

**Manhattan Fire Protection District
Special Board of Commissioner's Meeting**

MINUTES

January 6, 2026

The Manhattan Fire Protection Board of Commissioners held its Special meeting at Manhattan Fire Station 81. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm. Commissioners present were Jerry Kinsella, Claude Werner and Anton Brncich. Fire department personnel present were Chief Malone, Deputy Chief Piper and Kim Ingram, Admin Assistant.

Public Comment

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and Possible appointment of 3 firefighter/paramedic Candidates

The Commissioners discussed the current eligibility list and the hiring of three candidates.

MOTION by Werner, seconded by Brncich to appoint Weston Lancaster, Jeff Malito and Adrian Aguirre Merlos to the rank of full time firefighter. **Motion Carries.**

OTHER BUSINESS

The Battalion Chiefs promotional process is starting. Candidates will need to submit a letter of intent and resume by February 2nd. Only current qualified Lieutenants can apply and the timeline of events was discussed. As Union negotiations will begin this summer, discussion to include Commissioners in promotional processes were considered as they may or may not be an option moving forward. The planning, timeframe and training needed to promote firefighters, Lieutenants and Battalion Chiefs this year was reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Werner, seconded by Brncich to adjourn at 1:28pm. **Motion Carries.**