

FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE & RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
August 21, 2025
MINUTES

Call Meeting to Order

Commissioner Detzel called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. In attendance: Commissioners Detzel, Ragen, Schneider, Shewmaker, and Kressel ; Chief Rewis, Deputy Chief Lamb, Fire Marshal Simmons, Attorney Pringle, Administrative Assistant Howard, Chaplain Cords, Captain Clouse, Engineer Hunt, Engineer Mann, Engineer Casey Gee, Firefighter Floyd, and Firefighter Schumacher.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Prayer – Chaplain Cords

Amendments to the Agenda – New Business: Approval of United Badges Group Cancer Policy.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for July 2025 were presented for approval. Commissioner Schneider made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Shewmaker seconded, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Account balances at July 31, 2025 :

Operating Account: \$7,216,822.81 ; Impact Fee Account: \$743,700.69 ; C.D.A.R.S. Accounts:
\$4,500,000

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Commissioner Detzel seconded, and the motion passed.

Chief's Report:

- Union negotiations are complete. We have the contract for discussion under new business. District 18 and 20 are reviewing the last changes and will be holding a vote soon. This is a three-year contract with only one opener during the term for the ALS/Paramedic program when we get ready to start that.
- The new volunteers have completed their orientation.
- Fire Marshal Simmons and I conducted a walk-thru of Buckingham Exceptional that was requested by school administrative staff to review any safety issues prior to the first day of school.

- Our annual end of the year awards banquet will be held on Saturday December 13th at the Verandah Clubhouse beginning at 6:30 pm.
- Meetings attended: Rotary weekly meetings; Lee County Fire Marshal's & Inspector's Association; Lee County Fire Chiefs; LCFA 5 Bugle; Union negotiations; Countywide wildfire response meeting; River Hall CDD; BIA – Building Industry Association
- Education: Pipeline Safety program with the local gas companies; Conducted a First Aid and CPR AED class for Sonshine Christian Academy

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to accept the Chief's Report. Commissioner Schneider seconded, and the motion passed.

Prevention Division:

- New Construction: Single family homes on Barcelona; Storage King
- Current Construction: Buckingham 365 Phase I (Valencia Pointe); Hemmingway Pointe; Riverdale High School; Bluewave Car Wash; Palm Beach RV and Boat Storage; River Hall multi-family homes; Culvers; Sherwin Williams
- Revenues: The division billed \$1310 for the month.
- Meetings attended: Lee County Fire Marshal's and Inspector's Association
- Education: Pit Crew; Medical in-service; Knox Box class
- Public Education: Water Day at summer camp
- Inspections: The division conducted 94 inspections for the month.

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to accept the report. Commissioner Schneider seconded, and the motion passed.

Attorney's Report

- Attorney Pringle has reviewed the updated CBA and will review specific changes in new business.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to accept the Attorney's Report. Commissioner Shewmaker seconded, and the motion passed.

Operations / Training Report

Operations:

- Items of Interest: Engineers Peterson and Taylor, and Firefighter Sackman received their State and National Registry paramedics certification; structure fire in Alva – Captains Clouse and

Poulton; Strike Team leader; IMT Division Supervisor; Water Day at Olga Community Center summer camp: new volunteer firefighters on-boarding

- Call Data: July 1 – July 31 = 227 calls / 260 vehicles responses; Jan. 1 – July 31 = 1,429 calls / 1,736 vehicle responses
- Meetings attended: Lee County Fire Chiefs Association; Budget and CBA negotiations; Officers meeting; City of Fort Myers new training center; Union negotiations; A.S.H.E.R. (Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response) joint agency meeting with LCEMS, Tice FD and City of Ft. Myers FD
- Training: joint PIT Crew CPR with LCEMS; EMS – altered mental status scenarios; Pipeline Emergencies; “The Art of Decision Making” class; positive pressure ventilation; month 3 Probationary Firefighter evaluations

Training Report

- August – 1 pre-fire plan per Captain and crew; SOG review - #22, #23, and #24; Fire Dynamics; Skills, Tools, and Equipment; Advanced Leadership
- A-Shift: FF Gross, Dressel in VMR Tech; FF Dressel working on Engineer task book; Probationary task book with FF Busbee; Eng. Taylor working on Acting Captain task book; Dr. Atiyeh Stroke/Altered Mental Status in-service; FL boater safety; Target Solutions; Eng. Austin Gee working on Acting Captain task book; ventilation
- B-Shift: Target Solutions; ventilation; Probationary task book with FFs Robertson and Coleman; Eng. Mimbs completed Acting Captain task book; pre-fire plans; SOG review; NAUI swim training; stroke training
- C-Shift: Eng. Casey Gee working on FO2; FF Beauchamp took pump operator test; volunteer training; pumping and first due engine ops; FF search and rescue; station maintenance

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to accept the Training Report. Commissioner Shewmaker seconded, and the motion passed.

Public Input on Agenda Items: None

Old Business - None

New Business

1. Approval to order new staff vehicle for Chief Rewis for fiscal year 2026 for a total not-to-exceed \$75,000. This will not be paid for until we receive it next fiscal year.

After review and discussion Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve ordering the vehicle. Commissioner Schneider seconded, and the motion passed.

2. Approval of the 2026-2028 Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 1826, Districts 18 and 20. Chief Rewis and Attorney Pringle reviewed the changes and answered questions.

After some discussion Commissioner Schneider made a motion to approve the CBA on condition of the Union's approval and authorize the Chair to sign after the Union has signed. Commissioner Shewmaker seconded, and the motion passed.

3. Approval of the renewal of the group cancer policy with United Badges. There was discussion of the available plans and options.

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to approve the renewal of the United Badges cancer policy with the option of coverage of recurrence or second cancer diagnosis for a total of \$6,411.50. Commissioner Ragen seconded, and the motion passed.

Public Input on Non-Agenda Items: Attorney Pringle, as a resident of the district, commented that he is very happy to hear about the progress we are making in getting paramedics certified and working toward an ALS program.

Comments from Union: Thanks to the commissioners for making time for extra executive sessions through the negotiation process.

Comments from Commissioners: Everyone is doing a great job. Congratulations to the new paramedics and volunteers. Thank you to everyone for their hard work and stay safe. Great to hear about the good progress toward a paramedic program. It will be a real asset to the residents of the district.

Adjourn

Commissioner Schneider made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ragen seconded, and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.