# FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE & RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT
# BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
# April 16, 2026
# 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, Chaplain Cords, Administrative Assistant Howard, and Jeff Tuscan from HSC/Tuscan.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Prayer – Chaplain Cords**

**Amendments to the Agenda** - None

**Presentations/Awards** – None

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for March 19, 2026 were presented for approval. Commissioner Ragen made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Schneider seconded, and the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**

Account balances at March 31, 2026 :

Operating Account: $10,350,534.70 ; Impact Fee Account: $674,282.62 ; C.D.A.R.S. Accounts: $4,500,000.00

Reports presented for review: Profit and Loss/Budget vs. Actual reports, Trial Balance reports, Cash Balance reports, Payroll reports, Bank Reconciliation reports

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

**Chief's Report:**

- S.R. 31 (Wilson Pigott) Bridge is closed and has created a backup of traffic around the area. The repairs to the bridge are scheduled to be completed next Wednesday, April 23rd. This can cause a delay in some of our mutual aid responses to and from Bayshore Fire District. Dispatch is aware of the closure and will send the next closest unit(s) if we need assistance. We are monitoring the progress of the project and hope it is completed on time or early.

- Fire Marshal Simmons' 1-year anniversary of his promotion is April 21st. He has been doing a great job, learning a lost more than he thought he could and keeping up with inspections in the District. Congratulations to F.M. Simmons on his first year.
- Under New Business we will ask you to appoint the negotiating team to review Local 1826 CBA Article 32 for Advanced Life Support (ALS) / Paramedic / Medical Privileges. We need to notify the Union of our intent to negotiate within the next month. This is one of the next steps for advancing our medical responses and providing Paramedic / ALS level responses for the district.
- Meetings Attended: Rotary weekly meetings, Lee County Fire Marshals and Inspectors, Building Industry Association (BIA), Florida Fire Chiefs SW Regional meeting, Lee County Communications Group
- Education: CPR and First Aid class for residents of Verandah

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

**Prevention Division Report**

- New Construction: Diamond Glass
- Current Construction: Buckingham 365 Phase I (Valencia Pointe), Hemmingway Pointe, Palm Beach RV and Boat Storage, River Hall multi-family homes, Storage King
- Projects Completed: Culvers, Aldi's
- Revenues: The division billed $360 for the month of March.
- Meetings Attended: Lee County Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association
- Education: working on AS degree
- Public Education: CPR class
- Inspections: The division conducted 34 inspections for the month, including annuals and re-inspections.

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

**Attorney's Report**

- Mr. Tuscan will present the audit this evening and then the board will consider an agreement to extend the HSC/Tuscan Co. audit services for an additional three years. I have reviewed the agreement, and Mr. Tuscan has agreed to some changes to match the language in the current agreement. I recommend that you approve the extension.

- There will also be an a budget amendment resolution after the audit is presented and I will answer any questions in New Business.

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

**<u>Operations / Training Report</u>**

**<u>Operations:</u>**

- Items of Interest: Lee County is still under a burn ban, Charlotte County has lifted their burn ban, Strike Team Leader, IMT Division Supervisor, brush fire mutual aid to Charlotte County (B-shift), Congratulations to FFs Busbee and Graham on completing their probation, we had two R.O.S.C. patients (Return of Spontaneous Circulation)
- Meetings Attended: Lee County Fire Chiefs' Association, Lee County Fire Chiefs' Association training group, Lee County EMS QA training and protocol subcommittees, Officers meeting, Vector Scheduling webinar, FFCA regional meeting
- Training: EMS – airway skills, BLS (basic life support) and AED, Vector Solutions Learning Management System, Live Fire Training Instructor 40-hour class, EVOC, toured the incinerator for pre-planning
- Call Data: March = 259 calls generating 321 vehicle responses, January 1$^{st}$ – March 31$^{st}$ = 753 calls generating 952 vehicle responses

