

# St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 1

## Board of Commissioners

### Regular Meeting Minutes October 21, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

The prayer and pledge of allegiance were done.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:** (none)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

#### 1. 2026 Budget Hearing

There was no public comment.

*The Regular meeting began at 6:11 p.m.*

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

#### 1. Chief's Report

##### a) Significant Monthly Events

- 2026 Proposed Budget- (Resolution under "PMI")
- BOC Meetings- Future meetings will be held on the first floor
- St. 16- Polling Location – Chief Kaufmann stated that with the increase in residents in the Eden Isles/ Lakeshore Village/ Oak Harbor areas, the Parish has requested to use St. 16 as a polling precinct. He further stated that they will meet at the station to inspect the station to see if it meets the criteria.
- Reserve/ Rolling Stock Funding – Chief Kaufmann stated that we are trending for a surplus at the end of the year and he requested to allocate some of the funds to the Rolling Stock and Facilities Fund.
- St. 11- UPDATE- Chief Kaufmann stated that the epoxy repairs are complete.
- St. 10- UPDATE- Chief Kaufmann stated that we were notified that D.R. Horton was backing out on the donation of the small triangle on the property that the CDD now owns. He further stated that we made one modification on the site plan and we are requesting that they take out 10-15 ft. of the neutral ground to avoid having to drive against traffic.

Chief Kaufmann stated that there are some internal administrative things that need to be done, and we will then move forward with advertising.

Pursuant to R.S. 42:23, personal recording devices are welcome in every meeting for Fire District No. 1; however, 1 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.

Chief Kaufmann stated that we did offer employment to 12 candidates for our recruit academy.

- Training Classroom #2- Chief Kaufmann stated that this has been a seamless process, and the project is progressing smoothly.

- b) **Operations Reports** – Chief of Operations Gross discussed the “Operations” report (September) 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 “Maintenance” report (September) which covered preventative maintenances and major repairs performed.
- d) **Communications Report** – Chief of Operations Gross discussed the monthly “Communications” report (September) which included call volume and statistics.
- e) **Fire Prevention Report**- Chief of Fire Prevention Marquette discussed the monthly “Fire Prevention” report (September) which included Inspections, Public Fire Safety & Education Events, Investigations, and Economic Impact.
- f) **Training Report** – Chief of Training Harrison discussed the monthly “Training” report (September) which included Classes, Certifications and Revenues.

Chief Kaufmann stated that we offered employment to an 8-year Navy veteran that was interested in fire service in the civilian world. After going to New Orleans, he was told that they were not in the process of hiring. He then went to Baton Rouge and the Chief told him, “If there’s one place that you want to work, I recommend that you go to Slidell, LA”.

Chief Kaufmann stated that he went out to the advanced extrication evolution and an out of state instructor commented on how well this class was put on.

**g) General Comments-**

- Staffing Vacancies
  - Suppression- 0
  - Communications- 0- (we do have upcoming resignation notices for 2 dispatchers, and we have a part-time employee to fill one of the positions).

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

- 2) **SFFA (Slidell Firefighters Association)** – Chief Kaufmann stated that the Union will cook and assist with serving at the Senior Luncheon on Nov. 4
- 3) **PMI Accounting**- Mrs. Gaudin discussed the September financial report.

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

**4) PMI Report –**

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

- 1) 2025-038: BOC Resolution (Approve Workers’ Compensation Insurance)

*Commissioner Davis made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-038, Relating to the Approval of the Workers’ Compensation Insurance for District No. 1. Commissioner McDowell seconded the motion.*

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

Mr. Waniewski stated that the renewal came in at \$1,208, 890 vs. the 2026 projected budget of \$1,641,110- savings of approx. \$432,000.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

- 2) 2025-039: BOC Resolution (Ratify Advertisement of 2026 Budget for Public Opinions/Comments)

***Commissioner Powell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-039, Relating to the Ratification to Advertise the 2026 Proposed Budget 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.***

- 3) 2025-040: BOC Resolution (Approve Surplus of Equipment)

***Commissioner Davis made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-040, Relating to the Approval to Surplus Equipment 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.***

- 4) 2025-041: BOC Resolution (Adopt 2026 Operating Budget)

***Commissioner Davis made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-041, Relating to the Adoption of the 2026 Budget 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.***

- 5) 2025-042: BOC Resolution (Approve Station No. 16 as a Voting Precinct)

***Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-042, Relating to the Approval to Recognize Station No. 16 as a Voting Precinct 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.***

- 6) General Comments –
- c) Payroll – (none)
- d) FRS (Firefighters Retirement System) – (none)

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- e) VFIS Special Risk Insurance & LWCC- (none)

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

- 5) Attorney's Report- (none)

**6) Board of Commissioner Comments**

- Upcoming Nov. 18 and Dec. 16 Meetings- Chairman Brackett requested that if any Commissioners will miss the meetings, to please notify him so he can plan accordingly.
- Chairman Brackett thanked everyone for their work on the parcel fee renewal.

Chief Kaufmann stated that the district is golden for the next 8 years, and that he would like to work with a legislator, with regards to the 4-year roll-forward, stating that agencies are voting again on something that has already been voted on and if an agency doesn't need to roll forward, this mandate is forcing a roll forward.

- BOC Action Items Review- (none)

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

*The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.*

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