



**JEFFERSON COUNTY
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1
(EAST JEFFERSON FIRE RESCUE)**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FROM October 28, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Stinson called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. In Person & Virtual via “ZOOM”, call in number 1 (253) 215-8782, Meeting ID 896 3519 5927.

COMMISSIONERS & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

District 1 Commissioners: Deborah Stinson, Dave Seabrook, Steve Craig, Geoff Masci and Ed Davis.

Absent: Gene Carmody

Admin Staff: Chief Black, Deputy Chief Brummel, Finance Director Lirio and District Secretary Cray

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2026 Budget Workshop: Lirio gave a rundown of the projected revenues and expenses for 2026. He highlighted Policy 6004 which states the District will keep the equivalent of 25% of operating expenditures as a minimum fund balance.

Property taxes make up greater than 80% of our revenue along with Ambulance Transport fees/GEMT which adds another 12.4%. Due to the expired Medicare addons, we adjusted our transport fees by \$300,000. This leaves our revenue at a 0% increase, while expenses are rising with inflation. Lirio noted that Salaries and Benefits make up 72.4% of our expenses.

The 2026 Budget process was comprised of 6 meetings, and they reviewed new requests along with requests that were postponed from 2025. Lirio noted that the 2025 budget was passed with just over \$1 million deficit, but as it currently stands, we may be looking at an estimated \$300,000 surplus due to our history of budgeting conservatively. The 2026 proposed budget has an estimated \$1.3million deficit which still leaves us with an adequate fund balance but leads us to the need for a levy lid lift in 2026 for collection in 2027 to sustain current levels of service.

There were 68.5 full time employees (FTE's) at the beginning of 2025. Two employees left the organization, and those positions were not filled. There is no expectation of hiring any more FTE's in 2026. Salaries and benefits increased by 2.7% and overtime increased by 2.3%. The Training budget now makes up 2% of the expenditures which is up from 1.5%. Lirio noted that facility expenditures are down by 6.8% which he attributes to the addition in 2024 of a Facility Technician.

We are utilizing the LOCAL loan program through the State Treasurer to finance new apparatus. In 2025 the district purchased a new Brush Truck, CARES rig and a rechassis ambulance. In 2026 we will receive 2 new fire engines and a new ambulance. In 2026, the debt payments which also include payments towards the 2019 Bond will total \$675,770.

Administration is continually looking for grant opportunities, especially to help fund the CARES program. For 2026, grant funding is falling short by \$68,300 for the CARES program.

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Our Reserve account will receive a final transfer in 2025 to bring it to \$1million. The District feels this is an adequate amount to keep in reserve for emergent needs. The Capital funds are still being built up to allow us to purchase capital items without financing.

B. Public Comment – None


ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Stinson adjourned the meeting at 5:30pm.

Jefferson County Fire District 1



Deborah Stinson, Chair



Dave Seabrook, Vice Chairman



Geoffrey Masci, Commissioner



Steve Craig, Commissioner

Absent

Gene Carmody, Commissioner



Ed Davis, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Tanya Cray, District Secretary

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