Lafourche Ambulance District #1

Meeting Minutes

17078 West Main Street, Cut Off, LA 70345

July 21, 2026

The Board of Commissioners of Lafourche Ambulance District #1 (LAD#1) met in regular session on Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at 6:15 p.m. at its Administration Office located at 17078 West Main Street, Cut Off, LA 70345.

President Dean Savoie called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll was called: **Board members in attendance:** Dean Savoie, Reggie Pitre, Kip Plaisance, Brian Marts, N J Lefort, Aaron Arabie, and Tad Lafont. **Board members absent**: None. Also present were: Administrator Michelle Pierce, Operations Manager Brady Daigle, Administrative Assistant Debra "Pepi" Guidry, Councilman Daniel Lorraine, Mr. Pernell Pellegrin of Martin and Pellegrin CPA's; and EMT-Basic Timothy Crawford.

Comments from the public

A. Councilman Daniel Lorraine – Addressed the Board with his concerns about the Veterans Memorial District Ward 10 not renewing their contract with LAD#1 for a van driver to drive the veteran's to out of town doctor appoints. Mr. Lorraine was assured that LAD#1 had been in contact with the Veterans Memorial District Ward 10 and is working hard to extend the contract into the future.

B. Pernell Pellegrin, CPA – 2025 Audit Presentation – Mr. Pernell Pellegrin of Martin and Pellegrin CPAs specializing in government and non-profit auditing explained that when they preform audits for entities like LAD#1; they perform risk assessments on cash and money market accounts, test patient receivables to determine how much is uncollectable, and track income and expenses for accurate posting. The audit consists of 3 separate opinions: 1st opinion is whether the financial statement as prepared by LAD#1 staff are fairly stated. We issued an unmodified opinion which is the cleanest opinion we could issue. He also stated that our books are in real good shape. They do extensive testing and the auditor assigned to our audit is very meticulous and a stickler, we have good books and you can feel good about that. The 2nd opinion is if our accounting processes are sufficient to produce accurate financial statements. A Clean Opinion was issued on this process as well. The 3rd opinion – the most important component of the audit they had to design tests to test components of laws and regulations that apply to our organization such as open meetings laws, surplus property laws, public bid laws, cash management laws, etc, and there are no findings. From an auditing, compliance and testing stand point; we are in real good shape. Mr. Pellegrin presented that in the for-profit world we had a $1.6 million loss last year. Revenues were up $100 thousand from the prior year; taxes were up $60 thousand and patient revenues were down $137 thousand. At the end of the year, we had $2.8 million in cash and money market funds which is down from the previous year. Also, because we are a public entity with over $500K budget the state requires an audit on the statewide agreed-upon procedures again resulting in no exceptions. Mr. Pellegrin asked if anyone had any questions. Member Tad Lafont stated that this is the third year in a row we are bleeding cash and we can't continue to operate in this manner.

Mr. Pellegrin responded that if things don't change this entity may not be here any longer; revenues must cover expenses. He thanked the staff for their assistance throughout this process.

C. Timothy Crawford – Paramedic School – Tim addressed the board with his intentions in attending paramedic school and is requesting financial support by applying for an LAD#1 scholarship. Motion by Kip Plaisance; second by N J Lefort to award Tim a scholarship to attend paramedic school. Unanimously approved.

Meeting Minutes – Motion by Aaron Arabie to approve the June 16, 2026 LAD #1 regular board meeting minutes as written, second by Reggie Pitre. Unanimously approved.

President's Report – Dean Savoie

A. Administrator Pierce requested approval for travel to Bossier City, LA for LAA quarterly meeting being held on July 22-23, 2026. Motion by Reggie Pitre; second by Kip Plaisance to approve Administrator Pierce's request to travel to Bossier City , LA for LAA quarterly meeting. Unanimously approved.

Administration & Financial Report

A. Operations Report – Operations Manager Brady Daigle reported on monthly statistics, unit maintenance, lawn care, VRI medical alert devices, average response time; chute times and reported that a few employees are out due to various reasons. He also reported that he and Michelle met with a few board members of the Veterans' Memorial District Ward 10 with their financial concerns about the contract with LAD#1.

B. Administrative Report - Administrator Michelle Pierce presented the June 2026 finance report on collections, run charges, fund balances and ongoing efforts to reduce spending.

Next Meeting Date – August 18, 2026 at 6:15 pm.

Guest Comments – None

Member Comments: Reggie Pitre commented to keep safe with this heat and keep our eyes on the weather. N J Lefort – Keep up the good work and we'll work on the finances. Brian Marts – no comment; Tad Lafont – asked all board members to put some ideas on a strategic plan to address finances. And he urges everyone to take this opportunity to address our finances. Aaron Arabie – unfortunately its reality and he appreciates everyone and all they do. Kip Plaisance – It is what it is; we're going to have to work on tightening the belt.

Being no further business to come before the board, motion to adjourn by Reggie Pitre, second by Brian Marts. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

/s/**BRIAN MARTS**
Secretary/Treasurer

/s/**MICHELLE PIERCE**
Administrator