

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
**ALVA FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT**  
2660 STYLES ROAD, ALVA, FLORIDA 33920  
DATE: JULY 14, 2025

**Call to Order**

Chairman Watkins convened the regular monthly meeting of the Alva Fire Protection & Rescue Service District at 6:31 PM on July 14, 2025. There were sufficient Board members present to establish a quorum.

**Commissioners in Attendance**

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

**Also in Attendance**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence / Prayer**

Prayer performed by Pastor Paul Cords

**Presentation of Awards & Acknowledgments**

None

**Approval of the June 09, 2025 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Fichter moved to approve the minutes of the June 09, 2025, regular monthly meeting. Commissioner MacArty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

**Approval of the Financial Data from June 2025**

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

Commissioner Fichter moved to approve the financial data from June 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 Oslindy Osne.
- ✓ 41-Total Calls: 32-EMS, 9-Fire.
- ✓ Chief is currently attending the 2025 Executive Development Conference.
- ✓ The following training is ahead: Mutual Aid training, sign language training and the EMS Art of Decision Making course.
- ✓ Chief informed the Board that the gear dryers are now operational, 2,000 gallon water tanks are on side of station building, B-123 is operational, the Life Scan process begins this week, Union members have ratified the temporarily agreed upon contract modifications, he is working on developing a new equipment checklist for Firefighters, he would like additional water storage for the the department and is interested in widening the roadway that

leads to the yard equipment storage shed. He stated that the tender could be parked in the developed area.

- ✓ Discussion ensued on water storage tanks.
- ✓ Commissioner MacArty suggested Chief Etcheverry look into the expense and process of having a dedicated well installed for water fill-ups.

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

- Finance Manager, Sunny Sipes, presented the Board with the total ad valorem proceeds expected for FY end 09/30/26.
  - ✓ Sipes relayed that the District is expected to receive \$2,074,953 (100%) in ad valorem proceeds. She stated that this is a 6.2% increase over the current year values.
- A call was made to set the proposed millage rate for FY end 09/30/2026 at 3.7500 mills.

Commissioner MacArty made a motion to set the proposed millage rate for FY end 09/30/2026 at 3.7500 mills. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Fichter and unanimously approved.

- Talks ensued to schedule the Tentative Budget Hearing date for FY end 09/30/2026 on Monday, September 08, 2025, at 6 PM.

Commissioner Fichter made a motion to schedule the Tentative Budget Hearing for FY end 09/30/2026 on Monday, September 08, 2025, 6:00 PM, at Station 121 - 2660 Styles Road, Alva, Florida 33920. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Whitney and unanimously approved.

### **Old Business**

- Discussion ensued on the land purchase for a possible second station.
  - ✓ Commissioner Fichter addressed the Board stating that there is an approved right of way to the parcel with Lee County. He stated that the land owner is presenting the discussed plans to property Engineers for their review and input. Fichter inquired with Board members if they were interested in continuing talks and the Board agreed. Fichter relayed that once he is contacted again by the land owner, the Board may want to begin the process of setting up the Station Development Committee.
  - ✓ Discussion ensued on servicing the future development, within the Babcock Community, that lies within the Alva Fire District.

### **Union Report**

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

- None

### **Volunteer / Public Comments**

None

### **Commissioner Comments**

- Commissioner Watkins thanked firefighters for their help with his pasture fire as well as their assistance provided to his stepfather.

### **Reminders**

- The August Board Meeting will be held Monday, August 11, 2025, at 6:30 PM.
- The Board's Executive Session will be held this Thursday evening, July 17, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner MacArty moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 PM. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Fichter, and the vote was unanimous. Chairman Watkins closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sunny Sipes, Finance Manager / Administrative Specialist

Minutes Distributed Electronically to Board Members