

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER: The January 7, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Kevin McCurrie at Station #1, 8815 W. 123rd Street, Palos Park, Illinois.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Kevin McCurrie led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: On call of the roll, Trustees Gene Adams, Todd Thielmann, Kevin McCurrie, Richard Nogal and Russell Miller responded as present.

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Thomas Courtney, Recording Secretary Maxine Bell, James Howard of Governmental Accounting, Inc., Shawn Flaherty, Commissioner Jim Staszczuk, Commissioner Robert Stevenson, Commissioner Tom Crowhurst and personnel of the Fire Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A Motion was made by Trustee Miller and seconded by Trustee Thielmann to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2019 meeting of the Board of Trustees, as written. On a roll call vote, the Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: James Howard presented the Treasurer's Report and did an excellent job in explaining the District's Financial Analysis and the Summary of Revenue and Expenditures. Trustee McCurrie stated that the District had \$307,767.62 in payroll and \$525,557.24 in accounts payable. Trustee McCurrie asked for a Motion to Approve Treasurer's report, as presented. Motion was made by Trustee Nogal and seconded by Trustee Thielmann. The motion carried by a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Chris Courtney advised that Palos Fire responded to a total of 222 calls for service from 12/01/2019 through 12/31/2019. The introduction of new policy at neighboring agencies has reduced Auto Aid responses. The LaGrange road improvements have also decreased the need for Ambulance assists to Orland Fire during the Holiday Season. Historical graphs and charts were attached showing the breakdown of calls. These reports show calls by nature, busiest times of day and by Station.

Acting Chief Courtney next advised that over the last 8 months the District has focused training on Officer Development. Thus far 4 of the 7 Lieutenants have been sent to IFIS for First in Company Officer training. FICO is a weeklong class at U of I in Champaign that focuses on Leadership, Tactics and Pride in your company. The class has been well received and we look forward to sending the

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remaining members to this class. The acting Chief stated that he would also like to recognize Brian Vlcek and Tom O'Connor for focusing on new and fresh training to the District. The Training Department just concluded 3 days of classroom training focusing on knowing your apparatus, equipment and surroundings.

The Acting Chief stated that Lieutenants' exam will be given towards the end of January. There will be 6 candidates challenging the exam. Final list to be posted by March 1st, 2020.

Acting Chief Courtney advised that the first round of full time testing was announced and the application period closed on January 3, 2020. A total of 9 applications went out; most went to current part time employees of Palos Fire Protection District. The written exam will be given on January 18, 2020 at Palos South Middle School. Oral interviews to follow. College of DuPage testing on track to be finished by the end of May, 2020. Letters went out to the last 3 candidates on current eligibility list. To date only one has accepted. The list is now exhausted.

Acting Chief Chris Courtney advised Trustees that ambulance 6312's passenger side rear fender was damaged on an ambulance assist to a Palos Heights fire. No one was injured. A passenger vehicle parked on the side of the road received damage to driver's side front quarter panel. Damage to ambulance is minor. The District is awaiting accident report and insurance claim regarding dollar amount to repair vehicle. Crew incident reports were received and appropriate discipline was issued.

Orland Fire Dispatch installed the communication equipment on top of cell tower at the Cook County Highway Department on 135th and Southwest Highway. Once operational, radio testing will begin and new tablets will be ordered for vehicles. Orland Dispatch should be operational by March 1, 2020. Trustee McCurrie inquired about the Tower. He was advised that Cook County gave no resistance to installing the Tower. Palos Fire will be the only user on top of tower. Orland is putting Palos Fire on repeater system which is stronger than our current system so we should have no issues at all.

Two new ZOLL AEDS were purchased and placed into service on 6333 and 6303. These monitors replaced the current outdated monitors that were in service and needed new batteries. The cost of these AEDS were slightly higher than the cost of the new batteries. Currently the District owns 7 AEDS; one at each station, 1 in each staff car and 2 frontline ALS engines.

Acting Chief Courtney advised that he will be out of the office on January 29, 2020 attending an ISO preparation seminar. This will help the District prepare for the next ISO evaluation that should be coming around shortly.

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Lastly, Acting Chief Courtney advised that part time fire-fighter/paramedic Stephen Franco turned in his resignation effective 12/30/2019. Part time staffing is now at 6 members.

OLD BUSINESS: Trustee McCurrie inquired about the ratification of Local #4480 Collective Bargaining Agreement and asked Shawn if we are good to go. Shawn mentioned that he corrected two typos and reviewed same and we are "good to go." Trustee McCurrie wanted a Motion to Ratify this CBA after a review by Shawn Flaherty and Trustee Nogal interjected that the Trustees did approve it last month and he also wanted to know if there is any benefit to approving the Agreement in January as opposed to December. Shawn Flaherty stated that the second party had signed the Agreement and the signature is more important than the vote. Trustee Adams made a Motion to approve the ratification of Local #4480 Collective Bargaining Agreement after the Union signed and counsel Shawn Flaherty reviewed and Trustee Miller seconded. By a call of the roll, the Motion passed. Next, Trustee McCurrie stated now that the CBA is approved, could we have a Motion to Create Group 3115 Trust. A Motion was made by Trustee Thielmann for a resolution to create Group 3115 Trust now that the CBA was ratified and this Motion was seconded by Trustee Nogal. By a roll call vote, the Motion passed.

A Motion was made by Trustee Miller to go into Closed Session at 7:14 p.m. to discuss issues concerning personnel, Fire Chief Contract, full time negotiations and matters of legal counsel. This Motion was seconded by Trustee Thielmann. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: At 8:09 p.m. the Trustees Meeting reconvened to open session.

Trustee McCurrie advised that the Board is going to table Chris Courtney's Fire Chief contract to next month's meeting. The issues concerning Deputy Chief will also be tabled to next month's meeting as well as the Battalion Chief's ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m. on a Motion to Adjourn made by Trustee Adams and seconded by Trustee Thielmann. On a roll call vote, the Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Palos Fire Protection District Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.







