



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District # 3

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Michael Geissler
Fire Chief

Public Meeting of the Board of Commissioners February 11, 2026 *Meeting Minutes*

Called To Order:

Chairman Danny Hall called the meeting to order on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer

Roll Call:

Danny Hall, Leo Casanave, Raymond Batiste, Mike Ricks, and Adam Jacks were present.

Chief Geissler, Assistant Fire Chief Guillot, and District Fire Chief May were present representing the Fire Department.

Mr. Mark Waniewski and Chad Danenhowser were present representing PMI.

Secretary Minutes:

Approve minutes of January 14, 2026 public meeting.

Mr. Ricks made a motion to approve minutes from the January 14, 2026, public meeting. Mr. Batiste seconded. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

Employee Recognition:

Chief Geissler recognized the following employees.

- District Chief Marc May – 16 years as of 1/26/2026
- Captain Paul Sehlinger – 10 years as of 2/8/2026
- Jayden Witsell was hired full-time 1/26/2026

Treasurer Report:

Mr. Batiste stated that the operating account opened with \$542,949.19 and closed with \$1,878,240.36.

The Money Market account opened with \$458,274.94 and closed with \$459,323.11.

The sinking fund account opened with \$1516.24 and closed with \$1516.63.

Mr. Ricks made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Mr. Jacks seconded. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Hall stated that on February 5th \$499,404.64 was moved from the operating account to a treasury bill that will mature on August 6, 2026. That treasury bill will be earning 3.45% interest with an expected earning of \$8595.36.

Mr. Hall also stated that they plan to open an investment account in the next few days with the purpose of building a reserve operating fund. This is not going to be an allocated fund or a designated fund. The money will be able to be used for anything that it is needed for.

Mr. Hall also stated that \$1,000,000.00 received from Ad Valorem that has been moved from the operating account into the Money Market account.

Chief's Report:

Chief Geissler stated that there were 148 incidents as of January. As of to date there were 201 calls. 95% of the time there were 2 ALS med units up and 99.7% of the time the department was able to cover those calls. District 3 gave mutual aid to District 7 for a structure fire. District 3 received mutual aid once because both med units were on calls.

Med 33 is fully up and in service, it was approved by the State Bureau of EMS. It was in service today due to a stretcher issue. We were also able to provide ALS coverage for the Crew of Eve parade for District 4.

There is an auto aid agreement in place with District 7. There is a bridge being replaced between HWY 434 and the old race track which could take up to September to be complete, where District 3 would respond to fire calls, we will send a first response unit and Acadian is still handling that area unless we are needed. District 8 will also be responding to that area.

We also purchased a drone which has not been received yet. He has seen this as a asset at other departments. It was within his limit of spending and he did his research and was able to get a DGI which does the infrared thermal, it also has audio communication so if needed in an area that was remote they could communicate. Online training was also purchased. He has filed with the FFA to be able to operate legally in our jurisdiction during emergency situations under this waiver. There will be SOP/SOG's regarding this drone as well.

Chief Geissler stated that there was also an incident at station 33 where an employee's vehicle caught fire which caused damage to Unit 33 and he is in the process of going through with insurance. His vehicle is fully involved, full loss. There was no damage to the station, the unit was cosmetic, paint, reflectives and stickers.

Assistant Chief Guillot stated that he has a couple of full time hires, one is in rookie school and they are in the process of filling a couple of positions. He stated that he has also filled two more part time paramedic positions.

District Chief May stated that the new recruit, Jayden Witsell is in rookie school at District 11. The two students in paramedic school are still doing well. The annual LIFT conference in Baton Rouge is next month, and he is working on scheduling anyone that wants to participate.

Hearts on Fire:

Mrs. Jacks stated that they had their met for the month and are throwing around ideas for spring, either Easter or a spring activity for the community and the firefighters.

Old Business:

1) 2026-006: BOC Resolution (EMS Debt Forgiveness “Case #2” Denied). Record keeping. This was discussed at last month’s meeting. Mr. Casanave made a motion to accept Resolution 2026-006. Mr. Jacks seconded. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

2) 2026-007: BOC Resolution (EMS Debt Forgiveness “Case #3” Denied). Record keeping. This was discussed at last month’s meeting. Mr. Batiste made a motion to accept Resolution 2026-007. Mr. Casanave seconded. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

3) Strategic Planning.

Chief Geissler stated that he does have some preliminary numbers from US Fire as far as apparatus cost.

He stated that he has also submitted documents for station 32 to Chuck Damian which is a company that Slidell Fire uses as far as developing their stations. This will help develop a plan for station 32 whether tearing it down and starting over or being able to make some advancements to the stations as is.

He stated that these numbers will help when going for a bond to help with some of these advancements.

Mr. Hall stated that he spoke with Grant Schlueter regarding starting the application process for the bond and that it will be on next month’s agenda to get started. Once the application is turned in it could take up to three months to receive any funds and we would have up to three years to spend.

4) Update on filing with the Louisiana Office of Debt Recovery.

Mr. Hall stated that application process with the state was completed and the identifiers have been received. He spoke with Koronis and they will be giving the information that is over 180 days old. Once the initial bunch is pulled, it will be pulled once a quarter unless there aren’t many, it will be every six months. There will be an addendum to the contract which will be sent to Mr. Danenhower. Mr. Hall wanted to commend Captain Justin Stiehl who has picked this up and ran with it. He has it where it is an automated system and is almost ready to send out. Once this initial bunch has been sent out, there should be very few to deal with since Koronis is doing a great job.

New Business:

1) 2026-008: BOC Resolution (Approve LLA 2025 Budget Revisions) Resolution to approve opening investment accounts. Mr. Batiste made a motion to approve resolution 2026-008. Mr. Casanave seconded. Mr. Waniewski discussed line items that would need to be revised. A formal budget will be released after approval. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

2) 2026-009: BOC Resolution (Adopt 2026 LLA Per diem & Mileage Reimbursement Rates). Mr. Waniewski stated that this is adopting through the LLA the current IRS recommendations for mileage or expense reimbursements. A couple critical things, the Chief’s travel will have to be approved in the board minutes before travel. The Board members would also have to be approved in the board

minutes as well. Mr. Ricks made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-009. Mr. Jacks seconded. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

3) 2026-010: BOC Resolution (Approve Financial Services Signatory Authority) Mr. Hall stated that there was outdated information on file and needed this to be updated. Mr. Casanave made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-010. Mr. Batiste seconded. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

4) 2026-011: BOC Resolution (Approve Additional Recognized Holidays)
Chief Geissler stated the department recognized 10 major holidays and he would like the board to add holidays. The department used to recognize Martin Luther King Day when he first started here and for some reason previous administration decided not to recognize that holiday. He would also like to recognize Veteran's Day. He thinks that it is important to recognize both of these holidays. This will retro back to January 2026. Mr. Casanave made a motion to accept resolution 2026-011 as amended. Mr. Batiste seconded. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

5) 2026-012: BOC Resolution (Adopt 2025 LLA Compliance Questionnaire) Mr. Casanave made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-012. Mr. Batiste seconded. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

6) was covered above.

Mr. Ricks made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Batiste seconded. A vote was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50.