

Pace Fire Rescue District

Regular Meeting

January 20, 2026

1. Meeting Called to Order

Present: Chairman Nick Gradia, Vice-Chairman Daniel Mills,
Secretary Jeremy Johnston, and Commissioner Lynn Garrett,
Treasurer Felix Hernandez

- a. Chairman Gradia called the meeting to order at approximately 5:05 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

- a. Secretary Johnston led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Moment of Silence

- a. A moment of silence was observed.

4. Public Form

- a. The Board acknowledges the public, no one was in attendance.

5. Minutes from the previous meeting

- a. A Motion to approve the Regular November Meeting Minutes was 1st made by Secretary Johnston and 2nd by Treasurer Hernandez. Chairman Gradia signed Decembers since there was no quorum, no motion was needed.
- b. Motions passed, unanimously.

6. Financial Report (Written report attached)

- a. Financial Report was reviewed. A Motion to approve the Financial Report was 1st made by Treasurer Hernandez and 2nd by Vice-Chairman Mills.
- b. Motions passed, unanimously.

7. Chief's Report (Written report attached)

- a. Chief Whitfield presented the monthly report.
- b. Informational purposes only, no action is needed.

8. Local Option Sales Tax (Informational)

- a. Chief Whitfield reported receiving the remainder \$200,000 of the L.O.S.T. tax cycle funds. The \$200,000 was used to offset the cost of the Rescue 21 refurbishment. All projects in this cycle are now closed out.
- b. Informational purposes only, no action is needed.

9. House Bill 4051 Representative Boyles

- a. Chief Whitfield reported that State Representative Nathan Boyles had filed the revised House Bill 4051 for the 2026 Legislative Session. The revised Bill will have a significant impact on the district. With the changes the district will have a Revenue decrease by approximately \$400,000. House Bill 4051 states the fire tax will be a flat fee instead of based on square footage. Chief Whitfield said he will be putting out information on House Bill 4051 on Pace Fire Rescue District's Facebook page and website sometime this week.
- b. Informational purposes only, no action is needed.

10. Hurricane Milton Reimbursement (FDEM)

- a. Chief Whitfield reported the district has finally received reimbursement for Hurricane Milton's deployment to Largo, Florida back in 2024.
- b. Informational purposes only, no action is needed.

11. Citizens' appointment to Firefighter Pension Board

- a. Chief Whitfield reported two (2) appointed citizens to the Pace Fire Rescue District Pension Board, Mr. Dennis Del Rosario and Mr. Arthur O'Reilly have expired. Mr. Del Rosario would like to continue serving on the Board. Mr. O'Reilly has chosen not to seek re-appointment. Mr. Steven Peake has requested being considered. Chief Whitfield stated he recommends the reappointment of Mr. Del Rosario and appointment of Mr. Peake to the Pace Fire Rescue District Pension Board. A Motion to approve the Reappointment of Mr. Del Rosario was 1st made by Vice-Chairman Mills and 2nd by Commission Garrett. A Motion to approve the Appointment of Mr. Peake was 1st made by Vice-Chairman Mills and 2nd by Commission Garrett.
- b. Motion passed, unanimously.

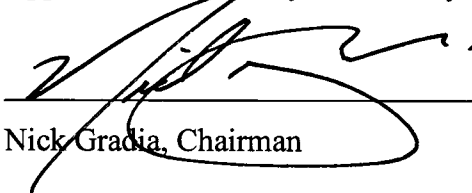
12. Fire Station 2

- a. Chief Whitfield stated he would like to discuss modifying or finding new property for Station 2, but it would be put on hold until we see what happens in the Legislative Assembly. This will be addressed at a future meeting.
- b. Informational purposes only, no action is needed.

13. Motion to Adjourn

- a. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.
- b. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:45 p.m.

Approved this 17th day of February 2026.



Nick Gracia, Chairman