



Fire District 1 **Steering Council Meeting**

7750 N. Wyandotte Way
Park City, KS 67147316-660-3473

September 03, 2026

Fire District 1 Attendees: Chief Doug Williams, Fire Marshal Brad Crisp, and Deputy Chief Kevin Nelson

Fire District 1 Steering Council Expected Attendees: Kent Koehler/Bel Aire, Russ Lowen/Goddard, Susie Sutton/Haysville, Jacob Culy/Maize, Katie Bowen/Park City, Jeff Witherspoon/Member at Large #2 SCAC, BJ Bryant/Member at Large #4 Aircraft Manufacturing, **Vacant**/Member at Large #1 Unincorporated Area, **Vacant**/Member at Large #3 Unincorporated Area

Special Guests:

Overview of Discussions:

The Sedgwick County Fire District One Steering Council meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Witherspoon. Chairman Jeff Witherspoon asked for approval of previous meeting minutes to which the vote passed unanimously.

Chief Williams provided updates of ongoing negotiations with Valley Center, Clearwater, Cheney, Colwich, and Mount Hope. Cities have been asked to consider mutual-aid agreements with staffing and incident-command expectations. Existing arrangements may expire if cities do not act by the stated deadline.

The group discussed unequal taxation and the effect of county crews responding to communities that do not pay equivalent fire-service taxes. Inadequate volunteer turnout can leave county stations empty or force on-duty crews to operate understaffed. Township contracts with local cities may create additional coverage and funding complications.

Chief Williams also discussed Mount Hope presentation options involving renewal of automatic aid or dissolution of its volunteer department and transition into the fire district. The board discussed station placement, staffing, call volume, and potential ISO-rating effects.

Members discussed the advisory board's limited authority and the possibility of representing constituent cities if commissioners reconsider the agreements.

Audio notes ended abruptly and the rest of the meeting was not heard.

I. **Call to Order: Chairman Jeff Weatherspoon at 1804**

II. **Roll Call**

<u>Steering Council</u>	Roll Call
Jeff Witherspoon	Present
Katie Bowen	Present
BJ Bryant	Absent
Russ Lowen	Absent
Kent Koehler	Present
Susie Sutton	Present
Jacob Culy	Present
<i>Vacant</i>	
<i>Vacant</i>	

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of the Newest Member: Jacob Culy representing Maize

IV. Approval of previous meeting minutes

Event:	Previous Meeting Minutes
Motion:	Kent Koehler
Second:	Katie Bowen
Jeff Witherspoon	Aye
Katie Bowen	Aye
BJ Bryant	Absent
Russ Lowen	Absent
Kent Koehler	Aye
Susie Sutton	Aye
Jacob Culy	Aye
<i>Vacant</i>	
<i>Vacant</i>	

V. Fire Chief Update

i. Project for Aid Agreements/Consolidation of Fire District

1. Valley Center City Council Meeting update
2. Mutual Aid agreements
3. Township letters

ii. 2027 Budget Update – Financial Forecast

1. Fire Board approves 2027 Budget
- iii. Fire District Strategic Plan – Planning Workshop # 3
- iv. Current budget update/status
- v. Updates to Council Outside of Meeting

VI. **Meeting Adjournment**

Event:	Meeting Adjournment
Motion:	Jeff Witherspoon
Second:	Kent Koehler
Jeff Witherspoon	Aye
Katie Bowen	Aye
BJ Bryant	Absent
Russ Lowen	Absent
Kent Koehler	Aye
Susie Sutton	Aye
Jacob Culy	
<i>Vacant</i>	
<i>Vacant</i>	

Meeting adjourned at 1926