

St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 1

Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting Minutes January 20, 2026

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

The prayer and pledge of allegiance were done.

Roll Call: Chairman Brackett and Commissioners Rich, McDowell, Powell and Davis were present.

OLD BUSINESS: (none)

NEW BUSINESS:

Recognitions:

Retirement: Kenneth Smith

New Hire Swear Ins: Chris Cuccia, Alexander Rodriguez, Cameron Speaks, Patrick Spurlock, Juan Wilson

Promotions: Fire Operator: Seth Dreux, Hank Gebhardt, Joe Ohlenforst

Fire Captain: Justin Brandner, Emmett Hyde, Matt Lato

Deputy Chief: Sean McCormick

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Rich made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Chief's Report

a) Significant Monthly Events

- Ethics/ Sexual Harassment Training/ Financial Disclosure
- February BOC Meeting- Feb. 10 or 24 (TBD)
- St. 10- UPDATE- The land donation has been recorded and the project is currently being advertised for a bid opening on Feb. 19.
- Training Classroom #2- Chief Kaufmann stated that this project is complete.

- b) **Operations Reports** – Chief of Operations Gross discussed the “Operations” report (December) 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.

Chief Kaufmann spoke briefly on the overdoses and his involvement with the task force.

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

- d) **Fire Prevention Report- Assistant** Chief of Fire Prevention Macaluso discussed the monthly “Fire Prevention” report (December) which included Inspections, Public Fire Safety & Education Events, Investigations, and Economic Impact.

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- e) **Training Report** – Chief of Training Harrison discussed the monthly “Training” report (December) which included Classes, Certifications and Revenues.
- f) **Communications Report** – Chief of Administration Duffaut discussed the monthly “Communications” report (December) which included call volume and statistics.
- g) **General Comments-**
 - Staffing Vacancies
 - Suppression- 0- we have 15 employees attending recruit class, beginning Feb. 3
 - Communications- 0

Commissioner Davis made a motion to accept the Chief's report. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

3) **PMI Accounting-** Mrs. Gaudin discussed the December financial report.

Chief Kaufmann stated that we intend to do ladder investing with a T-Bill and CD.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the December financial report. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4) **PMI Report** –

- a) **Employee Benefits** – (none)
- b) **Human Resources** – (none)

1) 2026-001: BOC Resolution (Approve EAP Agreement Renewal)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-001, Relating to the Approval of the Employee Assistance Program for District No. 1. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

2) 2026-002: BOC Resolution (Approve Medical Director's Agreement Renewal)

Commissioner Powell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-002, Relating to the Approval to Renew the Medical Director's Agreement for District No. 1. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

3) 2026-003: BOC Resolution (2025 General Fund Surplus Determination)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-003, Relating to the Approval of the 2025 General Fund Surplus for District No. 1. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

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01/20/2026

- 4) 2026-004: BOC Resolution (Adopt 2026 Section 125 Cafeteria Plan)

Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-004, Relating to the Adoption of the 2026 Section 125 Cafeteria Plan for District No. 1. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

- 5) 2026-005: BOC Resolution (Approve Request to CSB to Modify the Chief of Operations Classification- Competitive)

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-005, Relating to the CSB Revising the Chief of Operations Classification for District No. 1. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

- 6) 2026-006: BOC Resolution (Approve 2025 LLA & AUP Audit Engagements)

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-006, Relating to the Approval of the 2025 LLA & AUP Audit Engagement for District No. 1. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

- 7) Fire Chief Evaluation- Due 3/6/2026

- 8) General Comments

- c) Payroll – (none)
- d) FRS (Firefighters Retirement System) – General Comments
- e) VFIS Special Risk Insurance & LWCC- VFIS Renewal Questionnaire

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

- 5) Attorney's Report- none

Chief Kaufmann stated that we had a vehicle accident involving one of our units.

6) Board of Commissioner Comments

- o BOC Action Items Review- (none)

Chief Kaufmann spoke briefly on his involvement with the committee for the Parsh propositions and oversight on funding of state mandates.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

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