**<u>Training Report</u>**

- Ground Ladders, Search & Rescue, Live Fire training, Trauma, Coaching Skills, Vector Solutions, S.O.G. review
- A-Shift: EVOC, FF Busbee 12-month testing, RIT at Co-op, pumping evolutions, confined space drills, Probationary Task Book with FF Busbee, VEIS
- B-Shift: Probationary Task Book with FF Coleman, FF Graham off Probation – passed written and hands-on evaluations, FF Coleman – Apparatus class, Capt. Pledger paramedic school, Capt. Swindle Chief Officer and Legal Issues for Fire Officer 3, Reworld Incinerator (Tice) walk-thru, EVOC
- C-Shift: FF Floyd in paramedic school, Probationary Task Book with FF Robertson

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to accept the Ops/Training Report. Commissioner Schneider seconded, and the motion passed.

**<u>Public Input on Agenda Items</u>** - None

**<u>Old Business</u>** - None

**<u>New Business</u>**

1. Presentation of the fiscal year 2025 financial audit by Jeff Tuscan of HSC/Tuscan Co.
   Mr. Tuscan reviewed the report noting that the opinion is “unmodified”, which is the type of opinion we strive for every year. There are no comments again this year. Mr. Tuscan also provided the board with graphs comparing year-to-year income and expenditures.
2. Approval of fiscal year 2025 audit.
   Commissioner Ragen made a motion to approve the fiscal year 2025 audit. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion and the motion passed.
3. Approval of Resolution #2026-02 – Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Amendment adjusting carry forward amount to match audited FY 2025 fund balance.
   Attorney Pringle read the title of the resolution into the record:
   RESOLUTION #2026-02 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT (“DISTRICT”), LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA: TO AMEND THE BUDGET FIR FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABLITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE
   The substantive portion of the resolution calls for amending the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget to correctly reflect the audited carry forward fund balance of $10,565,969. This will require an amendment to the total budget of $106,355 which will be recorded as an increase to the Assigned Fund Balance Carry Forward income line #283.000 of $106,355 and a corresponding increase to the Assigned Reserves/Fund Balance expense line #522.901-Facilities of $106,355.
   Commissioner Detzel made a motion to approve Resolution #2026-02, and Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion.
   The motion was approved by a roll-call vote as follows:
   Commissioner Detzel – Yes; Commissioner Ragen – Yes; Commissioner Schneider – Yes; Commissioner Shewmaker – Yes; Commissioner Kressel – Yes

4. Approval of HSC/Tuscan audit engagement extension for fiscal years 2027, 2028, and 2029. The current engagement runs through the fiscal year 2026 audit. Attorney Pringle reviewed the agreement.
   Commissioner Detzel made a motion to approve the engagement extension and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion and the motion passed.
5. Appointment of negotiating team for Collective Bargaining Agreement Article 32, Paramedic article, in preparation to begin our Advanced Life Support (ALC) program next fiscal year.
   Commissioner Detzel made a motion to appoint Chief Rewis, Deputy Chief Lamb, and Attorney Pringle as the district's negotiating team. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**Public Input on Non-Agenda Items:** Mr. Pringle said he is very happy with the district's progress toward getting our ALS program underway. Commissioner Detzel also said that he is happy with the direction we are going to implement the ALS services and is totally in support of it.

**Comments from Commissioners:** Commissioner Ragen – everyone is doing a great job, and I am proud to be part of this district.

Commissioner Detzel – thank you to Debbie for your hard work on the audit. Thanks to everyone, please be safe out there.

Commissioner Schneider and Commissioner Shewmaker– thanks to Mr. Tuscan for the audit report and presentation.

Commissioner Kressel made a suggestion that we consider making changes to our agenda by grouping the written reports included in the meeting packet each month into a "consent agenda". This could include the financial reports, approval of the minutes, and all of the staff reports. Those reports could then be approved with one or two motions instead of individual motions. The board can discuss the suggestion at a future meeting.

**Adjourn**

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Schneider seconded, and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.