



**NORTH COLLIER FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026 ■ 9:00 AM**  
1885 Veterans Park Drive ■ Naples, FL 34109

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Christopher Lombardo called meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. With four of five commissioners present (James Calamari, Christopher Crossan, Christopher Lombardo, and Stephen Popper) quorum was met. Commissioner Norman Feder was absent.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. APPROVAL, ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

Commissioner Calamari moved to approve agenda as presented. Commissioner Crossan seconded. MOTION CARRIED 4:0

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. January 29, 2026 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting**

Commissioner Popper moved to approve minutes as presented. Commissioner Crossan seconded. MOTION CARRIED 4:0

**5. CHIEF'S REPORT**

Fire Chief Eloy Ricardo, Deputy Chief Michael Jimenez, and Deputy Chief Jorge Aguilera gave verbal reports. Chief Ricardo noted this for the record that Commissioner Feder had provided advance notice to the District that he would be absent from the meeting.

**6. TREASURER'S REPORT**

**A. January 2026**

Commissioner Calamari read a prepared summary for the January 2026 Treasurer's Report. Board accepted report as presented into record.

**7. LABOR REPORT**

Local 2297 President, Adam Wilson, gave verbal report.

Discussion ensued regarding the State's proposed legislation to eliminate ad valorem taxes. The Board expressed general consensus to explore the possibility of a future educational campaign and noted that assistance from the District's Public Information Officer would be necessary if pursued.



**8. CONSENT AGENDA**

Table 1: Expenditures for Board Approval

Category	Amount
General Fund Unbudgeted	\$0
General Fund Emergency Purchases	\$0
Addition of Fixed Assets	\$0
Deletion of Fixed Assets	\$38,736
Other	\$0

Commissioner Calamari moved to approve Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Crossan seconded. MOTION CARRIED 4:0

**9. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Procurement of Fire Apparatus and Equipment within Current Industry Trends (Recurring Discussion Item)**

Deputy Chief Kris Thomas noted he had no updates for the month.

**B. Request for Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Committee Formation Following Additional Legal Review**

Deputy Director Lori Freiburg provided comment. Discussion ensued regarding the communication limitations associated with formal committees in order to ensure compliance with Florida’s Sunshine Law. After Board discussion and consensus, Commissioner Calamari moved to rescind the Board’s prior action authorizing the formation of formal committees with delegated authority, in light of the communication limitations discussed, and to instead utilize publicly noticed Board workshops as an alternative approach. Commissioner Popper second. MOTION CARRIED 4:0

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Request Adoption of Resolution 26-001 to Approve Amendment to the North Collier Fire Control and Rescue District Firefighter Pension Plan**

Commissioner Calamari moved to adopt as presented Resolution 26-001, amending the Firefighter Pension Plan; updating Section 2 “Definitions”. Commissioner Crossan seconded. CFO Ben Van Klingerren provided comment. MOTION CARRIED 4:0



**B. Request for Board Approval to Sign Lifeguard Interlocal Agreement Between North Collier Fire Control and Rescue District and Collier County**

Fire Chief Ricardo and Deputy Chief Aguilera gave comment. Discussion with Q&A ensued. After conclusion of discussion, Commissioner Calamari moved to approve as presented per staff recommendation the Interlocal Agreement between the Board of County Commissioners and the District for the provision of lifeguard services. Commissioner Popper seconded. MOTION CARRIED 4:0

**C. Request for Board Approval for Real Estate Procurement of 1110 Pine Ridge Road Property**

Deputy Chief Kris Thomas gave comment. Discussion with Q&A ensued. After conclusion of discussion, Commissioner Calamari moved to approve as presented per staff recommendation the purchase of the property located at 1110 Pine Ridge Road #206-211 in the amount of \$3,295,000 and the purchase of all furnishings of the same property as described in the personal property sales contract in the amount of \$80,000. Commissioner Popper seconded. MOTION CARRIED 4:0

**D. Request for Board Approval for Real Estate Procurement of Vacant Land in Vicinity of Oil Well Road and Desoto Blvd. N.**

Deputy Chief Thomas gave comment. Discussion ensued. After conclusion of discussion, Commissioner Calamari moved to approve as presented per staff recommendation the purchase of parcel 40120480007 from BHB 131400, LLC. in the amount of \$105,000. Commissioner Popper seconded. MOTION CARRIED 4:0

**E. Request for Board Approval for Ambulance Procurement**

Deputy Chief Thomas and Chief Financial Officer Van Klingerren gave comment. After conclusion of discussion, Commissioner Calamari moved to approve as presented per staff recommendation the purchase of the proposed ambulance from Ten-8 Fire & Safety in the amount not to exceed \$545,395. Commissioner Crossan seconded. MOTION CARRIED 4:0

**F. 2025-2028 Collective Bargaining Agreement Transition – Memo of Understanding**

Chief Financial Officer Ben Van Klingerren gave summation and stated this item was informational with no action required.

**11. COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

General comments ensued.

**12. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Ken LaMotte of Bentley Village provided an update that the Bentley Village Foundation did complete its implementation of a scholarship program in partnership with Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW). Mr. LaMotte further confirmed that the program will provide scholarships



to students enrolling in the North Collier Fire/FSW firefighter academy and students enrolling in the FSW EMT academy.

### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Calamari moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Crossan seconded.  
MOTION CARRIED 4:0 Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

APPROVED