

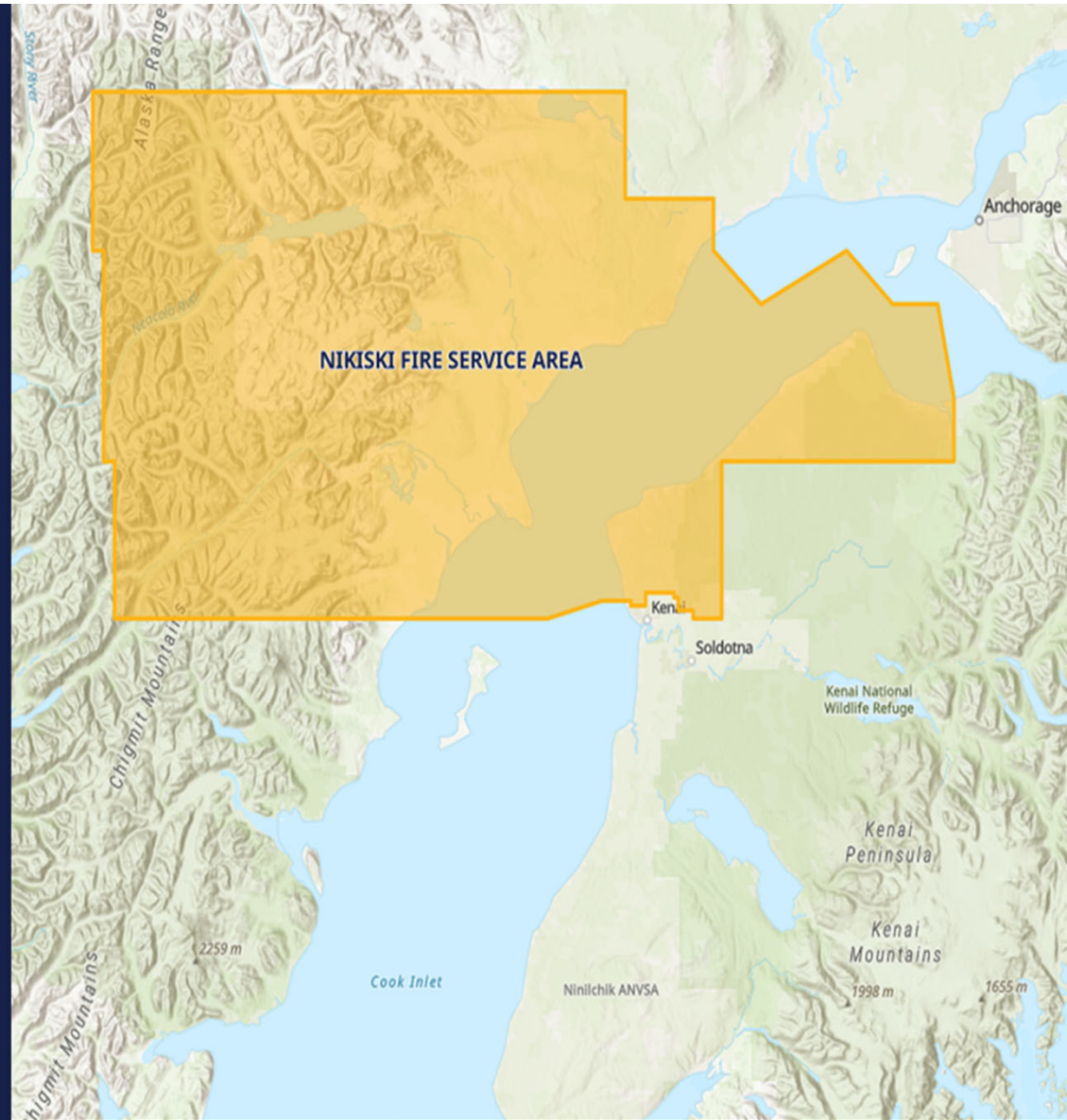
Nikiski Fire Service Area

John Harris, Fire Chief



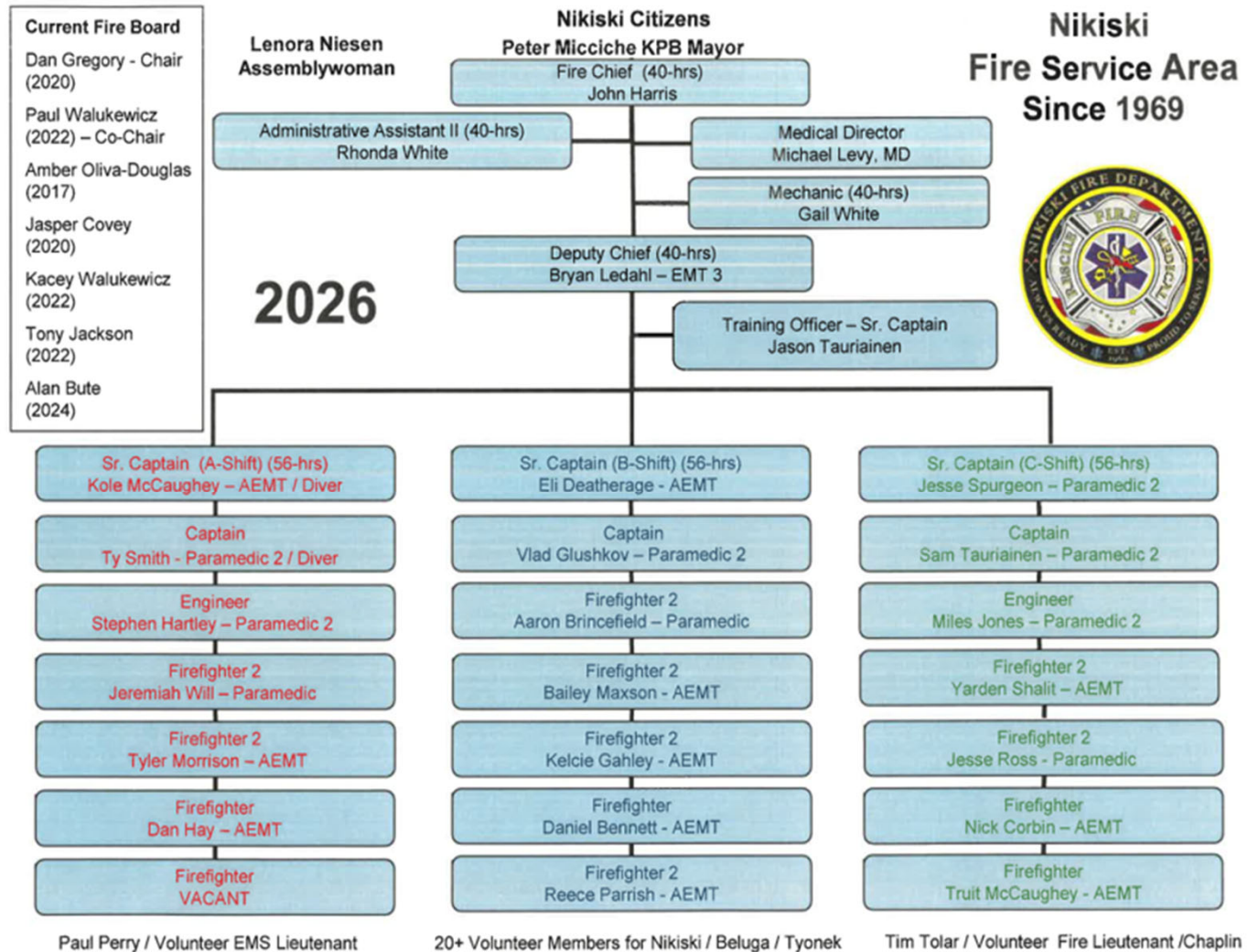
Background Information

- Established by a vote of the people in 1969.
- We have a population of 5,949 residents.
- Service area is 5,480 square miles.



