



Town of Melbourne Beach

Town Board Volunteer Application

PLEASE NOTE: Members of the Board of Adjustment, Police Pension Board and the Planning & Zoning Board have the authority to commit Town funds and resources and/or to make decisions/recommendations that affect zoning, building and land use applications and legal standing. To ensure that members of these Boards provide the most informed and consistent information and resultant recommendations to the Commission, the Commission would like to meet with potential candidates at a Town Commission meeting prior to appointment.

Persons appointed to certain Town boards must file a financial disclosure form with the Florida Commission on Ethics. If you have any questions, please call the Town Clerk's office at 321-724-5860.

Name: CURTIS BYRD Home Phone: (321) 266-0794

Home Address: 306 Surf Road

Mobile Phone: (321) 266-0794 Email Address: CURTISBYRD@GMAIL.COM

Business Name: _____ Business Phone: _____

Resume or Education & Experience (attach additional pages if necessary):

ORIGINAL MEMBER OF EAB. CHAIRMAN SINCE THE START.
BSIMS ENV SCIENCE F.I.T.

Date of Birth: 3-21-55 (optional; to verify voter registration)

Are you a registered voter of the town? YES NO

Are you a resident of the town? YES NO

Do you reside in the town for at least ten (10) months of each calendar year? YES NO

Do you hold a public office? YES NO

Do you currently serve on a Town board? YES NO

If yes, which board? _____

Please check the board(s) on which you are interested in serving:

** no financial disclosure required

- Board of Adjustment
- Technology Advisory Board **
- Planning and Zoning Board
- Police Pension Fund Board of Trustees
- Environmental Advisory Board **
- History Center Board **
- Ryckman House Historical Preservation and Awareness Board **
- Parks Board **
- Other _____

Why do you think you are qualified to serve on this board? VERY CONNECTED TO TOWN & COMMUNITY. UNDERSTAND THE ROLE OF THE EAB AND ABLE TO IMPLEMENT

Would you consider serving on another board other than the one(s) you have selected above? YES NO ^{THE LAST}

Signature: Curt Byrd

Date: 2/13/26

This application may be submitted in person or by mail to Town Hall at 507 Ocean Avenue, or may be emailed to the Town Clerk's office: townclerk@melbournebeachfl.org



Town of Melbourne Beach



Fire Department

AFTER ACTION REVIEW (AAR)

Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Department

Wildlife Rescue Incident – Manatee Extrication

Date of Incident: February 9, 2026

Time of Notification: Approximately 1400 Hours

Location: Riverview Lane & Oak Street, Melbourne Beach, Florida



Town of Melbourne Beach



Fire Department

1. Executive Summary

On Monday, February 9th, 2026, at approximately 1400 hours, the Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Department (MBVFD) was notified of a wildlife emergency involving a live manatee located within a stormwater junction box near Cherry Drive and Oak Street.

The incident required coordination between local, county, state, and federal agencies. After conducting risk assessments, stakeholder consultations, and securing emergency funding authorization, a joint rescue operation was successfully completed. The manatee was safely extricated without injury to responders or the public.

2. Incident Overview

Initial Response

Upon notification, Fire Chief Brown responded to assess the situation. On arrival, the following were already on scene:

- Melbourne Beach Police Department (MBPD)
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) marine biologists
- Contractors from Hailey Ward (reporting party)

Contractors advised they discovered the manatee during a stormwater system survey.

Prior to arrival, FWC had requested mutual aid from:

- Brevard County Fire Rescue (BCFR) Technical Rescue Team
- BCFR District 60 Chief

Chief Brown confirmed a live manatee was located inside the storm drain junction box. MBPD had already blocked traffic at Riverview & Oak and were requested to establish a scene perimeter for bystander safety due to the open hole.

Chief Brown requested the Town Manager and Public Works Director respond to the scene to assess infrastructure and logistical impacts.



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Fire Department

Operational Considerations

FWC biologists recommended roadway excavation and storm drain system access to facilitate rescue, however, they did not have funding or resources available to support the excavation or subsequent infrastructure repairs.

Due to the complexity of the incident, FWC hosted a Zoom meeting with local, state, and federal stakeholders to review tactical options and environmental considerations.

Following the meeting, Town Manager Smith and Fire Chief Brown conducted an informal risk assessment to evaluate:

- Public safety risks
- Animal welfare considerations
- Infrastructure impacts
- Resource availability
- Operational feasibility

Based on available information and subject matter expert input, it was determined that opening the roadway and extricating the manatee from the junction box was the safest and only feasible option.

Resource Coordination & Governance

Chief Brown and Town Manager Smith contacted Brevard County Emergency Management and met with County Commissioner Adkinson to discuss resource allocation and logistical support.

