

NORTH FORT MYERS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE SERVICE  
DISTRICT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 26, 2026

Commissioner Gatewood called the North Fort Myers Fire Control and Rescue Service District Board of Commissioners to order at 5:05 p.m.

**Roll Call**

**Present:**

Commissioner Michael Gatewood

Commissioner James Land

Chief Jeremy Dunn

Assistant Chief John Manson

Office Manager Monique Brooks

Public Education Officer Christi Fulton

Admin Specialist Emily Grgurich

Attorneys Remotely: Jimmie Hicks

Commissioner Tom Mere

Commissioner Danny Ballard

Assistant Chief of Training Eric Klos

Fire Marshal Rick Jones

Union Representative Josh Ballard arrived late at approximately 5:45 p.m.

**Absent:** Commissioner Bill Schaible

**Invocation:** Commissioner Mere

**Pledge:** Commissioner Ballard

**Public Input:** None

**Minutes:** Commissioner Mere made a motion to approve the December 15, 2026 minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0. (1)

**Treasurer's Report:** The December Treasurer's Report was presented. At this time, we are 26% through the budget year, received 92% of revenues (including carryover) and spent 32% of expenditures (less reserves). Commissioner Ballard stated on page 1 of the budget it shows "\$ over budget" shouldn't that say over under budget? Monique stated she will research the matter. (2)

**Chief's Report:**

By Chief Dunn-

- Attended Legislative Forum.
- DOT has notified us of road work beginning on US 41 up to Diplomat.
- There was an incident at Station 3, the security cameras assisted in a positive identification.
- Inquiring about fencing at Station 3.

By Asst. Chief Manson-

- Garage doors have been repaired, and we have switched garage door companies.
- Online uniform store is up and running.
- Going to look at the New Engine in February.
- Brush Truck bed has been installed.

There were no questions or comments.

**Prevention:** Report attached. There were no questions or comments.

**Public Education:** 545 Children and 185 Families were served through our Annual Toy Drive. Christi invited the Commissioners to attend the CERT Picnic that will be held at Station 1 on February 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. There were no questions or comments.

**Training:** Report attached. There were no questions or comments.

**Union:** No Comments

## Old Business:

- **Update on Pondella Road Fire Station**

Chief Dunn stated he had a meeting with the county. The Civil Engineer, Ahmad Kareh, Senior Estimator from Stevens Construction, Mike Isabelle and the Architect Chris Lee are in attendance to further discuss. Ahmad Kareh stated that in the meeting with Lee County Utilities it was determined that the water line and sewer hookup will not be an issue at 151 Pondella Rd. Commissioner Ballard asked what is the dollar amount for the hookup? Ahmad Kareh stated he did not have an estimated number, but it will be a simple sewer hookup. There were no further questions or comments.

Chief Dunn asked the Board for permission to move forward with 151 Pondella Rd. Commissioner Ballard stated that he tabled a motion in the last meeting to have a cap on the project and he will not take it off the table until we have a solid number for the construction of the New Station. Discussion ensued concerning the building plans for the New Station. Chief Dunn stated he would provide copies of the plans to the Commissioners. **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to add the review of the New Fire Station to the Workshop that is being held on February 23rd. Seconded by Commissioner Land. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0.**

- **Discussion and Consideration of approval of settlement agreements with Compass One Holdings, LLC and The Lamar Company, LLC regarding the billboard matter on the Pondella Road Property.**

Attorney Hicks recommended that the board move forward with the settlement agreement provided subject to legal review. Discussion ensued amongst the Board regarding the settlement agreement. **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the resolution as written subject to legal review. Seconded by Commissioner Land. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0. (3)**

Resolution 2026-001 read by Monique Brooks and put to vote and approved by the Board 4-0. Attorney Hicks stated that he did not want the Board to sign the approved motion until we hear back from Lamar.

**New Business:**

- **Election of Officers**

**Commissioner Mere nominated Commissioner Gatewood for Chair. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0.**

**Commissioner Gatewood nominated Commissioner Ballard for Vice Chair. Seconded by Commissioner Land. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0.**

**Commissioner Gatewood nominated Commissioner Mere for Treasurer. Seconded by Commissioner Land. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0.**

- **Agreement with Tuscan**

Commissioner Gatewood asked Monique if there are any differences in the agreement presented versus our previous agreement? No. Commissioner Mere asked Monique if she is happy with Tuscan? Yes. **Commissioner Mere made a motion to approve the agreement with Tuscan as written. Seconded by Commissioner Land. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0. (4)**

- **Designation of Engine 5 as Surplus Equipment**

**Chief Manson stated that one of our reserve Engines, Engine 5 has served its purpose for the District and we would like to donate the Engine. Commissioner Ballard made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-002. Seconded by Commissioner Land. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0. (5)**

Resolution 2026-2002 read by Monique Brooks. The Resolution was put to vote and approved by the board 4-0.

### **Commissioner Items:**

Commissioner Ballard stated that there is a state statute stating that a fire chief cannot come back and do any work for the fire department for two years after retiring. Commissioner Ballard made a motion not to allow Chief Beecroft's construction company to do any work for the Fire Department for three years. The Board had discussion with the attorney regarding current state statute. The attorney stated that he was not aware of any such verbiage. Attorney Hicks will provide definitive answer on the matter at the next meeting.

Commissioner Ballard – Records need to be presented to the board for the attendance of the 40-hour personnel monthly. Monique Brooks explained the recording process that is taking place for attendance. Commissioner Ballard stated that he knows for a fact that vacations have been taken without being recorded numerous times. Chief Manson stated that all timesheets are kept together and that information is all public record. Admin has the same checks and balance system for attendance that Suppression has. Chief Dunn stated that he trusts his Admin.

Commissioner Mere – It is our job to hire and fire the Chief and oversee the budget. I trust our Admin and think that they are doing a good job.

**Public Input:** As a small business owner with remote employees, my employees produce great work, and I never question them because we have mutual respect and trust for one another. I think that sense those documents are already public record having your employees provide an additional document each month will break that mutual respect.

### **Community Goodwill & Thank You:**

Lynne Miller – Thank you note to Rescue 1 B Shift

Chrysstine and Zilma – Thank you to Christi the smoke alarm program

Armand Lopez – Thank you to Inspector Adams, Inspector Brooks and Christi for installing smoke detectors

Commissioner Gatewood thanked all the employees for their hard work and encouraged everyone to keep up the good work.

**Commissioner Land made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Mere. The motion was put to a vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.**

Supportive Documents:

1. December 15, 2026 Minutes
2. December Treasurer's Report
3. Settlement agreement with Compass One Holdings, LLC and The Lamar Company, LLC
4. Agreement with Tuscan
5. Designation of Engine 5 as Surplus Equipment