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St. Petersburg Times

Florida's Best Newspaper

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Fire Tax Refunds Due Soon

Times Bureau

DADE CITY — Taxpayers due to receive refunds on taxes paid to a new-defunct Dade City fire tax district will be receiving refunds, "as soon as we can get them cranked out," says Mike Ledbetter, Pasco County director of administration.

The Florida Department of Revenue Thursday advised the county that a County Commission resolution calling for a refund of the tax money had been adopted.

Miller Newton, clerk of the Circuit Court, said he would meet as soon as possible with Tax Assessor Ted Williams and that he and Williams

would work out a repayment plan to be presented before a special meeting of the Pasco County Commission Tuesday.

More than \$24,000 was collected from nearly 1,000 taxpayers before the district was ruled unconstitutional early this year.

E. B. Larkin of Dade City and the Cummer Co., challenged the district because they were property owners within the district, but were not permitted to vote in the referendum establishing it because of residency requirements.

A new district has been created and approved by referendum, and will start providing services Jan. 1.