

**WEST MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

*Minutes of April 21, 2026
Administration Building*

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: Lisa Brooks was promoted and pinned to the rank of Lieutenant Inspector, effective March 25, 2026. Cierra Price was promoted and pinned to the rank of Level 2 Inspector effective February 25, 2026. Jordon Hinton was promoted and pinned to the rank of 3rd Class Firefighter effective April 7, 2026.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. with the following members present: Robert Bennett, Larry Jennis, Dana Tindall, Derrick Warner, and Billy Burke. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence.

Commissioner Warner motioned to excuse the absence of Commissioner Bennett from the February 17th Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Burke. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Warner motioned to excuse the absence of Commissioner Jennis from the February 17th Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Tindall. Motion passed unanimously.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

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

COMMUNICATIONS: Administrative Assistant (AA) Wright explained that communications include a letter from East Manatee Fire Rescue regarding funeral support and coordination for Firefighter Miley, as well as community feedback expressing appreciation for CPR/AED training and the professionalism of Training Chief Tuttle and Training Lieutenant O'Kelly.

CARRIED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Budget Workshop Continuation: Chief Rigney stated that staff will bring back a 7.9% rate increase as discussed in the workshop. The Board had no further discussion.

- B. 2025 Annual Report: Fire Marshal (FM) Kwiatkowski presented the 2025 Annual Report, noting approximately 2,800 calls and an average response time of six minutes. He reported a return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC) rate of 56%, approximately 2.5 times the national average, with seven lives saved by personnel. FM Kwiatkowski also highlighted Community Risk Reduction efforts, including 3,600 inspections and re-inspections and over 2,500 TPLEs. The District focused on improvements in communication, training, and operational uniformity. Chief Rigney stated the report will be published on the District's website and commended DC Johnson, FM Kwiatkowski, and staff for their work. Commissioner Burke motioned to approve the 2025 Annual Report, seconded by Commissioner Warner. The motion passed unanimously.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Rigney commended staff for their planning and execution of the Brian Reed Annual Homecoming Celebration. FM Kwiatkowski reported that the Bureau has been delivering NFPA 1700 and 1730 training statewide, reaching 203 students since the last commission meeting. Deputy Chief (DC) Johnson advised that the Training Division is hosting a three-day multi-

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company drill this week, involving 10 engines, one ladder truck, and one rescue unit. Chief Rigney thanked those who supported Firefighter Bercot upon her discharge. DC Johnson reminded the Board of the April 27 push-in ceremony for Engines 111 and 131, noting that E131 is in service and E111 is nearing completion pending final adjustments. He added that April 20 marked the start of E111's one-year warranty and expressed appreciation for Matheny's support. DC Johnson also noted that one of the new engines will participate in the DeSoto Parade and invited commissioners to ride along.

OTHER REPORTS: Administrative Assistant (AA) Wright reminded the Board that financial disclosures are due by July 1st. AA Wright explained that the Board has to complete the required 4-hour ethics course and that all members have been registered for it.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: The Board expressed appreciation to staff for the successful Brian Reed Annual Homecoming Celebration and for delivering a clear and transparent Budget Workshop. Commissioner Tindall expressed support for the "West Way" concept, mentioned by FM Kwiatkowski in his Annual Report presentation, and pride in the District. Commissioner Warner thanked staff and the Board for their support during his cancer treatment. Chairman Jennis commended the Annual Report and expressed confidence in the proposed budget.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Administration building.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Jennis adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.


Chairman


Secretary

