

St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 1

Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting Minutes July 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:

Swear-Ins: John Burdine, Mechanic
Dondrell Matthews, Firefighter
Kevin Petruska, Communications Officer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Powell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Chief's Report

a) Significant Monthly Events

- 2025 Audit (s)- (Resolution under "PMI")
- Hancock Whitney Renewal Proposal- Chief Kaufmann stated that the proposal has the same rates and no fees- we will have a Resolution in August.
- IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial- Retiree Representation- (Resolution under "PMI")- Chief Kaufmann stated that retiree Walter Allen is active with our Honor Guard and will be attending annual training and is requesting our assistance with the cost of the flights. He further stated that we contacted the auditor and confirmed that this is acceptable.
- St. 10- Chief Kaufmann stated that weather permitting, the slab is scheduled to be poured on Thursday.

b) Operations Reports – Chief of Administration Duffaut discussed the monthly "Operations" report (June) 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 stated that we had an accident involving an 18-wheeler, with heavy extrication. The individual survived and would like to meet with the personnel on the scene.

Chief Kaufmann stated that we assisted with a drowning in Lacombe and one of our members located the body and got the body out of the water which allows closure for the family.

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.

Chief Kaufman stated that we also worked a fatal accident with a flipped vehicle. The rapid response allowed the family to donate organs and give life to others.

- c) **Maintenance Report-** Chief of Administration Duffaut discussed the monthly “Maintenance” report (June) which covered preventative maintenances and major repairs performed.
- d) **Fire Prevention Report-** Chief of Fire Prevention Marquette discussed the monthly “Fire Prevention” report (June) which included Inspections, Public Fire Safety & Education Events, Investigations, and Economic Impact.
- e) **Training Report –** Training Officer Harrison discussed the monthly “Training” report (June) which included Classes, Certifications and Revenues.
- f) **Communications Report –** Chief of Communications Boudreaux discussed the monthly “Communications” report (June) which included call volume and statistics.
- g) **General Comments-**
 - Staffing Vacancies
 - Suppression- 0
 - Communications- 1

Commissioner Powell 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 Accounting- Mrs. Gaudin discussed the June financial report.

Chief Kaufmann stated that as of now, the health insurance renewal is at 0%.

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

4) PMI Report –

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

1) 2026-023: BOC Resolution (Adopt 2025 Audit)

Commissioner Powell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-023, Relating to the Adoption of the 2025 LLA Audit 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.

2) 2026-024: BOC Resolution (Adopt 2025 LLA-AUP Audit)

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-024, Relating to the Adoption of the 2025 LLA-AUP Audit 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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07/21/2026

- 3) 2026-025: BOC Resolution (Approve CSB Establishment of Asst. Chief of Communications)

Commissioner Rich made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-025, Relating to the Approval to Establish a Civil Service 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.

- 4) 2026-026: BOC Resolution (Approve Travel Expenses for Retired Honor Guard Member to Attend IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial)

Commissioner Powell made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-026, Relating to the Approval to Attend the IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial 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) – (none)
- 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

- Employee Appeal of Suspension- 3 meetings scheduled
- Assisted with a couple record requests.

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

6) Board of Commissioner Comments-

- Red Beans & Rice Cook-Off- Aug. 3

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

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