Agenda

- Objectives/Highlights
- Expenditure summary
- Capital project fund
- Long term issues/concerns





- Station One, Mile 17.9 Kenai Spur Highway
- Station Two, Mile 26.4 Kenai Spur Highway
- Station Three, Intersection of Holt-Lamplight & Escape Route
- Tyonek Village
- Beluga

Nikiski Fire Stations





Service Area Information



Diverse Response Area

- Marathon Refinery
- Oil & Gas platforms (Cook Inlet)
- Residential neighborhoods
- Homer Electric Co-Gen Facility
- Nikiski North Star Elementary and Nikiski Middle-High School



Service Area Continued



- Wildland/Urban Interface
- Numerous water-based concerns, including the Cook Inlet, Swanson River, and extensive lake system
- Numerous geographical land-based concerns, Vibrant recreational community
- Northern Peninsula – recreational cabins, numerous water-based activities on the lake system

FY 26 Accomplishments



- Received federal grant for a pickup mounted fire pump/tank.
- Received three (3) F150 P/U trucks, along with one (1) F250 P/U truck. All of these vehicles replaced “first out” response vehicles that had exceeded the service life expectancy.
- Continued emphasis in the health and wellness program by making physical fitness a top priority
- Completed promotional testing for the following positions: Training Officer, Senior Captain, two (2) Captains, and three (3) Engineers.
- Increased attendance to the TEEX training facility from one (1) to four (4) NFD employees, to enhance our industrial firefighting capabilities.







Continued

- In cooperation with Hilcorp Alaska LLC – Rig tenders Dock, we established a new contract in regard to water access for the Cook Inlet for the purpose of continuous access throughout the year.
- Met with the CAO of the Tyonek Native Corporation in order to obtain additional funding, due to budget constraints.
- Established training and standard operating procedures for a department drone program.



Expenditure Summary

FY26–FY27 Budget Comparison

	FY 26 Adopted Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	Change
 Personnel	\$4,916,482	\$5,201,942	\$285,460
 Supplies	\$318,897	\$308,417	-\$10,480
 Services	\$1,026,110	\$1,094,617	\$68,507
 Capital Outlay	\$165,421	\$156,593	-\$8,828
 Transfers	\$1,069,111	\$1,071,798	\$2,687
 ID Charges	\$160,668	\$169,039	\$8,371
Total	\$7,656,509	\$8,002,406	\$345,897
Change			4.52%

Note: Numbers may not add up due to rounding.



Capital Project Fund Summary

Priority #1

Medic 3 replacement



Priority #2

Unit ERV Replacement



Priority #3

Rescue UTV w/ trailer and tracks





Capital Projects

#1

- \$400,000. This project is intended to replace one (1) aging ambulance for the NFSA. The ambulance being replaced is a 2016 model, with high mileage and mechanical issues.

#2

- \$75,000. This project is intended to replace an emergency response vehicle that is operating out of Station Two (2). This vehicle is used for daily emergency responses and is starting to have mechanical issues.

#3

- \$75,000. 2026 UTV Aurora 950 XT SAR 8x8, \$45,000. 2026 18' enclosed trailer, \$14,000. Alaska Bush UTV Tracks, \$5,000. The additional cost is due to the unknown shipping cost. Any unused funds will be appropriated back to the Capital Fund.



Long term Issues and Concerns

- Aging population, approximately 30% of the KPBC is 60+ years of age.
- Recruitment/retention issues for both existing/potential employees.
- Unknown future of oil and gas in our area, which is a major source of revenue for the NFD.
- Inadequate equipment and facilities in Tyonek and Beluga. Additionally, there is a significant lack of participation in emergency response for residents in Tyonek.



Additional Long Term Concerns

- Radio communications in our service area can be unreliable due to lack of ALMR infrastructure.
- Address the wide variety in potential emergent responses, due to the unique aspect of the NFSA. These could include conventional water rescue, industrial fires, specialized water rescue in the Cook Inlet, open water dive rescue, Wildland SAR, mountain rescue, conventional structure fires, and EMS.



Mission Statement



Nikiski Fire Department is committed to providing the highest level of public safety services for the community of Nikiski by maintaining highly trained emergency response personnel. We protect lives and property through fire suppression, emergency medical response, disaster management and community risk reduction.

Objectives Summary

- Increase our existing cadre of rescue divers by three (3) more personnel. The NFD Dive Rescue Team has responded successfully to multiple incidents.
- Increase the amount of Live Fire Instructors from one (1) to four (4). This affords greater ability/flexibility in regard to in-house training and reduces training costs.
- Increase off-road capabilities by purchasing an all-terrain vehicle. This will enable access to some of the most challenging terrain throughout the entire year.
- Provide training and support to the communities of Tyonek and Beluga, possibly identifying additional sources of funding to offset fiscal costs for the NFSA/KPB.
- Develop in-house social media content for recruitment/educational objectives.





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Thank you

