



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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES FROM February 17, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Deborah Stinson called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM at St 6 and virtually via Microsoft Teams app.

**COMMISSIONERS & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

**District 1 Commissioners:** Deborah Stinson, Geoff Masci, Dave Seabrook and Jeannie Price  
Commissioner Steve Craig arrived at 3:18pm.

**Admin Staff:** Chief Black, Deputy Chief Brummel, HR Manager Stewart, Finance Manager Roy Lirio and District Secretary Cray. MSO Ridgway attended virtually.

**1. AGENDA CHANGES – None.**

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

- Approve Minutes from January 20, 2026, Regular Board Meeting.

**Vouchers**

- Approve General Fire expenditure warrants dated January 22, 2026, and February 2, 2026, totaling **\$414,060.29**
- Approve EMS expenditure warrants dated January 22, 2026, and February 2, 2026, totaling **\$281,989.94**
- Approve payroll expenditure warrants dated January 16, 2026, and February 4, 2026, totaling **\$844,062.86**

**MOTION:** Masci moved to approve the consent agenda. Seabrook seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.**

**4. PRESENTATIONS –** Chief Black presented EJFR Volunteer Barry Luke and JSCO Deputy Dan Murray with letters of thanks. They participated in a rescue of a woman in the pond at the Port Ludlow Golf Course. She was stuck in the mud at the bottom of the pond and their quick actions likely saved her life.

All other acknowledgements are included in the board packet.

**6. STAFF REPORTS –** Finance Director Lirio discussed his trip to the Braun Factory to pick up the new ambulance. He added that at our next meeting the Board would see resolutions needed for the Local Loan financing of our ambulance and two fire engines. He expects to close on in June and that will lock in our interest rate. The District will front the \$300k for the ambulance and will be reimbursed from the loan proceeds.

HR Manager Stewart discussed the recently completed FF/EMT recruitment. 81 applications were received, that was whittled down to 19 and of those 16 showed and tested for the position. The top 6 were interviewed by the Chief and the offer was made and accepted by Blake Bentzen, a former FIT for EJFR.

Seabrook asked when a response time analysis for 2025 would be received. A discussion was held regarding how often response times are wanted by the Board vs how a monthly or quarterly review

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of response times can sometimes skew the data. Chief Black gave his opinion that the first report of times should be in June with the roll out of Dark Horse and then possibly quarterly after that. Complete staff reports are included in the board packet.

## **7. COMMITTEE/WORKGROUP REPORTS**

**A. Finance/Budget Committee** – Stinson reported that the Board needed to seat new representative for this committee. This committee attends all budget meetings beginning in late summer and is a time commitment. Craig announced that he is happy to continue sitting on the committee and Masci volunteered to sit on the committee as well.

**B. Community Risk Reduction Group** – No report.

**C. Apparatus Committee** – see BC Fletcher’s report.

**D. Facilities Committee** – Stinson stated members needed to be seated for this committee as well. The meetings are currently still to be decided, though they will include representation from 2032, volunteers, BOC, staff, and facilities. Craig and Masci both stated their interest in being on this committee and no other commissioners objected.

**E. Training Advisory Committee** – No meeting held.

**8. JeffCom Report** – The Director has moved offices. They are looking for any ability to expand due to lack of space. They are encouraging employees to take their vacations. Staffing is currently at 11. The state is raising fees.

**9. Local 2032 REPORT** – President Caton White noted the FF testing process included the most applicants ever which shows what a great place this is to work. Everyone involved did a great job.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT - Agenda items only** – None.

## **11. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. SP Implementation Tool/FOCUS 2026** – Chief Black presented the Focus 2026 document laying out the plan and goals for the year of what we hope to accomplish. Moving forward this document will be out prior to the start of 2027. He plans to use this document in place of the SP Implementation tool. It will likely evolve when adding notes etc.

Seabrook noted this is a great starting place to a strategic plan review. Which is one of the BOC priorities. He added that he would like to hold a special meeting to review the collaboration and strategic thinking workbook. He would like Chief Black to facilitate this meeting.

Black noted that if there were a community engagement component he would request a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to handle that portion. This would require a budget item request for 2027. It was suggested to hold a meeting mid-year prior to budget season and build that into 2027. We can review medium- and long-term goals. The special meeting will need structure of what we want to accomplish. This item will be added to next month’s agenda as SP Review.

## **12. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Election Results** – Kudos to staff. There were many preparation meetings, Know Your Fire District meetings, sign waiving’s and placement that went into this. A lot of volunteers helped this effort, a huge thank you to all!

**B. Policies and SOGs** –

**Policy 6005 Ambulance Billing** - Lirio explained that the State Auditor called out our policy stating that it needed more specificity for write-offs. We now leverage off what the hospital’s write off and

also have a sliding scale based on the poverty rate. **MOTION:** Masci moved to accept the changes to the policy as presented. Price seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**SOG 6005 Ambulance Billing** – The board reviewed the corresponding SOG for ambulance billing.

**B. Deputy Chief Recruitment** – Stewart put together a decision packet requesting \$15,500 plus expenses to secure the services of GMP Consultants to do a partial recruitment for Deputy Chief. She noted that they had successfully recruited our Finance Director. This is a non-budgeted item for 2026. **MOTION:** Masci moved to approve the proposed partial recruitment expenditure for Deputy Chief recruitment services in 2026. Craig seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**C. WFCAs Saturday Seminars** – Cray announced two upcoming WFCAs Saturday Seminars and requested those wanting to attend to let her know. Masci, Stinson and Price all stated they planned to attend the seminar on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Clearwater Resort. Cray noted that others could let her know if they decided later.

**D. Agenda Change Discussion** – The Board discussed the current policy in place and noted a correction to how many Commissioners make up a quorum was needed. Cray will review and have for the next meeting. Following discussion, the board decided the current way items are placed on the agenda or added during meetings is working and no change was needed.

**Recess** – Stinson called for a recess at 4:47pm and the meeting resumed at 4:55pm.

**Executive Session** – The Board went into executive session Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(l)(g) to review the performance of a public employee at 4:56pm for 15 minutes to return at 5:11pm. The executive session covered three separate discussions under this same topic.

The executive session ended at 5:11pm with no decisions made and no action taken.

### **13. UPCOMING TOPICS/EVENTS** – none.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER** – Masci noted that other boards that he is aware of, have a different formation. He would like to see if we can move the room set up, so the Board is separated from the staff and the public. Discussion on this topic occurred and staff noted they will work on a new set up to see if it is better.

Masci stated he would like to discuss a rotating chair/vice-chair position in a future meeting. Would like to see it on the upcoming agenda items list on the agenda. Discussion followed.

Craig noted the great election results and would like to see the history of percentages of our levy passage.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Stinson adjourned the meeting at 5:29pm.

**Jefferson County Fire District 1**

*Deborah Stinson*

Deborah Stinson, Chair

*Geoff Masci*

Geoffrey Masci, Commissioner

*Dave Seabrook*

Dave Seabrook, Commissioner

*Jeannie Price*

Jeannie Price, Vice Chair

Absent

Steve Craig, Commissioner

**ATTEST:**

*Tanya Cray*

Tanya Cray, District Secretary