

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
CEDAR HAMMOCK FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**ADOPTION OF THE TENTATIVE LEVY OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 – RESOLUTION 2025-04**

**ADOPTION OF THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-  
2026 –RESOLUTION 2025-05**

**September 4, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Stevens at 6:00p.m. The following commissioners were present: Beth Byron-Reasoner, William M. Espy, Steve Litschauer, Marnie E. Matarese, and John H. Stevens.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Fire Chief Joe Falcone led the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**QUORUM**

Chief Falcone confirmed a physically present quorum for the meeting. The meeting was properly advertised.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Stevens asked if there was any discussion of the minutes or the Treasurer's report. There was no discussion.

**ACTION: Commissioner Litschauer moved to accept the Consent Agenda.  
Commissioner Byron-Reasoner seconded the motion. The motion passed  
unanimously (5-0).**

**SPECIAL BUSINESS**

There was no special business for this meeting.

## **RECESS REGULAR MEETING**

Chairman Stevens recessed the regular meeting.

## **PUBLIC HEARING / - THE ADOPTION OF THE TENTATIVE LEVY OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 – RESOLUTION 2025-04.**

Chairman Stevens called the Public Hearing to order and requested verification of the Public Notice of the public hearing. Chief Falcone confirmed the TRIM notices contained proper notification to the public.

Chief Falcone presented Resolution 2025-04, a resolution of the Cedar Hammock Fire Control District of Manatee County, Florida, adopting the tentative levy of ad valorem taxes for fiscal year 2025-2026, providing for an effective date.

The Cedar Hammock Fire Control District is a special purpose fire district and shall levy and collect ad valorem taxes in accordance with applicable general law. The gross taxable value for operating purposes certified by the Manatee County Tax Collector is \$5,464,916,853.

Therefore, be it resolved the above recitals are true and correct; the fiscal year 2025-2026 tentative operating millage rate for the Cedar Hammock Fire Control District is 1.3 mills, which is more than the rolled-back rate of 1.2529 mills by 3.76%. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Chairman Stevens opened the Public Hearing for the tentative levy of ad valorem taxes for fiscal year 2023-2024 for public comments.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Stevens closed the Public Hearing for the tentative levy of ad valorem taxes for fiscal year 2023-2024 for public comments.

**ACTION: Commissioner Litschauer moved to adopt the tentative levy of Ad Valorem taxes for Fiscal year 2025-2026- Resolution 2025-04 as presented. Commissioner Matarese seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).**

Chairman Stevens adjourned the Public Hearing for the tentative levy of ad valorem taxes for fiscal year 2025-2026.

## **PUBLIC HEARING / - THE ADOPTION OF THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026– RESOLUTION 2025-05.**

Chairman Stevens called the Public Hearing to order and requested verification of the Public Notice of the public hearing. Chief Falcone confirmed the TRIM notices contained proper notification to the public.

Chief Falcone presented Resolution 2025-05, a resolution of the Cedar Hammock Fire Control

District of Manatee County, Florida, adopting the tentative budget for the fiscal year 2025-2026, providing for an effective date.

The Cedar Hammock Fire Control District (“District”) is a special purpose fire district, and the Board held a properly advertised public hearing on September 4, 2025, for purposes of adopting a Tentative Budget for the fiscal year 2025-2026; and the Board set forth the appropriations and revenue estimate for the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in the amount of \$18,877,361, and through the adoption of this Tentative Budget, the Board has committed funds in the amount of \$6,541,616 to the following: Accrued Leave/Sick/Vacation/Salaries; Major Vehicle Repairs; Station Renovations; Vehicular Replacement; Fire Engine Replacement; and Rescue Equipment.

1. Therefore, be it resolved the above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated fully herein by reference.
2. The Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Tentative Budget, attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit 1, is hereby adopted.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Chairman Stevens opened the Public Hearing for the tentative budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 for public comments.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Stevens closed the Public Hearing for the tentative budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 for public comments.

**ACTION: Commissioner Matarese moved to adopt the tentative budget for Fiscal year 2025-2026- Resolution 2025-05 as presented. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).**

Chairman Stevens adjourned the Public Hearing for the tentative budget for fiscal year 2025-2026.

Chairman Stevens resumed the regular meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss at this meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss at this meeting.

## CHIEF'S REPORT

The Chief's report will be presented at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

## COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Byron-Reasoner reminded the board members of the workshop that is being held on Monday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. She also stated that each commissioner should review the template prior to the meeting to bring ideas forward as they set the goals and objectives for the next year.

## NEXT MEETING DATE

September 08, 2025 - Workshop  
September 18, 2025 - Public Hearings

## ADJOURNMENT

**ACTION: Commissioner Litschauer moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:09p.m.  
Treasurer Byron-Reasoner seconded the motion. The motion passed  
unanimously (5 - 0).**

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED

Vice Chairman Marnie Matarese

