

**WEST MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT COMMISSION  
EMERGENCY MEETING**

*Minutes of October 7, 2024  
Administration Building*


The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. with the following members present: Larry Jennis, Robert Bennett, David Bishop, William Burke, and Derrick Warner. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence.

**EMERGENCY BUSINESS – “STATE OF EMERGENCY” DECLARATION HURRICANE MILTON:**

Administrative Assistant Wright read the resolution summary: A resolution of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the West Manatee Fire & Rescue District of Manatee County, Florida, declaring a state of emergency, authorizing emergency powers to the Fire Chief, and providing for an effective date. Chief Rigney stated we are switching from Hurricane Helene and into Hurricane Milton response. Chief Rigney spoke on the District's response plans as well as the relocation of other agencies and their assets. Chairman Warner asked where the USAR task force will be coming from and how many people are involved. Chief Rigney explained the process. Chairman Warner asked what Starlink will do for the District. Chief Rigney explained that it will provide us satellite internet if call service and WI-FI connection was to go down. Chairman Warner asked if ECC operates on internet to which Chief Rigney said no and explained the process. Commissioner Bennett motioned to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Burke. Chairman Warner opened for public comments, there were none. Commissioner Bishop asked about the station evacuation plan to which Chief Rigney stated both Station's 2 and 3 will be evacuated on Wednesday. Commissioner Burke motioned to adopt Resolution 2025-01 State of Emergency Declaration. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jennis. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Warner adjourned the meeting at 3:14 p.m.

  
Chairman

  
Secretary

