

**FINAL COPY**  
**St. Matthews Fire Protection District**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**February 19, 2026**

A meeting of the St. Matthews Fire Protection District Board of Trustees took place on February 19, 2026, at Station 46: 240 Sears Ave, Louisville, KY 40207.

Board members present were Chairman Rick Tonini, Secretary Kathy Wrigley, Treasurer Jim Seiler, Trustee Dr. Gwendolyn Blue, Trustee Alan Lewis, Trustee Brendan Montgomery, and Trustee Aaron Nilsson.

Also present were Chief Nicholas Clark, Deputy Chief Stuart Monohan, Assistant Chief Mike Riordan, Human Resource Director Michael Frantz, Attorney Mark Leach, Accountant Christine Kesler, Administrative Assistant Erin Grant, Major Josh Lewis, Captain Derek Andriakos, Paramedic Jesse Scharff, Paramedic Danielle Manual, Paramedic John Wenzler, Paramedic Regina Vargo Carrico, and EMT Rick Pruitt.

Chairman Rick Tonini called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

The minutes for the January 15, 2026 board meeting were approved by motion of Secretary Kathy Wrigley. Second by Trustee Aaron Nilsson. Motion Carried.

Secretary Kathy Wrigley certified the graduation of Recruit Class 45-01 on Thursday, February 12, 2026. The recruits were formally sworn in during the graduation ceremony. A document listing all recruit class graduates was signed by Secretary Wrigley to formally record the certification.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Jim Seiler provided the treasurer's report by referencing the *Comments to Financials* distributed in the board package. He reported that the department is expected to hit the annual budget for real property tax income.

Approval of the January expenditures were motioned by Trustee Alan Lewis. Second by Treasurer Jim Seiler. Motion Carried.

### **Old Business**

*Truck 47 Mechanical Repairs/Issues* – Chief Clark reported that the City of Covington has made an offer to purchase Truck 47 for \$310,000. The sale is being brokered by Fire & Specialty Equipment Company, which will receive a 6% commission, resulting in net proceeds to the district of approximately \$291,400 before repair costs. The sale is contingent upon completion of several repairs, which is estimated to be approximately \$10,000-\$15,000. The City of Covington is expected to seek approval from its City Council on March 10 and the timeline of repairs is expected to align with their approval process.

*Peer Support Team* – Lee Look was introduced as the proposed Clinical Director for the district's Peer Support program, which was initially discussed at the January 2026 meeting. Lee is a retired member of the department and a licensed psychological practitioner with a Ph.D. in counseling psychology and currently serves in similar roles with other local agencies. Chief Clark explained that while several members have previously completed peer support training, the program has lacked structure and oversight. The proposed model would appoint Lee as a contract employee to serve as Clinical Director, providing oversight of the Peer Support program, short-term assessment and referral services, training, critical incident support, program tracking and reporting, and continued assistance with identifying and preparing grant opportunities. Chief Clark emphasized that the program would begin on a trial basis and could be modified or terminated if necessary. A six-month contract was proposed for Lee Look to serve as the Clinical Director for the Peer Support program at \$3,200 per month, not to exceed \$19,200 total. A motion was made by Trustee Brendan Montgomery to approve the proposed contract. Second by Trustee Aaron Nilsson. Motion Carried.

*Policy Updates Website* – Chief Clark reported that several district policies have been updated and require board approval, particularly those with disciplinary implications. The three policies submitted for approval were:

- Policy 04.002 – Disciplinary & Due Process
- Policy 14.011 – Narcotic Control
- Policy 15.006 – Accidents Involving District Vehicles

A motion was made by Trustee Aaron Nilsson to approve the three policy updates. Second by Treasurer Jim Seiler.

In addition, all district policies are being migrated to a digital repository using Microsoft SharePoint, which will serve as the official source for policy documents. A motion was made by Trustee Alan Lewis to adopt the digital policy manual as the district's official policy repository. Second by Aaron Nilsson. Motion Carried.

### **New Business**

*Financial Audit – Dean Dorton* – The Board agreed to move New Business in front of Old Business to accommodate the guest speaker. Nick Reynolds, Assurance Associate Director with Dean Dorton, provided an update on the status of the district's audit. He reported that the primary delay in completing the audit was related to a discrepancy in pension contribution reporting with KPPA. The discrepancy has been resolved and corrected schedules were received. A draft audit report will be provided early the following week, with the goal of issuing the final report by the end of the week. Nick also explained a new accounting standard (GASB101) related to compensated absences. Under the new standard, the district must accrue certain sick leave liabilities that were not previously recorded. No other significant audit findings or issues were reported.

### **Fire & EMS Operation Report**

*Fire Report* –

Station 47 - Chief Monohan has been managing the Station 47 construction project and has been overseeing estimates and vendor coordination. The project is expected to start next Tuesday.

Paramedic Hiring Process – Two paramedics recently resigned, leaving one shift at Station 47 without coverage. The district is currently hiring to fill up to four positions. Chief Clark explained that positions will be filled based on candidate quality and pending potential changes affecting the CON.

24/72 Schedule – The new 24/72 schedule began Saturday, February 14. Chief Clark reported that operations are running smoothly and that the new recruits have brought additional energy to the department. Anticipated challenges include the need for personnel to remain vigilant under the new schedule, meeting training hour requirements, and reduced opportunities for personnel to gain hands-on experience on emergency runs.

Apparatus Update – The new apparatus has been purchased and outfitting is underway. The goal is to have the apparatus in service by April 1, with remaining upgrades included in the next fiscal year's budget.

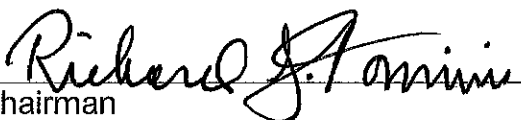
*EMS Report* – Statistics for January were included in the board packet. Assistant Chief Riordan discussed a new graph in the packet, a seven-year trend analysis showing that despite an increase in ambulances operating in the system, the department's run volume has remained consistent.


### **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion to be brought forth, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 PM. Motion by Trustee Alan Lewis. Second by Treasurer Jim Seiler. Motion Carried.

The next Jefferson County Suburban Fire Service meeting is scheduled for July 8, 2026.

The next regular meeting of the St. Matthews Fire Protection District Board of Trustees is scheduled for 4:00 PM on Thursday, March 19, 2026.

  
Chairman

  
Secretary

*Supporting documents as referenced may be obtained by contacting the  
St. Matthews Fire Protection District.*

**Recruit Class 45-01**

Drew Hutchinson

Nate Kraft

Nick Miller

Corey Williams

Ben Atherton

Clayton Pusateri

Aaron Wright

Nick Gnadinger

Anthony Lashley

Trey Beam

Todd Jones

Dillon Pruett

Jacob Mann

Trey Schuler

Trey Harvey

Josh Atkins (lateral)

Nathan Ohlmann (lateral)

Chase Smith (lateral)

Sworn in at Graduation  
on Thursday, 2-12-2016

Kathryn Wesley