WEST MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of September 8, 2026
Administration Building

Special Presentations: New employee oath/swear-in – Nicholas Hopkins and Hayden Taylor. Promotions to 3rd Class Firefighter – Jeffrey Buckmaster, Nicholas Evangelista, Trenton Johnson, Christopher Rudolph.

The meeting was called to order at 6:22 p.m. with the following members present: Billy Burke, Larry Jennis, Dana Tindall, Robert Bennett, and Derrick Warner. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence.

2nd PUBLIC HEARING 2026-2027 BUDGET – RESOLUTION #2026-06: Administrative Assistant (AA) Wright verified that public notice was advertised in The Bradenton Herald on Sunday, August 30, 2026, and read the resolution summary. Chief Rigney updated the Board that tax assessment revenues were updated to the correct amount of $13.9M. Chairman Jennis opened the public hearing for public comments; there were none. Commissioner Warner motioned to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Bennett. There was no Board deliberation. Commissioner Bennett motioned to adopt Resolution 2026-06, the 2026-2027 Budget as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Tindall. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Tindall – Yes, Commissioner Warner – Yes, Commissioner Bennett – Yes, Commissioner Burke – Yes, Chairman Jennis – Yes. Motion passed 5-0.

2nd PUBLIC HEARING FIRE PREVENTION CODE – ORDINANCE #2026-07: AA Wright verified that the public hearing was advertised in the Bradenton Herald on Sunday, August 30, 2026, and read the resolution summary. Chairman Jennis opened the public hearing for public comment. There were none. Commissioner Warner moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Tindall. The Board thanked Lt. Adkins for his detailed presentation last month. Commissioner Warner moved to adopt Ordinance 2026-07, the Fire Prevention Code, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Bennett. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Tindall – Yes, Commissioner Warner – Yes, Commissioner Bennett – Yes, Commissioner Burke – Yes, Chairman Jennis – Yes. Motion passed 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARING 2026 FIRE ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATION – RESOLUTION #2026-08: Administrative Assistant (AA) Wright verified that public notice was advertised in The Bradenton Herald on August 30, 2026, and read the resolution summary. Chief Rigney stated that the September meeting is held earlier than usual to meet the annual September 15 deadline. He explained that property owners who believe their TRIM notice is incorrect may raise their concerns at the meeting; however, most property owners contact the District directly, allowing staff to review and resolve any issues promptly. Chairman Jennis opened the public hearing for public comments; there were none. Commissioner Warner moved to close the public hearing; seconded by Commissioner Burke. Commissioner Warner moved to adopt and certify the 2026 Assessment Roll, Resolution 2026-08; seconded by Commissioner Burke. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Tindall – Yes, Commissioner Warner – Yes, Commissioner Bennett – Yes, Commissioner Burke – Yes, Chairman Jennis – Yes. Motion passed 5-0.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Burke motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Bennett; motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

CARRIED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

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NEW BUSINESS: None

A. Five-Year Plan: AA Wright presented the 5-Year Plan for FY 2026/27 through FY 2030/31. AA Wright stated the plan reflects stable facility and staffing needs, planned vehicle and apparatus replacements, and projected revenue growth. She also noted that the District is actively seeking grant funding for the future rebuild of Station 4 in Bradenton Beach. Chief Rigney clarified that the general fund amounts for the coming fiscal year should reflect the approved budget.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Rigney informed the Board that an MOU with the City of Anna Maria for Equipment Storage would be coming soon. Chief Rigney then reminded the Board of the two 9/11 events coming up on Friday: the first, hosted in Palmetto by the Boys and Girls Club, and the second at Rossi Park, where fallen firefighter Brian Reed is recognized. Fire Marshal (FM) Kwiatkowski stated he is working with Manatee County on a vacation rental ordinance and gave the Board a synopsis of the current public education the Bureau is doing.

OTHER REPORTS: None

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: The Board thanked staff for their hard work and community engagement through public education.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Administration building.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Jennis adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary

(Seal)

WEST MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT
MANATEE COUNTY
2000
FLORIDA