

WEST MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

*Minutes of August 18, 2026
Administration Building*

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Robert Bennett (via Zoom), Larry Jennis, Derrick Warner, Dana Tindall, and Billy Burke. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence in honor of Manatee County EMS members Caitlyn Roskovich and Michael Barragan, who recently passed away.

Chairman Jennis confirmed that Commissioner Bennett was participating remotely pursuant to Resolution 2025-05 due to a qualifying extraordinary circumstance and that a physical quorum was present. Chairman Jennis deemed the requirements of Resolution 2025-05 satisfied, and Commissioner Bennett was considered present with full participation and voting privileges.

PUBLIC HEARING 2025-2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT – RESOLUTION #2026-04: Administrative Assistant (AA) Wright verified that the public hearing was advertised in the Bradenton Herald on Sunday, August 9th, and read the resolution summary. Finance Clerk Larson presented the budget amendment to the board. FC Larson stated that the amendment shows an increased use of Impact Fees and Assigned Funds in the amount of \$45,887.02, which correlates with the increase in Capital Outlay. She explained this is due to the unforeseen repairs to FB136 and the boat lift. Chairman Jennis opened the public hearing for public comment. There were none. There was no Board discussion. Commissioner Warner motioned to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Tindall. Commissioner Burke moved to approve the budget amendment as presented; Commissioner Warner seconded. A roll call vote was performed. Commissioner Tindall - yes, Commissioner Bennett - yes, Commissioner Warner - yes, Commissioner Jennis - yes, Chairman Burke - yes. Motion carried 5-0.

1ST PUBLIC HEARING 2026-2027 BUDGET – RESOLUTION #2026-06: AA Wright verified that the public hearing was advertised in the Bradenton Herald on Sunday, August 9th, and read the resolution summary. Chief Rigney stated this budget reflects what was presented at the Budget Workshop in April. He noted that Capital Outlay is low to rebuild fund balances after the large expenses in the current year. Chief Rigney reminded the Board that this is the last year of the Collective Bargaining Agreement and that negotiations will begin around March or April of 2027. Chairman Jennis opened the public hearing for public comment. There were none. Commissioner Warner moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Tindall. Chairman Jennis stated the second hearing for this resolution is next month.

1ST PUBLIC HEARING FIRE PREVENTION CODE – ORDINANCE #2026-07: AA Wright verified that the public hearing was advertised in the Bradenton Herald on Sunday, August 9th, and read the resolution summary. Lt. Adkins explained that the updated code has been significantly streamlined to eliminate redundancies between the local ordinance and the Florida Fire Prevention Code, which the Bureau already enforces. Lt. Adkins explained that the Bureau retained WMFR-specific operational provisions, including fire alarm, FDC, OS&Y valve, and nuisance/malfunctioning alarm requirements. Lt. Adkins explained that new provisions were added for electronic reporting of fire protection system inspections, and for inspectors to document and refer obvious pool/spa safety concerns to the appropriate agency. 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. Chairman Jennis stated the second hearing for this ordinance is next month.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: Chief Rigney requested that the TRT 636 Interlocal Agreement be added to New Business B.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Burke moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; Commissioner Tindall seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

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COMMUNICATIONS: AA Wright stated Charlotte County Fire & EMS thanked WMFR for its support following the passing of Firefighter/Paramedic Jay Sanders. Chief Rigney organized a strike team for the funeral and sent an engine to assist.

CARRIED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Resolution #2026-05 Appointment of Membership Fire Prevention Code Board of Appeals: AA Wright read the resolution summary. Lt Adkins explained that Resolution 2026-05 updates the Fire Prevention Code Board of Appeals membership, appointing Jason Taylor and Michael Hannesay to replace Garry Roberts and Raj Mathur, effective October 1, 2026. Commissioner Tindall moved to adopt Resolution 2026-05. Seconded by Commissioner Burke. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Interlocal Agreement TRT 636: Chief Rigney gave a brief history of the separate USAR teams in Manatee County, then explained that TRT 636 currently includes West Manatee, North River, and Bradenton Fire Department. He stated this updated interlocal agreement includes Cedar Hammock, Southern Manatee, East Manatee, Parrish, and Duette. Commissioner Tindall moved to adopt the interlocal agreement regarding the Manatee County Technical Rescue Team 636. Seconded by Commissioner Warner. Motion passed unanimously.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Rigney thanked staff for their work on the proposed budget, informed the Board that Fire Marshal Kwiatkowski is at the National Fire Academy for his first EFO class, and reminded them that September's meeting is on the second Tuesday of the month. Deputy Chief Johnson shared that WMFR members are participating in a Collapse Tech course held this week at North River Fire District and welcomed them to observe if interested.

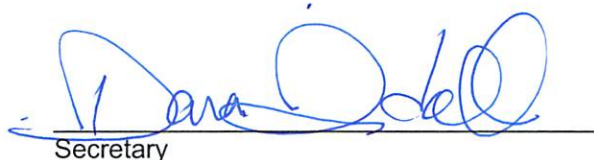
OTHER REPORTS: None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: Commissioner Tindall commended the Bureau for their back-to-school event presence and gave kudos on the TRT Interlocal Agreement. Chairman Jennis thanked staff for the thorough budget and prevention code presentations.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Administration building. Tax Appeals Hearing, Budget Adoption, Prevention Code Adoption, and Regular Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Jennis adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.


Chairman


Secretary

