

# **Pace Fire Rescue District**

## **Regular Meeting**

**March 16, 2026**

### **1. Meeting Called to Order**

Present: Chairman Nick Gradia, Vice-Chairman Daniel Mills,  
Secretary Jeremy Johnston, Commissioner Lynn Garrett,  
Treasurer Felix Hernandez and Assistant Chief Kanzigg  
standing in for Chief Whitfield.

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

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

- a. Chairman Gradia 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.
  - Mr. Jeff Ates, Jeff Ates Road, Milton, FL was in attendance. He expressed his interest in the status of Bill 4051. Mr. Ates and Chairman Gradia discussed his concerns in the ratio of Firefighters and Paramedics. Chairman Gradia and Mr. Ates discussed the differences between the local fire departments.

### **5. Minutes from the previous meeting**

- a. A Motion to approve the Regular February Meeting Minutes was 1<sup>st</sup> made by Vice-Chairman Mills and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Secretary Johnston.
- b. Motions passed, unanimously.

### **6. Financial Report (Written report attached)**

- a. Financial Report was reviewed. A Motion to approve the Financial Report was 1<sup>st</sup> made by Vice-Chairman Mills and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Secretary Johnston.
- b. Motions passed, unanimously.

### **7. Chief's Report (Written report attached)**

- a. Chief's Report was presented.
- b. Informational purposes only, no action is needed.

## **8. House Bill 4051 Representative Boyles**

- a. Chairman Gradia summarized the changes to House Bill 4051 which was discussed at the Town Hall meeting. The residential rate will be at a flat rate of \$250 and there have been changes to the commercial rates. The amended bill was passed, and it is now on Governor DeSantis' desk.
- b. Informational purposes only, no action is needed.

## **9. Paramedic Reimbursement**

- a. Assistant Chief Kanzigg stated at this time the department pays the tuition up front for firefighters who are interested in taking the Paramedic class. The understanding between the firefighter and the department the cost would be reimbursed after they have completed and passed the program with a license from the State of Florida. On behalf of Chief Whitfield, it is recommended to establish a dedicated "budget line" for future Paramedic program tuition. This budget line would be used on an "as-needed" basis for approved personnel. Secretary Johnston asked, "if there was some kind of contract that covers this agreement if they do not complete or pass the program and if it was legally approved?" Assistant Chief Kanzigg assured him that there was an agreement, and it had been reviewed by the department attorney." Vice-Chairman Mills advised that there were Florida State Grants that we needed to look into applying for, they cover class books, etc.
- b. Motion for a Paramedic Program Tuition Budget Line was 1<sup>st</sup> made by Commissioner Garrett and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice-Chairman Mills.
- c. Motions passed, unanimously.

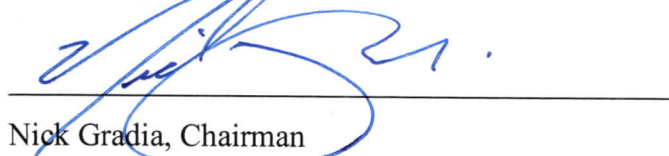
## **10. Additions/Deletions**

- a. Secretary Johnston asked, "if the PAT program had been implemented and how it was going." Assistant Chief Kanzigg explained the PAT process for the firefighters and that we were almost 100% completed.
- b. Informational purposes only, no action is needed.

## **11. Motion to Adjourn**

- a. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.
- b. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:00 p.m.

Approved this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026.

  
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Nick Gradia, Chairman