

King County Fire Protection District No. 27

Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 27 was held on January 13, 2026, at Station 152 located at 4301-334th Place SE, Fall City, Washington, 98024. The meeting was also available remotely with online video and audio conferencing.

Chairman Meredith called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Chairman Daniel Meredith - Teams
Commissioner Lilly Hansen
Commissioner Kristopher Belfield
Fire Chief Will Aho
Assistant Chief Brian Culp
Secretary Melinda Wall

In Attendance:

Lt. Noah Fleming
Dave Hart

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Chairperson Election

On the Motion of Commissioner Belfield and a second by Commissioner Hansen the Board appointed Commissioner Meredith as Chairperson of the Board. MOTION CARRIED.

Board for Volunteer Firefighters – Commissioner Representative

On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second by Commissioner Hansen the Board appointed Commissioner Belfield as the Commissioner Representative of the Local Board for Volunteer Firefighters. MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment Period

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second by Commissioner Belfield, the Board approved the Minutes of the December 9, 2025, Regular Meeting and December 22, 2025, Special Meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

WARRANTS:

Assistant Chief Culp briefed the Board on the warrants and EFT transactions presented for payment. Chairman Meredith noted that the annual engine payment for \$184,858.12 was included in the EFT transactions.

On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second by Commissioner Hansen, the Board approved the following expenses: Voucher No's 25375-25412 totaling \$76,870.34; Vouchers 25413-25417 totaling \$28,660.47 and Payroll and EFT transactions totaling \$361,920.24. MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

2025 Budget and Bond Fund Report

The 2025 Expense Budget and Bond Fund Report were provided to the Board for review and discussion.

2026 Budget Adoption

Secretary Wall reported on the final adjustments that were made to the 2026 draft budget. Total revenues were \$3,706,000 and total expenses \$3,645,500. It was noted that the reserve transfer was not funded and the Board would consider it towards the end of the year. After discussion, the following action was taken.

On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second by Commissioner Belfield the Board adopted the 2026 Expense Fund Budget as presented. MOTION CARRIED.



King County Fire Protection District No. 27

STATION USER AGREEMENTS:

Cascade FC Soccer Club – Soccer Meeting – 1/19/26 (5:30-7:30 pm)
KC Search & Rescue – Meeting – 1/29/26 (5:00-8:00 pm)
Jadon Cluett – Soccer Meeting – 1/20/26, 2/9/26, 3/9/26 (6:00-7:30 pm)
Agreements approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

No Correspondence.

Commissioner Belfield asked about the status of the media release in regards to the District contracting with Eastside Fire and Rescue. Assistant Chief Culp reported that he had announced the change at the Fall City Community Association meeting and would be drafting an article to submit to the Fall City Neighbors.

CHIEF AHO'S BRIEFING / EFR MONTHLY DIVISION REPORT:

Chief Aho discussed and presented his briefing report to the Board; the new format includes EFR's Division reports. He discussed the following topics:

- EFR's finance department is currently going through audits for four of their agencies.
- Slide damage to SE Edgewick Road in North Bend - Road crews have done repairs and there is now access via a single lane with weigh limit restrictions.
- Jupiter Power is in the permit process with King County to develop a large site in Fire District 38's area just off of the Snoqualmie Ridge for a large battery and energy systems storage facility.

After discussion, Chief Aho left the meeting at 3:35 pm.

ASSISTANT CHIEF CULP'S OPERATIONS REPORT:

Alarms:

- For December 2025, the District responded to 35 aid calls, 19 medic calls, 21 Fire calls, and 11 service calls, for 86 calls. For 2025, the District had 1,006 calls for service, down from 1,062 in 2024, a 5.27% decrease.
- Turn-out times: December – The turn-out time standard was achieved on 47 of 77 calls, which was 61.0%. The 90th percentile turn-out time was 2:11.
- Redmond Fire went to six MIH calls.
- EFR responded to one call because they were the closest unit.
- In December, we transported 11 patients to the hospital. In 2025, we had 180 transports, down from 227 in 2024.

Volunteer Firefighters / E-Shift Program:

- FF Geller is still on medical leave after having a medical procedure.

County Projects:

- We are waiting on the new KC EMS Levy contract for the district. As Melinda reported, we had to make a change in our insurance that will cost an additional \$3,000.00 annually.
- We will be finishing out some invoices with KC EMS to close out last year's EMS Levy funding.

Career Staff:

- Recruit Johnson is finishing the Recruit Academy and will graduate on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 6:00 PM at The River of Life Fellowship in Kent. He will then attend a two-week post-academy course with EFR, including Wildland Training, to make sure they are ready for their first shift. His first shift will be on February 16.
- We have hired our next recruit, who will start on 01/14/2026. He will go through the two-week pre-academy with EFR and then start the Recruit on 02/05/2026. I want to thank EFR for providing a list and the officers for conducting interviews.



King County Fire Protection District No. 27

Training:

- The crews have completed another successful year with the SKCFTC. Total documented training hours for 2025 were 2,821.28, averaging 23.51 hours per month for career staff.
- We have started training on the new LP15-AEDs. We are waiting on Stryker to come out to finish setting them up before we can place them on the units. There was a brief discussion on the future use of the old AED units.

Station/Equipment Projects:

- The Brush Truck should be completed this week, according to the Shoreline Shops. We will then outfit it and place it into service.
- The emergency generator annual service was completed last month.
- Kirkland Fire did not get approval to purchase our Skid Unit. We will list the Skid Unit on the Washington Fire Chief's website to see if there is any interest from other departments within the State.
- I am working with Kirkland Fire to obtain a gurney that they are not using anymore so that we can place it into the backup Aid-Car and have a spare.
- We replaced the stove in the kitchen after a valve leak was found. The repair cost was high, so we decided replacement was the best option.

Community Projects/Events:

- I want to recognize Lt. Fleming for being the lead for Operation Santa. Lt. Fleming, along with the rest of the labor group, did a fantastic job of ensuring it was a great success.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

King County Authorized Signers / Auditing Officer Designation

Assistant Chief Culp discussed and requested direction from the Board to approve Chief Aho as a dedicated Auditing Officer for the District.

On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second by Commissioner Hansen the Board appointed Chief Aho as an Auditing Officer of the District and approved him as an Authorized Signer of the District for King County payable processes. MOTION CARRIED.

3-Year Budget Projections

This item tabled.

OTHER:

Chairman Meredith stated that he would continue to meet with Chief Aho prior to D27 Board meetings.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Meredith at 3:50 p.m.

Attest:

Melinda Wall
District Secretary

Melinda Wall

Carl Meredith
Chairman

Tolly Hansen
Commissioner

Kristen Reif
Commissioner

BA