

**St. Matthews Fire Protection District
Board of Trustees
January 15, 2026**

A meeting of the St. Matthews Fire Protection District Board of Trustees took place on January 15, 2026, at Station 46: 240 Sears Ave, Louisville, KY 40207.

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

Also present were Chief Nicholas Clark, Assistant Chief Frank Flynn, Assistant Chief Mike Riordan, Human Resource Director Michael Frantz, Attorney Mark Leach, Accountant Christine Kesler, Major Josh Lewis, Captain Bobby Agnew, Sergeant Derek Andriakos, Sergeant Charlie Strobel, Firefighter Jonathan Embry, and Firefighter Logan Cahall.

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

The minutes for the December 18, 2025 board meeting were approved by motion of Trustee Alan Lewis. Second by Trustee Aaron Nilsson. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report

Accountant Christine Kesler provided the treasurer's report by referencing the *Comments to Financials* distributed in the board package. She highlighted the property tax dollars received in December, the lower personnel costs, and reported that the Capital Expenditures were as expected for the month.

Approval of the December expenditures were motioned by Trustee Brendan Montgomery. Second by Trustee Alan Lewis. Motion Carried.

Old Business

Truck 47 Mechanical Repairs/Issues – Chief Clark reported on the ongoing mechanical repairs for Truck 47 totaling approximately \$87,000 over the past year. The department has explored the potential sale of Truck 47 and Fire & Specialty Equipment Co has identified interested buyers and command staff believe the apparatus could sell for approximately \$250,000. A motion was made by Trustee Brendan Montgomery to approve the sale of Truck 47 at the best available price, subject to a 6% sales commission. Second by Trustee Alan Lewis. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held on the operational impact of selling Truck 47, noting that doing so would eliminate a dedicated backup unit. A 2010 Spartan Engine owned by North Oldham Fire Department has been identified as a potential replacement apparatus. The engine is in good condition, with low annual usage and a documented maintenance history. It was noted that the apparatus is being sold due to a transition to a smaller engine. A motion was made by Trustee Alan Lewis to authorize the department to submit

a sealed bid for the North Oldham Engine up to \$225,000, pending further evaluation of the engine, including weighing and test driving, prior to submitting a bid. Second by Director Brendan Montgomery. Motion Carried.

New Business

Lobby Day in Frankfort – Chief Clark reported on the Lobby Day that was held on Tuesday January 13, during which meetings were conducted with six to seven legislators representing the district, with strong turnout and representation by multiple Jefferson County fire chiefs.

Chief Clark highlighted discussion of proposed legislation related to Chapter 75, which would allow fire district boards to consider increasing tax rates above the current cap if the district is already maxed out. This could be beneficial to fire districts across the state that are struggling financially and have reached the tax cap.

Chief Clark touched on another legislative issue concerning a proposal supported by the Builders Association that would allow construction of multi-story residential buildings (between two and six stories) with a single stairwell. Concerns were expressed that this would present significant safety risks for both firefighters and building occupants and the department is lobbying heavily against this.

Chief Clark and Assistant Chief Flynn were able to participate in a smaller meeting with Representative Nemus and shared great discussions. They were also able to meet with the executive director and assistant director of KBEMS.

Peer Support Team – Chief Clark shared his proposed plan for a Peer Support Team on a trial basis, to be comprised of members of the organization. He is asking that former firefighter Lee Look be contracted to lead this team as Clinical Director at an estimated cost of approximately \$3,000-\$4,000 per month. He would report to Chief Clark and HR Director Michael Frantz during this trial basis. Responsibilities of this position would include mental health training and support, as well as critical incident management/training. He would like to have more discussion at the February Board meeting, and no action was taken at this time.

Policy Updates Website – Chief Clark shared that policy updates will soon be digitized and all on Sharepoint for easy access/use. The goal date to go live is February 14th.

Fire & EMS Operation Report

Fire & EMS Report – The EMS 24/72 trial period has ended. There was a small group requesting to remain on 12 hour shifts during that time. While that accommodation was granted, all will now be moving to 24/72 shifts to avoid scheduling challenges. Temporary staffing logistics were discussed due to the lack of sleeping accommodation at Station 47. Chief Clark proposed constructing two bedrooms, a bathroom, and a small sitting area in the current second-floor conference room at Station 47. After discussion amongst

the Board, a motion was made by Director Alan Lewis to allow for up to \$75,000 to add two bedrooms, a bathroom, and a sitting area at Station 47. Second by Director Aaron Nilsson. Motion Carried. Paul Davis Restoration will be the general contract for the project.

The Recruit Academy Graduation is on February 12th from 10:00-11:30am at Beargrass Christian Church. TV/Radio Personality John Ramsey will MC the event. The first day of the 24/72 schedule for all of the department will be on Saturday February 14th.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Trustee Brendan Montgomery to go into an executive session of the board members for discussion of a legal matter. Second by Trustee Aaron Nilsson. Motion Carried. The session began at 5:13 PM. Motion by Trustee Aaron Nilsson to adjourn the executive session at 5:29 PM. Second by Trustee Dr. Gwendolyn Blue. Motion Carried. There were no decisions made during the Executive Session.

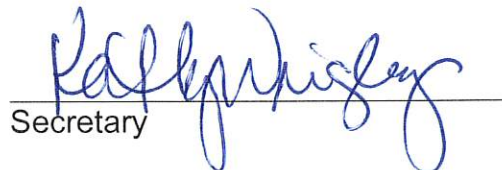
Adjournment

There being no further discussion to be brought forth, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM. Motion by Trustee Brendan Montgomery. Second by Director Dr. Gwendolyn Blue. 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, February 19, 2026.


Chairman


Secretary

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