

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 16, 2026 SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 2**

A special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire District No. 2 was held on January 16, 2026, at the Burien Community Center commencing at 10:12 a.m., pursuant to proper notice. District officials in attendance, either in person or via Teams, were Commissioners Mike Ziegler and Chris Elwell, Fire Chief Jason Gay, Assistant Chief (AC) Ray Desmarais, AC Wayne Metz and District Secretary Eric Quinn and Oliver Hern, Katherine Goetz and Brian Murphy from Berk Consulting,

- I. **CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE.** Chair Elwell called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

- II. **PRESENTATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - Presentation from Berk Consulting regarding the strategic plan.

- III. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - The Board and administration engaged in discussion related to strategic planning.
 - Brian Murphy outlined the work that went into strategic planning and how the District can move forward.
 - The two components of the presentation related to the staff survey and financial planning.
 - Brian Murphy discussed the level of personnel satisfaction as indicated in the staff survey.
 - The staff survey included approximately 60 responses.
 - Chief Gay voiced his concerns about the survey and the “why” behind some of the answers—he also felt that it may be best to present the results at a Board meeting.
 - Chris Elwell discussed staff surveys at his job as well for context. He wondered whether there is a manner to get a feel for an industrywide standard, to determine whether this is an internal issue or if this is a common trend in many jurisdictions. Brian indicated that they have done many surveys in other agencies and can provide those for comparison, but those might not reflect the *current* industry standard for responses to such surveys.
 - Oliver Hern assessed financing mechanisms, including a five-year forecast of potential revenues and potential costs and different scenarios related to that.
 - Consolidation questions were also discussed.
 - Concerns have been expressed that certain constituents wanted to have a say in the final strategic plan. Chris Elwell discussed the difference between input and decision-making.
 - Chief Gay outlined workload and division-of-labor questions, including but not limited to logistics.
 - Oliver Hern inquired as to what the District is expecting in terms of timelines. Chris Elwell indicated that the District needs to be in a position to decide whether it will pursue a lid lift in 2027

- AC Metz spoke briefly as to how these issues should be communicated to the Union. Chief Gay indicated that his intention was to discuss these issues in his Chief's Reports.

IV. GOOD OF THE ORDER. There was none.

V. ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 11:11 a.m.


Minutes Approved: January 20, 2026



Chris Elwell
Board Chair




Mike Ziegler
Commissioner



Robert Lawson
Commissioner

ATTEST:



[Eric Quinn \(Jan 20, 2026 18:40:19 PST\)](#)
Eric T. Quinn, District Secretary

ATTACHMENTS - None

January 16, 2026






01.16.2026 KCFD2 Meeting Minutes_Need E-Signature

Final Audit Report

2026-01-21

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