

SOUTH GEORGIA FIRE DISTRICT BY-LAWS

Section 101. General Law; Application.

- 101.1 The inhabitants of that part of the Town of Georgia having been constituted the South Georgia Fire District by Order of the Board of Selectmen of said Town dated December 4, 1991, and by No. M-18 of the Acts of 1992, do adopt these permanent By-Laws for their governance and administration hereby cancelling and revoking District By-Laws adopted on January 27, 1992, and all amendments thereto.
- 101.2 These By-Laws shall be construed as supplementing all general laws of the State of Vermont applicable to municipal corporation and fire districts.

Section 201. Annual and Special Meetings.

- 201.1. The annual meeting of the Fire District shall be held on the second Thursday in February of each year.
- 201.2. Special meetings of the Fire District shall be called by the District Clerk or the Prudential Committee as provided by law. Special meetings shall be warned in the same manner upon application in writing by three or more voters of the Fire District, or by five percent of the voters of the Fire District, whichever is greater.
- 201.3. Unless contrary provision is made by law, notice of annual and special Fire District meetings shall be given by recording the warning thereof in the office of the District Clerk and thereafter posting the same in at least two public places within the Fire District for no more than 40 nor less than 30 days before the date of said meeting.
- 201.4. The warning for all annual and special Fire District meetings shall specify the time, date and place thereof, and shall identify by separate articles the matters of business to be considered and acted upon.
- 201.5. Roberts Rules of Order (current edition) shall control the conduct of all annual and special Fire District meetings and meetings of the Prudential Committee unless other provision is made by these By-Laws or general law.
- 201.6. Australian and absentee/early voting ballots shall be used only when required by law or in the event the Fire District shall vote to adopt such system of voting.
- 201.7. The current voter checklist of the Town of Georgia for the area within the limits of the Fire District shall be deemed conclusive as to voter eligibility within the Fire District.

Section 301. Officers.

301.1. At each annual meeting, the Fire District shall elect from its inhabitants:

- A District Clerk
- A combined District AR/Billing Clerk/ Treasurer
- One three year term and two one year term Prudential Committee Members

301.2

- A) The Prudential Committee shall consist of five voting members, three with three year terms and two with one year terms. One whose term shall serve for three years, one whose remaining three year term shall serve their two remaining years, and one whose remaining three year term shall serve their last remaining year. And two whose term are for one year.
- B) In order to preserve and to maintain the integrity and independence of the Prudential Committee officers and the voting board members, and to prevent nepotism, no Board member shall serve in a responsible capacity on the Prudential Committee that are related to each other in any way. (IE: Husband, Wife, Son, Daughter, Brother, Sister, Brother In-law, Sister In-law, Uncle, Aunt, Cousins)

301.3 Fire District officers elected under Section 301.1, other than Prudential Committee members, shall hold office for a term of one year or until their respective successors shall be elected and qualified.

301.4. Vacancies in any Fire District office shall be filled in the manner provided by law.

301.5. An office shall be declared vacant in the event the incumbent therein shall remove himself or herself from the Fire District.

301.6. Annually the Prudential Committee shall elect one of its members Chairman and shall set the date and time of the Committee's regular meetings for the year next ensuing. Special meetings of the Prudential Committee shall be called in the manner provided by law.

301.7. A majority of Prudential Committee members present at a meeting thereof shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

301.8. The act of a majority of a quorum of Prudential Committee members present at a meeting thereof shall be deemed the act of the Prudential Committee.

301.9. Fire District and Prudential Committee meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the open meeting laws of the state.

Section 401. Finances.

401.1. The calendar year of the Fire District shall commence on the first day of January.

401.2. The budget of the Fire District, consisting of anticipated revenues and expenditures, as well as any surplus or deficit from the previous fiscal year, shall be approved at the annual meeting thereof, or at a special Fire District meeting called and held for that purpose.

401.3. The grand list of the Town of Georgia, as it pertains to the Fire District, shall serve as the Grand list for the Fire District of the owners of the property.

401.4. In the event a tax shall be levied for any purpose, at least thirty days' notice of the due date thereof shall be given in writing to all persons affected thereby.

401.5. If any tax, assessment, rate, rent, charge, or fee shall be delinquent following notice and demand for payment, interest, costs, and penalty thereon shall accrue to the maximum extent permitted by law. The collection process for any bill or charge that exceeds \$15,00 will be as follows:

1. A penalty fee invoice of \$25.00 after account is 30 days past due will be mailed with a warning notice of disconnect date.

2. A week before disconnect date any delinquent accounts will be mailed a certified / return receipt letter warning of the disconnect date. A Disconnection fee of \$25 and a Reconnection fee of \$25.00 will be charged should service be disconnected.

3. Any accounts not paid in full by the disconnect date, will be given to the System Manager to disconnect if the account is not paid in full, and if disconnection is permitted by law.

Interest at the rate of one percent (1%) per month or fraction thereof for the first three (3) months, and thereafter one and one-half (1 ½ %) percent per month or fraction thereof shall be charged from the due date of such tax, assessment rate, rent, charge, or fee at the discretion of the Prudential Committee.

401.6. Special benefit assessments upon all property within the Fire District shall be approved and levied in the manner provided by law.

401.7. By separate ordinance, the Prudential Committee shall establish rules and regulations relating to the operation of public water supply systems owned or operated by the Fire District, including extensions thereof, and connections thereto.

401.8. The Fire District, through its Prudential Committee, shall exercise all lawful powers and authority with respect to the extraterritorial acquisition and sale of water for any purpose.

401.9. In using and occupying any lands and highways to construct, maintain or repair any water works or components thereof, the Fire District shall be responsible for

restoring such lands and highways to their pre-existing condition, as reasonably practicable.

401.10. By resolution, the Prudential Committee shall adopt a Conflict of Interest policy.

Section 501. Amendments.

501.1. These By-Laws may be amended by majority vote of those present and voting at any annual or special Fire District meeting, provided that notice thereof containing the full text of such amendment be given in the manner established in Section 201.3.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, and complete set of the By-Laws of the South Georgia Fire District, duly adopted at a meeting thereof held on

February 12th, 2026

Clerk, South Georgia Fire District: _____

Chair: _____

~~Clerk~~

By Voice 2-12-26

David M. West 2-12-26
Mr. Shink 2-12-26
Laurie St. Hlaire 2/12/26