An emergency Town Commission Meeting was convened to authorize funding required for roadway excavation and repair. The Commission approved the emergency expenditure.

Following authorization:

- **BCFR Technical Rescue Team** was designated as the lead rescue agency.
- **Brevard County Public Works** was assigned roadway excavation and repair operations.
- **Melbourne Beach Police & Fire Departments** were assigned traffic and crowd control responsibilities.
- **FWC Biologists and UF Animal Rescue** were designated as wildlife advisors and care/transport coordinators after rescue.



3. Operational Outcome

- The rescue operation was conducted without incident.
- The manatee was successfully extricated from the stormwater junction box.
- No injuries to responders or civilians were reported.
- Infrastructure repairs were completed following the rescue effort.

4. What Went Well

- Strong interagency cooperation across municipal, county, state, and federal levels
- Rapid stakeholder coordination via virtual meeting
- Effective executive-level decision making under time-sensitive conditions
- Successful emergency funding authorization process
- Clear delegation of operational responsibilities
- Safe and successful technical rescue execution

5. Lessons Learned & Areas for Improvement

1. **Establish Formal Incident Command Early** - When the incident expanded beyond a routine response, a formal Incident Command Post (ICP) and Unified Command structure could have been established earlier to enhance accountability and coordination.
2. **Plan for Sustained Operations** - Consider adding logistical support for extended-duration incidents, including:
 - Food and hydration
 - Restroom facilities
 - Responder rehabilitation
 - Shade and environmental protection
3. **Media Management** - Establish a designated media staging area early in the incident to:
 - Maintain operational security
 - Improve responder safety
 - Control public access
 - Ensure consistent public information dissemination



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Fire Department

6. Recommendations

- Develop a guideline for rapid Unified Command activation during non-traditional incidents.
- Include wildlife rescue and infrastructure-compromise scenarios in tabletop planning exercises.
- Pre-identify emergency authorization pathways for funding local large-scale incidents.
- Incorporate logistical support planning into future large-scale operations.
- Consider assigning a Public Information Officer (PIO) for high-visibility incidents.

7. Conclusion

The February 9th manatee rescue operation demonstrates effective interagency coordination and decisive leadership in a complex, resource-constrained environment. While the rescue was successful and completed without injury, opportunities exist to formalize command structure and enhance logistical planning for future extended-duration or multi-jurisdictional events.

This incident serves as a valuable learning opportunity and reinforces the importance of structured command, proactive planning, and collaborative governance in emergency response operations.

PETITION FOR STREETLIGHT REMOVAL / MITIGATION

TO: The Town Commission of Melbourne Beach, Florida 32951

DATE: January 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Removal of Streetlight located between 604 Alden Place, 609 Alden Place, and 310 Sunset Boulevard.

Statement of Purpose:

We, the undersigned residents and property owners of Melbourne Beach, formally request the removal of the streetlight situated at the intersection/property boundaries of **604 Alden Place, 609 Alden Place, and 310 Sunset Boulevard.**

Reasons for Request:

- **Hazard:** The electrical supply wire for this light is suspended over the property line and around a proposed pool location for 604 Alden. FPL has been contacted to arrange pole removal.
 - See photographs
- **Light Trespass:** The current fixture emits excessive artificial light that directly enters the private living and sleeping quarters of the abutting properties, negatively impacting the residents' quality of life and health.
- **Safety & Necessity:** We believe the current ambient lighting from other streetlights and private residential fixtures is sufficient for pedestrian and traffic safety on these low-traffic residential streets.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Removing this unnecessary light supports the Town's sustainability goals to reduce municipal energy consumption and carbon emissions.
- **Environmental Protection:** In alignment with Melbourne Beach's commitment to conservation, we believe reducing unnecessary artificial skyglow is critical. This area is near habitats that require "dark skies".

Signatures of Abutting Neighbors:

Name (Printed)	Address	Parcel ID	Signature	Date
Jacqueline Linares	604 Alden Place	28 38 05 50 8 2		1/23/26
C. RANDY CARMICHAEL	609 Alden Place	28 38 05 50 7 9		1/23/26
THOMAS MERTZ	310 Sunset Boulevard	28 38 05 50 8 5		1/23/26
BRETT O'BRIEN	603 Alden Place	28 38 05 50 7 10		1/22/26
Rosemary Hughes	600 Alden Place	28 38 05 50 8 1		1/24/26
	303 Beaujean Ave	28 38 05 50 7 12		
Tamara Hamilton	302 Sunset Boulevard	28 38 05 50 7 8		1/27/26
AREZKI MANSEUR	314 Sunset Boulevard	28 38 05 50 8 3		1/23/26