

St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 1

Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting Minutes April 21, 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, Powell, and McDowell were present.
Commissioner Davis was absent.

OLD BUSINESS: (none)

NEW BUSINESS:

Recognitions: Letters of Appreciation

Promotions: Asst. Chief of Communications Jacob Boudreaux

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Powell made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2026 meeting. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Chief's Report

a) Significant Monthly Events

- Ethics/ Sexual Harassment Training/ Financial Disclosure
- FETA Flashpoint Article- Chief Kaufmann stated that he was asked to write an article on the "Importance of Culture in the Fire Service"
- St. 10 Groundbreaking- April 23
- Gala- Saturday, April 25
- Recruit Graduation- May 21 (Northshore Church)
- St. 10- project has started

b) **Operations Reports** – Chief of Operations Gross discussed the monthly "Operations" report (March) 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.

c) **Maintenance Report-** Chief of Operations Gross discussed the monthly "Maintenance" report (March) which covered preventative maintenances and major repairs performed.

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

e) **Training Report** – Training Officer Dudenhefer discussed the monthly "Training" report (March) which included Classes, Certifications and Revenues.

f) **Communications Report** – Chief of Administration Duffaut discussed the monthly "Communications" report (March) which included call volume and statistics.

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.

g) General Comments-

- Staffing Vacancies
 - Suppression- 0
 - Communications- 1- processing candidate

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) – Union President Berns stated that they participated in the annual crawfish cook-off.

3) PMI Accounting- Attorney Danenhower discussed the March financial report.

Commissioner Powell made a motion to approve the March financial report. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4) PMI Report –

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

1) 2026-020: BOC Resolution (Approve BOC Appointee to Civil Service Board)

Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-020, Relating to the Appointment of the Board of Commissioners Representative to the Civil Service Board 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.

- c) **Payroll** – (none)
- d) **FRS (Firefighters Retirement System)** – FRS DROP ER Contributions
- e) **VFIS Special Risk Insurance & LWCC-** VFIS Renewal Effective 05/06/2026
LWCC Dividend: \$ 447,904.64

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

5) Attorney's Report-

- St. 10 – Project has begun
- Potential Litigation- vehicle accident

Commissioner Powell made a motion to accept the Attorney report. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6) Board of Commissioner Comments

Chief Kaufmann spoke briefly on the report that the LLA did on the St. Tammany Parish tax structure and that the fire service funding and taxes were referenced, in comparison to six other parishes. Chief Kaufmann stated that he plans to attend the special Council meeting on April 30.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

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