

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
ALVA FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
2660 STYLES ROAD, ALVA, FLORIDA 33920
DATE: MARCH 09, 2026

Call to Order

Chairman Watkins convened the regular monthly meeting of the Alva Fire Protection & Rescue Service District at 6:40 PM on March 09, 2026. There were sufficient Board members present to establish a quorum.

Commissioners in Attendance

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

Also in Attendance

Jean P. Etcheverry, Chief
Sunny Sipes, Finance Manager
Pastor Cords

Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence / Prayer

Prayer performed by Pastor Cords

Presentation of Awards & Acknowledgments

Chief Etcheverry thanked Oak Park for their \$3,380.00 donation to the Volunteer program, as well as the Gary Sinise Foundation for their donation of a new thermal imager.

Approval of the February 09, 2026 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Commissioner MacArty moved to approve the minutes of the February 09, 2026 regular monthly meeting. Commissioner Meloy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Approval of the Financial Data from February 2026

Sunny Sipes, Finance Manager/Administrative Specialist

Commissioner Meloy moved to approve the financial data from February 2026 (copy attached hereto). Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Public Input on Business

None

New Business

➤ Chief's Report

- ✓ Happy Birthday to Commissioner Watkins and Firefighter's Wright and Webber.
- ✓ Congratulations to Firefighter Barrett on his Pump Operator certification.
- ✓ Total calls in February-28; 15-EMS and 13-fire calls.
- ✓ Commercial inspections completed and the new brewery is now open.
- ✓ The following training is taking place: thermal imagery training for two Firefighters, extrication training with MES and mutual aid training including the Fort Myers Shores Fire Department.

- ✓ Pulic Outreach: The Oak Park dinner was very nice, the Alva Garden Club Strawberry Festival is coming up and the FAU balloon launch is to be held here at Station 121 on March 21st .
- ✓ Volunteer Chicken Barbecue will be held on Sunday, April 12, 2026 at 11:30 AM. Braxton College will be present at 10:30 AM to present the Sanchez Family with an honorary diploma for Jessica Sanchez.
- ✓ Sanchez honorary t-shirts as well as the Alva District 50th Anniversary t-shirts are now on sale for \$20 each through the Volunteer program.
- ✓ Small portable water tanks are now full.
- ✓ Discussion ensued on concrete supports for the large water tank. Commissioner Watkins stated that he could get these supports donated.
- ✓ Chief informed the Board that an incorrect portable pump was sent to the District but could be used for other purposes. The supplier is planning to offer a discount so that this pump will not need to be returned. Chief will keep the Board informed.
- ✓ Discussion ensued on the purchase of the Ford Expedition along with required graphics.

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

- Review/Approve Assigned Funds Expenditures - 2017 Ford Expedition & Related Expenses.
 - ✓ Chief Etcheverry presented the Board with his findings concerning the equipment purchase from the Fort Myers Beach Fire & Rescue District.

Commissioner MacArty motioned to secure the purchase of the 2017 Ford Expedition, for \$12,000.00, additionally with required graphics, from the Assigned Funds line item designated Future U-121. Commissioner Whitney seconded this proposal and the motion unanimously passed.

- Chief Etcheverry presented the Board with a new Best Practice Policy BP#200.03.00 Automatic Mutual Aid Response.
 - ✓ Chief discussed the importance of this policy as it relates to responding apparatus and personnel to mutual aid and out of district calls.

Commissioner Meloy made a motion to accept Best Practice BP#200.03.00 Automatic Mutual Aid Response (copy attached hereto). This motion was seconded by Commissioner MacArty and unanimously approved.

- Chief Etcheverry presented the Board with the deletion of the old station Indigo Series ice machine, old Asset #249 / Trackable Asset #1016, that is out of service.

Commissioner MacArty made a motion to dispose of Trackable Asset #1016 - Indigo Series ice machine. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Meloy and unanimously approved.

- Review/Approve Resolution #26.03.01 calling for the November 3, 2026 election of Board Seats #2 & 4 (4-year terms) and Seats #3 & 5 (2-year terms).

Commissioner MacArty made a motion to approve Resolution #26.03.01 calling for the November 3, 2026 election of Board Seats #2 & 4 (4-year terms) and Seats #3 & 5 (2-year terms) (copy attached hereto). Commissioner Meloy seconded this motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

- Review/Approve Audit professional services proposal from HSC/Tuscan & Company, PA, for fiscal years 2027, 2028 and 2029.
 - ✓ Sunny Sipes reviewed the proposal details.
 - ✓ Commissioner MacArty asked if this must be approved tonight and relayed that he would like to explore additional proposals.
 - ✓ Sipes' stated that there is a determined process for this and relayed that Tuscan has performed the District's audit services for over nineteen years. She stated that she would research and review her findings with the Board at the April Board meeting.
 - ✓ Commissioner MacArty asked to re-address this discussion at the April Board meeting and Board members agreed.

Old Business

- Discussion ensued on the training/helipad fixed lighting.
 - ✓ Chief stated that per Commissioner's request, he has a proposal from Ryze Electric for the recessed training/helipad lighting in the amount of \$6,860.00.
 - ✓ Discussion ensued on the proposal, specifications and the fact that this expenditure was not budgeted in the Capital line item for the current fiscal year.

Commissioner Meloy motioned to approve the Ryze Electric proposal, in the amount of \$6,860.00, for the training/helipad recessed lighting. This motion was seconded by Commissioner MacArty and the motioned unanimously passed.

- Discussion ensued on the land purchase for a possible second station.
 - ✓ Chief Etcheverry relayed that the title search and easement research was satisfactory. He also stated that the property owner is preparing proposal documents for the District.
 - ✓ Discussion ensued on land development.

Union Report

Jason Allen, DVP Southwest FL Professional Firefighters & Paramedics, IAFF Local 1826
None

Volunteer / Public Comments

None

Commissioner Comments

None

Reminders

- The April board meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, 2026, at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment

Commissioner Whitney moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Meloy, and the vote was unanimous. Chairman Watkins closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sunny Sipes, Finance Manager / Administrative Specialist

Minutes Distributed Electronically to Board Members