

# St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 1

## Board of Commissioners

### Regular Meeting Minutes September 19, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

The prayer and pledge of allegiance were done.

**Roll Call:** Acting Chairman Powell and Commissioners Rich, McDowell and Davis were present.  
Chairman Crowley was absent.

**OLD BUSINESS:** (None)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Awards/ Recognitions:** Chief Kaufmann read a dispatch recognition card.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Commissioner Rich made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2023 regular meeting. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

#### 1. Chief's Report

##### a) Significant Monthly Events

- 2024 Budget- UPDATE – Chief Kaufmann stated that budget meetings were held with all Commissioners and there is a Resolution to advertise.
- Red & Blue Gala- October 20, 2023
- St. 11- UPDATE –Chief Kaufmann stated that the punch list is not complete, and we have had meetings with the architect and attorney and the contractor has been put on notice for deadlines and next moves.
- St. 19- UPDATE – Chief Kaufmann stated that they will be meeting tomorrow, and we are approx. 7-10 days from taking possession of the building.
- St. 10- UPDATE- Chief Kaufmann stated that the CDD is meeting with DR Horton tomorrow to discuss the property.
- Training Classroom Project- Chief Kaufmann stated that we are waiting to get the plans back from the Fire Marshal's office; however, the site work is complete. Once the plans are back, we will proceed with advertising.

- b) **Operations Reports** - Chief of Operations Gross discussed the "Operations" report (August) which covers YTD call totals, Hydrants Inspected, NFIRS Incidents, Dollar Loss/ Dollar Save (by Station location), Average Response Time (by Station) and EMS Call Type and Number of Incidents.

Pursuant to R.S. 42:23, personal recording devices are welcome in every meeting for Fire District No. 1; however, they must remain and be maintained in the possession of the individual that brings the device to remove any liability from Fire District No. 1 of any unintentional or accidental mishaps with the device during any such meeting.

- c) **Maintenance Report-** Chief of Operations Gross discussed the “Maintenance” report (August) which covered preventative maintenances and major repairs performed.

There was a brief discussion on the F500 foam encapsulating product that we have begun utilizing.

- d) **Fire Prevention Report-** Chief of Fire Prevention Marquette discussed the monthly “Fire Prevention” report (August) which included Inspections, Public Fire Safety & Education Events, Investigations, and Economic Impact.
- e) **Training Report** – Chief of Training Bauer discussed the monthly “Training” report (August) which included Classes, Certifications and Revenues.
- f) **Communications Report** –Chief of Administration Duffaut discussed the monthly “Communications” report (August) which included call volume and statistics.

Chief Kaufmann stated that they are still working to finalize the Acadian contract. They were supposed to be working toward increasing their paramedics and having more units in service.

g) **General Comments**

- Staffing Vacancies
  - Suppression- 0- Hired 4 (2 Certified and 2 in Mandeville Recruit class.)
  - Communications- 1
- PILOT Program- Economic development project at St. Joe Brick (Project Frozen Tiger)
- Chief Kaufmann recognized Chief Duffaut on his recent Executive Fire Officer certification.

***Commissioner McDowell made a motion to accept the Chief’s report. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.***

**2) SFFA (Slidell Firefighters Association) – (none)**

**3) PMI Report –**

- a.) **Employee Benefits** – Open Enrollment- Effective Date 10/01/2023
- b.) **Human Resources**

- 1) 2023-037: BOC Resolution (Approve District Sponsored Employee Benefits: Major Medical, Dental, Life, Vision & Disability)

***Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-037, Relating to the Approval of District Sponsored Group Employee Benefits for District No. 1. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.***

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

- 2) 2023-038: BOC Resolution (Approve Employee Contribution Reduction for District Sponsored Benefits)

Pursuant to R.S. 42:23, personal recording devices are welcome in every meeting for Fire District No. 1; however, 2 they must remain and be maintained in the possession of the individual that brings the device to remove any liability from Fire District No. 1 of any unintentional or accidental mishaps with the device during any such meeting.

09/19/2023

***Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-038, Relating to Employee Contributions for District Sponsored Employee Benefits for District No. 1. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion.***

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

3) 2023-039: BOC Resolution (Approve Retiree Contributions)

***Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-039, Relating to Continuance of the Retiree Contribution for District Sponsored Retiree Benefits for District No. 1. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.***

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

4) 2023-040: BOC Resolution (Approve Employee Deductible “In Network Out of Pocket Maximum” Offset)

***Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-040, Relating to Continuance of the Deductible Expense Offset for District Sponsored Employee Benefits for District No. 1. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.***

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

5) 2023-041: BOC Resolution (Approve Digital Medicine Program Services Agreement)

***Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-041, Relating to the Approval of the Digital Medicine Program Services Agreement for District No. 1. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion.***

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

6) 2023-042: BOC Resolution (Approve Advertisement of the 2024 Budget for Public Comments)

***Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-042, Relating to the Approval to Advertise the 2024 Proposed Budget for District No. 1. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.***

The floor was opened for public comment. There was no public comment.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

7) General Comments- Mr. Waniewski commented on the positive results that the LUCAS device provides.

**c) Payroll – (none)**

**d) FRS (Firefighters Retirement System) – General Comments (None)**

Pursuant to R.S. 42:23, personal recording devices are welcome in every meeting for Fire District No. 1; however, they must remain and be maintained in the possession of the individual that brings the device to remove any liability from Fire District No. 1 of any unintentional or accidental mishaps with the device during any such meeting.

**e) VFIS Special Risk Insurance & LWCC- (None)**

***Commissioner Rich made a motion to accept the PMI report. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.***

**4) Duplantier Hrapman Hogan & Maher, LLP-** Mrs. Gaudin discussed the August financial report.

Chief Kaufmann stated that the recent wildfire deployment payments will come out of the “Disaster” fund and reimbursements will go back into the fund.

***Commissioner Rich made a motion to approve the August financial report. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.***

**5) Attorney’s Report-** Attorney Danenhower stated that he remains involved with Central Station and negotiations are still ongoing and we are trying to avoid litigation.

***Commissioner Rich made a motion to approve the Attorney report. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.***

**6) Board of Commissioner Comments**  
o BOC Action Items Review- (none)

***Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.***

***The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.***