

IONA MCGREGOR FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

DATE: September 16, 2026

6:00 P.M.

6061 SOUTH POINTE BOULEVARD

FORT MYERS, FL 33919

NOTE: THE BOARD MEETING IS BEING RECORDED AND ALL STATEMENTS MADE DURING THE BOARD MEETING ARE SUBJECT TO BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO OTHERS AS A PART OF THE BOARD MEETING PUBLIC RECORD.

NOTE: ALL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE PUT ON THE SILENT MODE PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF THE BOARD MEETING AND REMAIN ON SILENT MODE THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE BOARD MEETING UNTIL ADJOURNMENT.

Meeting Called to Order

Roll Call of Commissioners: Chair James Andersen (Present), Vice Chair Steve Barbosa (Present), Treasurer Paul Louwers (Present), Secretary Jason McCoy (Present), Commissioner Stephen Allen Sr. (Commissioner Andersen, “Let the record show Commissioner Allen is attending via phone and I make a motion that ‘the Board approve Commissioner Allen to participate in full function as a Board member with all rights and privileges herein’ was made by Commissioner **Andersen**, seconded by Commissioner **Louwers** ...Motion carried. Call and question, all in favor aye.)

Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Recognitions: None.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda, Including Amendment: A motion to ‘Adopt Meeting Agenda, Including Amendments’ was made by Commissioner **Barbosa**, seconded by Commissioner **Louwers** ...Motion carried. Call and question, all in favor aye.

Approval of Previous [August 19, 2026, Board Meeting](#) & [September 9, 2026, Special Meeting](#) Minutes: A motion to approve ‘August 19, 2026, Board Meeting & September 9, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes’ was made by Commissioner **Andersen**, seconded by Commissioner **McCoy** motion carried. Call and question, all in favor aye.

[Approval of Financial Report](#): Chief Financial Officer Winzenread opens the floor to questions, discussion ensues.

A motion to approve ‘August Financial Report’ was made by Commissioner **Andersen**, seconded by Commissioner **Barbosa** ...Motion carried. Call and question, all in favor aye.

Chief's Report: A motion to approve the ‘Chief’s Report’ was made by Commissioner **Andersen**, seconded by Commissioner **Louwens**...Motion carried. Call and question, all in favor aye.

Attorney’s Report: Attorney Pringle discussed the potential future use of a non-ad valorem assessment and the procedural steps necessary to preserve the Board’s ability to consider one in the following calendar year. He requested Board consensus to proceed with the required public notice and place the necessary resolution on the November meeting agenda. He clarified that adoption of the resolution would not obligate the Board to impose an assessment but would preserve the option for future consideration. The Board provided consensus for Attorney Pringle to proceed.

DVP’s Reports: DVP Manke, with District 7, reported that recent negotiations maintained the status quo for the year and acknowledged the District’s absorption of increased health insurance costs. He discussed a general sense of uncertainty among members regarding upcoming changes and expressed concern about potential employee retention, particularly among newer personnel. DVP Manke encouraged a more unified and positive message throughout the District to provide reassurance and stability to members and acknowledged his own responsibility in supporting that effort.

DVP Martin, with District 25, reported completed negotiations on September 4, 2026, with no changes to contract language.

Public Input on Business Agenda Items [Note: Prior to Board action being taken on each of the Business Agenda Items below, members of the public will have up to three (3) minutes per person to make public comment on each of the Business Agenda Items after the Commissioners have had their discussion.]:

Business Agenda Items

1. Possible Proposed Expansion of Iona McGregor Fire District Boundaries to Include Fort Myers Beach Fire District Territory
 - a. Discussion of Agenda Item
No updates.
 - b. Public Input
No public input.
 - c. Board Action
None.

