

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
ALVA FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
2660 STYLES ROAD, ALVA, FLORIDA 33920
DATE: JUNE 09, 2025

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Fichter convened the regular monthly meeting of the Alva Fire Protection & Rescue Service District at 6:31 PM on June 09, 2025. There were sufficient Board members present to establish a quorum.

Commissioners in Attendance

Henry Grant Fichter
Darren Watkins - **Absent**
Paul F. Meloy, Jr.
Henry D. MacArty
Debbie K. Whitney

Also in Attendance

Jean P. Etcheverry, Chief
Sunny Sipes, Finance Manager
1-District Firefighter/DVP
1-District Volunteer
Pastor Paul Cords

Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence / Prayer

Prayer performed by Pastor Paul Cords

Presentation of Awards & Acknowledgments

None

Approval of the May 12, 2025 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Commissioner MacArty moved to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2025, regular monthly meeting. Commissioner Meloy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Approval of the Financial Data from May 2025

Finance Manager, Sunny Sipes, detailed District income and expenditures (copy attached hereto).

Commissioner Meloy moved to approve the financial data from May 2025. Commissioner Whitney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Public Input on Business

None

New Business

➤ **Chief's Report**

- ✓ Happy Birthday to Firefighter/Engineer Richard Johnson.
- ✓ Welcome to the District's four (4) new Firefighters.
- ✓ Thank you to Firehouse Subs, the Forum location, for the wonderful grant presentation ceremony. Thank you to the Commissioners and staff that attended the gathering.
- ✓ Firefighters attended the Alva Senior Living facility Open House, 3-day fire boat course, nozzle training, Josh The Otter presentation at the Alva School, Alva Church of God 75th birthday celebration as well as multiple brush fires.
- ✓ Chief attended Cancer Initiative for Women In Firefighting.
- ✓ Upcoming monthly obligations include EVOC training, pit crew training with Lee County EMS and Trailwinds public event.

- ✓ Additional comments: Florida Power & Light to connect the Administrative office building power soon, R-121 is now in service, bunk room renovations are now complete and Chief will attend an Executive Development Conference in July. He will join the July board meeting via telephone.
- ✓ Chief proposed to the Board the purchase of bunker gear for the newly hired employees. He stated that a majority of the originally budgeted funds for this purchase was used to gear newly hired replacement Firefighters during the month of November.

Commissioner MacArty made a motion to approve the purchase of four (4) new sets of bunker gear, through Municipal Emergency Services, in the amount of \$18,740.00 (copy attached hereto). This motion was seconded by Commissioner Whitney and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Meloy moved to accept Chief Etcheverry's Chief's Report. Commissioner Whitney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

- Finance Manager, Sunny Sipes, presented the Board with Budget Amendment #1 for FY end 09/30/2025.
 - ✓ Sipes reviewed with the Board all budget modifications (copy attached hereto).

Commissioner Meloy made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #1 for FY end 09/30/2025. This motion was seconded by Commissioner MacArty and unanimously approved.

- Talks ensued to schedule an Executive Session for Board members to discuss ongoing Union negotiations with the District's Negotiation Board.

Commissioner Fichter made a motion to schedule an Executive Session on Thursday, July 17, 2025, 6:00 PM, at Station 121 - 2660 Styles Road, Alva, Florida 33920. This motion was seconded by Commissioner MacArty and unanimously approved.

- Discussion ensued on the Alva Fire District's projected ad valorem proceeds for FY end 09/30/2026.
 - ✓ Sipes stated that projected values show a 3.7% increase with a total collection of \$2,021,748. She stated that this would be approximately \$74,156 over the current fiscal year collections. She reminded the Board that this figure may increase or decrease slightly with the final numbers to be released on or around July 1st.

Old Business

- Discussion ensued on the land purchase for a possible second station.
 - ✓ Commissioner Fichter addressed the Board by providing a parcel map of the land that the Board is considering for purchase. He stated that he had met with the land owner to discuss his thoughts on pricing and address any concerns that he may have with the development of this parcel. He stated that the owner's main concerns were with the exact location of the station development as well as noise maintenance.
 - ✓ Fichter agrees with Chief Etcheverry that this location is ideal for the ISO rating reductions within the Alva Fire District.
 - ✓ Discussion ensued on permitting and zoning.
 - ✓ The Board agreed to have Chief Etcheverry inquire with Lee County representatives on possible land/building leasing and/or landing zone options.

Commissioner MacArty motioned to allow Commissioner Fichter to continue talks with land property owners in regard to the purchase of a future second station site. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Meloy and unanimously passed.

Union Report

Jason Allen, DVP Southwest FL Professional Firefighters & Paramedics, IAFF Local 1826

- Stated Union negotiations are ongoing and will continue on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 9 AM.

Volunteer / Public Comments

None

Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner MacArty thanked Commissioner Fichter for his time and efforts regarding the future station land purchase.
- Commissioner Fichter thanked Sipes for the information that she collected regarding permitting, zoning and construction of the future site. He also thanked the Firefighters and Volunteers for their service to the Alva District.

Reminders

- The July Board Meeting will be held Monday, July 14, 2025, at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment

Commissioner MacArty moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Meloy, and the vote was unanimous. Vice Chairman Fichter closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sunny Sipes, Finance Manager / Administrative Specialist

Minutes Distributed Electronically to Board Members