

Minutes for the Meeting of
the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District Board of Commissioners

October 22, 2025 5:00pm
Diamondhead Beach Resort
2000 Estero Boulevard

In attendance: Chairman John Bennett, Vice-Chairman Jim Knickle, Secretary/Treasurer Ronald Fleming, Commissioner Jacki Lyszak, Commissioner Keran Farrell, Fire Chief Scott Wirth, and District members.

1. Meeting Called to Order – 5:00pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adoption of Agenda [Discussion/Approval]

Commissioner Lyszak moved to adopt the agenda, Commissioner Knickle seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

4. Restate Agenda Items [Information]
5. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items - *none*
6. Consent Agenda [Approval]

Items listed are considered routine and action will be taken by one motion; if a Commissioner desires discussion, the specific item will be removed during the Adoption of the Agenda and considered separately.

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 24, 2025
- B. Approval of September General Fund Checks 49560-49607 total \$183,645.96
- C. Approval of September Capital Improvement Fund Checks 1072-1079 total \$329,417.07

Commissioner Fleming motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Farrell seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

7. Unfinished Business - *none*
8. New Business

- A. Oath-of-Office for New Members

Chief Wirth introduced the below District members and each took the Oath of Office.

Assistant Chief of Operation Kevin Sullivan

Assistant Chief of Training Kevin Sears

Life Safety Specialist Michael Koliass

Firefighter Oscar Gonzalez

Firefighter Alejandro Krause

Firefighter John Nichols

Firefighter Chris Prisco

Firefighter Nicholas Rillo

Firefighter Miguel Rodriguez

Chief Wirth introduced Larry Wood and recognized his status of Commissioner Emeritus. He thanked Mr. Wood for all he has done for the Fort Myers Beach Fire District. A plaque will be placed at the new Station 31 to commemorate all of his hard work.

B. Pinning of the Badge Ceremony – the board took a brief break at 5:28 and resumed at 5:53.

C. Current Events [Presentation/Discussion]

a. Operations – Assistant Chief Sullivan thanked everyone for the warm welcome he received when he started with the District.

He briefly went over changes to the new hire program. He shared information from the Florida Fire Chiefs Health and Safety Conference including information on equipment and mental health. The District is in the process of building a mental health program for the members and their families. He shared information on the Labor Management Committee. Crews recently participated in an event at the Library and Chief Sullivan thanked everyone for their participation.

b. Human Resources

Human Resources Generalist Mellissa Lucas shared her background in behavioral analysis and business management. She shared an update on hiring and current openings within the District. She shared that she would like to work with local schools and colleges via youth programs and mentorships to help build interest in a career in firefighting. She highlighted her goals for strengthening the presence of the Fort Myers Beach Fire District within the community.

c. Training

Assistant Chief Sears shared an update on training within the District. District members have participated in various hands-on training with structures within the district that are pending demolition. He thanked residents for allowing the District to use their properties for training. Chief Sears shared photos from the trainings and explanations of processes used during training.

9. Fire Chief Remarks [Information/Discussion]

Chief Wirth shared an update on permitting review as Lehigh Acres and South Trial Fire Districts now have their own plan reviewers. Fort Myers Beach Fire will continue to do plan review on behalf of Captiva and San Carlos Fire Districts.

Station 31 is coming along and starting to take shape. It is anticipated to be completed in February 2026.

The District completed the second read of the merger study with Iona McGregor Fire District. Representative Botana has presented an agenda including a bill to merger the two districts.

Chief Wirth was able to spend some time with DVP Adames and discuss goals for the District and members.

The District is participating in upcoming events Fright Night and Sandsculpting Competition.

10. Commissioner Remarks [Information]

Commissioner Fleming said it is great to see our Firefighters and families at the meeting.

Commissioner Knickle congratulated everyone on today's pinning ceremony and shared his appreciation for the District.

Commissioner Farrell congratulated everyone on the oath and pinning ceremony.

Commissioner Liszak congratulated everyone and thanked those who allowed the District to use their structures for training. She shared her support for the mental health program. The Sandsculpting Competition is coming up and the District will have a tent at the event.

Commissioner Bennett mirrored everyone else's sentiments and shared his appreciation for pinning ceremonies. He thanked the community for allowing use of structures for training.

Commissioner Wood shared that he is honored and humbled by the gesture of

Commissioner Emeritus. He shared his admiration of the new members coming in and

congratulated everyone. He is proud to be part of the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District.

11. Adjournment 6:30pm