2. Fire Prevention Fee Schedule

a. Discussion of Agenda Item

Fire Marshal Mozes presented the updated Fire Prevention Fee Schedule in preparation for implementation of the District's plan review program on October 1, 2026. She explained that the fee schedule was streamlined, plan review permit fees were added, and third-party billing costs were incorporated into the applicable fees to improve cost recovery and reduce District invoicing and collection efforts. She further advised that the third-party billing provider would manage fee collection and maintain an audit trail of customer contacts.

Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the updated Fire Prevention Fee Schedule and implementation of the plan review program. The motion carried.

b. Public Input

No public input.

c. Board Action

A motion to approve 'the updated fire prevention fee schedule and plan review program implementation' was made by Commissioner **Andersen**, seconded by Commissioner **McCoy** ...Motion carried. Call and question, all in favor aye. No public input.

3. Collective Bargaining Agreement, District 7

a. Discussion of Agenda Item

Fire Chief Comer reported that the Collective Bargaining Agreement with District 7 had been ratified and presented the updated agreement, including the redline changes, for Board approval. He advised that the revisions were minimal and included updates to the workweek and overtime provisions.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with District 7, including the redline changes as presented. There was no public input. The motion carried.

b. Public Input

No public input.

c. Board Action

A motion to approve 'the collective bargaining agreement with the redline changes from District 7 as presented' was made by Commissioner **Andersen**, seconded by Commissioner **McCoy** ...Motion carried. Call and question, all in favor aye. No public input.

4. Fire Chief Selection (Tabled item from September 9, 2026, Special Meeting)

a. Discussion of Agenda Item

The Board continued discussion of the Fire Chief selection process previously tabled from the September 9, 2026, Special Meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to conduct the Fire Chief candidate interviews at a **Special Meeting on October 14, 2026, beginning at 2:00 p.m.** at Station 74. There was no public input. The motion carried.

The Board subsequently considered modifying the previously approved interview-question process. Following discussion and public input, the motion was modified to establish a total of ten interview questions to be developed by Attorney Pringle and labor counsel from the Commissioners submitted questions and questions used in previous Fire Chief interview processes, without requiring the previously established 50/50 allocation. The modified motion was seconded and carried.

b. Public Input

Public input from Todd Manke, he commented on the proposed interview-question process and suggested that greater consideration be given to the Commissioners newly submitted questions, as they may more directly address the District's current circumstances, rather than requiring an equal allocation between newly submitted and previously used questions.

Public input from Yohana Rothenberg, expressed concern regarding the potential for interview questions or candidate responses to be recorded or shared electronically during the public interview process.

c. Board Action

A motion to conduct 'interviews for the applicants who apply for the Fire Chief selection process in a Special Meeting on October the 14th, starting at 2:00 PM at Station 74 in the meeting room' was made by Commissioner **Andersen**, seconded by Commissioner **McCoy** ...Motion carried. Call and question, all in favor aye. No public input.

A motion to modify 'the total number of interview questions to 10' was made by Commissioner **Allen**, seconded by Commissioner **Barbosa** ...Motion carried. Call and question, all in favor aye.

Public Comments on Non-Business Agenda Items [Note: Any member of the public will have up to three (3) minutes to make public comments on any non-business agenda item topics.]: None.

Commissioner McCoy advised the decal for Station 75 is on its way and thanked Division Chief Brian Crisman.

Commissioner Comments on Non-Business Agenda Items: Commissioner Andersen thanked District personnel for their continued service and acknowledged the uncertainty surrounding potential November election, amendment, and merger outcomes. He expressed appreciation to Districts 7 and 25 for maintaining the status quo during this period of uncertainty.

Chair Andersen also recognized Chief Financial Officer Mark Winzenread, Linnea Nodarse, Yohana Rothenberg, and other staff for their work on the budget and thanked Fire Marshal Jackielou Mozes and her team for their work updating the Fire Prevention Fee Schedule. He concluded by encouraging personnel to look out for one another and utilize available mental health resources when needed.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner **Allen**, seconded by Commissioner **McCoy** ...Motion carried. Call and question, all in favor aye. **7:26 PM**.

Signed: _____

Print Name: _____