

MINUTES
Financial Emergency Board
Thursday, September 3, 2026, 2:45 p.m.
Online via TEAMS

Vickie DePratter, Chairman
Randy Beach
Kathy Sneads

Chair DePratter called the meeting to order and thanked the board members, Superintendent Ripplinger and Superintendent Barfield for participating in today's meeting.

Chair DePratter noted that there would be opportunities for the public to provide comments on actionable items on today's agenda.

1. Approval of Minutes of the August 20, 2026, Meeting of the Financial Emergency Board

The first item on the agenda was the approval of Minutes from the August 20, 2026, meeting of the Financial Emergency Board.

Member Beach moved to approve the Minutes, and Member Sneads seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. Union – Update and Consideration of Budget for FY 2026-27

Chair DePratter then recognized Superintendent Ripplinger to present Union's final 2026-27 budget.

Superintendent Ripplinger indicated Union presented the updated budget reflecting the projected FTE and budget as recently as possible. He requests approval today.

Superintendent Ripplinger recognized Deborah Parrish to respond to questions regarding Union's budget.

Member Sneads asked whether the edits have been run on the budget. Deborah Parrish said they have.

Chair DePratter asked whether she has backed out the revenue relating to the scholarships on the 310. Deborah Parrish said yes. Chair DePratter reminded the district that at the end of the year, they will need to make sure the applicable revenue ties back to the state revenue portion of the FEFP.

Chair DePratter asked whether the final budget takes into account the immediate needs presented today. Deborah Parrish answered yes, it does.

Chair DePratter noted the projection for June is a 6% fund balance. Deborah Parrish said yes, as long as there are no surprises, based on current revenue projections. However, the district is working with the Department to project FTE at calculation 3. With that reduction, it would take the district down to a 4% fund balance at the end of the year. The district has tried to make the budget as lean as possible.

Member Sneads moved to approve Union's budget as presented, and Member Beach seconded the motion. An opportunity for public comment was provided and no comments were received. The motion carried.

3. Union – Consideration of Immediate Needs

The next item on the agenda was consideration of any immediate needs for Union. Superintendent Ripplinger presented three items for consideration:

The repeater for bus radios in the amount of \$6,794.72;
Cisco Duo in the amount of \$1,847.29
CivicPlus social media archiving in the amount of \$8,321.01

Chair DePratter asked what the fund source was for the repeater. Deborah Parrish said 370.

Member Beach moved to approve these expenses, and Member Sneads seconded the motion. An opportunity for public comment was provided and no comments were received. The motion carried.

Member Sneads asked the district whether items on the contract list are anticipated and, therefore, whether they will be brought before the Board. Deborah Parrish indicated that some of the costs "below the line" are not yet coming up, but she will bring them as needed.

4. Glades – Update and Consideration of Budget for FY 2026-27

Chair DePratter then recognized Superintendent Barfield to present the Final 2026-27 budget.

Superintendent Barfield expressed gratitude to the Board for their assistance in the budget process and recognized Nichole Murry to present the budget.

Nichole Murry thanked the Department for providing a consultant who assisted with the completion of the Budget.

Chair DePratter asked Nichole Murry whether she had uploaded the Budget and received the edits. Nichole Murry indicated she was waiting for the Board's feedback before doing so. The Board recommended that she do that so that she would receive the edits. Member Beach commented that the Budget looks good, and that it can change as needed.

Member Sneads asked whether the District is anticipating making any changes at this time. Nichole Murry indicated that the numbers in the Budget are accurate, though there may be some edits when uploaded. She also noted that the summer food service expenditures cause some budgeting issues, but she does not anticipate major changes.

Chair DePratter asked whether the District is anticipating a zero fund balance at the end of the year. Nichole Murry said that it will either be zero or negative for the General Revenue.

Member Sneads asked whether there are restricted funds to carry forward. Nichole Murry said she has not indicated the carry-forward because she has not closed out the prior year. Member Sneads advised that Nichole Murry should be using the data she currently has and update it if the figures change. Member Beach also indicated that she should use the best figures she has available.

Chair DePratter would encourage the district to run the edit, because she might get an error if she does not have a figure in that field. She noted that the ending balance at June 30, 2026, will impact the projected ending balance for June 2027.

Member Beach moved to approve Glades' budget as presented with a stipulation that a starting fund balance will be added, and Member Sneads seconded the motion. An opportunity for public comment was provided and no comments were received. The motion carried.

5. Glades – Consideration of Immediate Needs

The next item on the agenda was consideration of any immediate needs for Glades.

Superintendent Barfield indicated that there is one request for actuarial services with CBIZ.

Member Sneads moved to approve the agreement with CBIZ as presented, and Member Beach seconded the motion. An opportunity for public comment was provided and no comments were received. The motion carried.

6. Final Comments and Discussion

Chair DePratter provided an opportunity for public comment on any item on the agenda. No comments were received.

Chair DePratter indicated that she is pleased with both districts with the efforts they have undertaken to get this far, and she acknowledged the challenges they have faced and the dedication they and their staff have demonstrated to improve.

Chair DePratter indicated that the next meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2026, for 2:45, with a full agenda. Further, the Board previously discussed the possibility of moving to monthly meetings beginning in October. She noted that both districts will begin submitting the monthly reports previously discussed on October 15 and monthly thereafter.

Both districts will provide their contract list for the September 24, 2026, meeting, and Glades will provide the updated Budget after running the edits.

Chair DePratter thanked everyone for participating in today's meeting. The meeting was then adjourned.