 months at 3.43 percent and authorizes Chairperson Cannamela to sign new documentation with the bank that is necessary, seconded by Commissioner Miller. Vote: Unanimously for.

13. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items:

None.

14. Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Miller: None.

Commissioner Barrett: He asked about the progress of Rena's handbook, and Chairperson Cannamela stated it is being worked on.

Commissioner Pickering: None.

Commissioner Cannamela: None

Commissioner Burgess: None.

Adjournment: Commissioner Burgess made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Pickering. Vote: Unanimously for.