

NORTH FORT MYERS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE SERVICE
DISTRICT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 23, 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
Office Manager Monique Brooks
Public Education Officer Christi Fulton
Admin Specialist Emily Grgurich
Attorneys Remotely: Dirk Smits

Commissioner Tom Mere
Commissioner Danny Ballard
Commissioner Bill Schaible
Assistant Chief of Training Eric Klos
Fire Marshal Rick Jones

Absent: Assistant Chief John Manson

Invocation: Commissioner Mere

Pledge: Commissioner Schaible

Public Input: None

Minutes: Commissioner Land made a motion to approve the January 26, 2026 minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Mere. Commissioner Mere commented that the minutes did not reflect correct information regarding the District doing business with a previous Chief. Commissioner Ballard stated that he was given incorrect information. **The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. (1)**

Treasurer's Report: The January Treasurer's Report was presented. At this time, we are 34% through the budget year, received 92% of revenues (including carryover) and spent 37% of expenditures (less reserves). (2)

Chief's Report:

By Chief Dunn-

- Fire Wise event in Herons Glenn that several members from the Dive and Special Ops Team attended
- CERT Picnic was the largest yet
- Chief Manson and Truck Committee members are in Wisconsin reviewing the New Engine

Commissioner Mere would like Christi to present an award for American Red Cross thanking them for their support in our community.

There were no further questions or comments.

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

Public Education: We had 175 in attendance at the CERT Picnic and due to the size, we are out growing the station. For next year's picnic we will be looking to have one of our CERT communities host the event. Red Cross has provided the smoke alarm program with thousands of smoke alarms, thank you Commissioner Mere for allowing us to move forward with the award to Red Cross.

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

Union: Josh Ballard - Thank you Chief for donating the money to allow us to participate in the annual softball tournament.

Old Business:

- **Update on Pondella Road Fire Station**

Commissioner Ballard removed the Ponella Road Fire Station off the table.

Chief Dunn – Stevens Construction presented me with plans and an estimated cost of \$6,962,968.00, the information has been presented to the Station Committee and they are ready to move forward. I am asking that the Board give me a cap on the project. **Commissioner Ballard made a motion to allow the Chief to spend up to \$7,500,000.00 not including Impact Fees on the New Station. Seconded by Commissioner Schaible. The motion was put to a vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.**

- **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 Dirk Smits explained the terms of the settlement. **Commissioner Land made a motion to accept the resolution as written. Seconded by Commissioner Mere. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. (3)**

Resolution 2026-003 read by Monique Brooks and put to vote and approved by the Board 5-0.

- **Discussion of Resolution 2018-005 for purpose of clarification and Possible Action.**

Commissioner Gatewood stated this matter was discussed in today's workshop and will be on the agenda for approval next month.

New Business:

- **Employee Manual, Chapter 2 Updated**

Chief Dunn – the major change is to the comp time policy. In an effort to lower the Districts liabilities, starting with myself and going forward anyone who promotes from a non-exempt to exempt position would be paid out up to 240 hours of their comp time at their rate prior to promoting. **Commissioner Land made a motion to accept the Employee Manual, Chapter 2 as written. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. (4)**

- **Discussion/Possible Action on Purchase of New Property for expansion**

Chief Dunn asked the Board for approval to be able to put money down on a potential property pending board approval.

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to allow Chief Dunn to enter into a purchase contract with a down payment up to \$100,000.00 on a potential property, subject to Board approval and legal review. Seconded by Commissioner Schaible. Commissioner Mere – if an issue arises will we be able to get out of the contract? Yes, we have a 45-day due diligence period. **The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. (5)**

Commissioner Items:

Ballard – I would like to see our Department participate in the Edison Parade.

Public Input: Representative from Stevens Construction – thank you all for approving the budget.

Community Goodwill & Thank You: None

Commissioner Schaible made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Land. The motion was put to a vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Supportive Documents:

1. January 26, 2026 Minutes
2. January Treasurer's Report
3. Resolution 2026-003
4. Employee Manual, Chapter 2