

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 5, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER: The November 5, 2019 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: Chief Mike McDonald, Deputy Chief Chris Courtney, Attorney Thomas Courtney, Recording Secretary Maxine Bell, Brad O'Sullivan of Governmental Accounting, Inc. and personnel of the Fire Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A Motion was made by Trustee Miller and seconded by Trustee Adams to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2019 meeting of the Board of Trustees, as written. On a roll call vote, the Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Brad O'Sullivan 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 \$324,189.13 in payroll and \$193,528.37 in account payables. Trustee McCurrie asked for a Motion to Approve Treasurer's report, as presented. Motion was made by Trustee Miller and seconded by Trustee Nogal. The motion carried by a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: At this point, Trustee McCurrie brought up the medical marijuana policy. He continued to say that all the guys must vote on it as a group and a firefighter in the back of the room stated that the firefighters did vote on it in June. Trustee McCurrie said to advise the Trustees at next meeting what transpired regarding the voting in June.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief McDonald alerted the Trustees that Tom Touhy and Steve Hanley resigned their position with Palos Fire. Chief went on to say that he has sent letters to the next three candidates on the list for processing. Cody Quillin took a second pass on the job. He is working in Roberts Park. Joe Baron has taken the position and his first day was November 1st. Joe has been a part-timer with Palos Fire for the past year. Joe was present at this meeting and the Chief asked him to stand and the Trustees welcomed him to Palos Fire. Chief stated that he would like to have the new hires attend a meeting to swear them in in the near future.

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Chief McDonald advised the Trustees that a house fire took place on Monday, October 28th at 115 Old Creek Road. The fire was contained to the basement of the house. Early reports indicated that there was light smoke in the building. There was no one reported in the building. Preliminary investigation found the cause to be a potential electrical overload due to multiple pumps supplying a fish tank. The fire was fought with 10 members from Palos and 4 outside agencies. Palos Fire included firefighters Gozda, Lenzen, Vlcek, Queen, Bachman, Navarro, Stukel, Duffy, Hamrick and Elfter. Chief commended these firefighters and stated that everyone did a great job.

Chief McDonald next stated that Lt. Lenzen, Eric Queen, Ted Klekamp, Ryan Bachman and himself attended a dinner at Peace Memorial Village on Halloween evening. Several women from Peace wanted to express their thanks for our service. Ted Klekamp dressed up in costume as a werewolf and the evening was well received by the members. Pictures will be on the web site soon. This dinner was a great opportunity for public relations.

Chief McDonald next advised the Trustees that Engine 6303 is out of service for repairs that are under warranty. Engine 6304 is in for repairs due to a leaking radiator. The time frame given for the return of these Engines was up to two weeks.

Chief mentioned that in October Palos Fire responded to 281 requests for fire service.

Chief stated that the Lions Club Award Ceremony was very well represented by the attendance of almost 232 people. Thomas O'Connor was recipient and it was very nice of Lions Club to honor Tom in his capacity as a first responder. Tom's acceptance speech was best of the night and Chief said he did a very good job.

OLD BUSINESS: Discussion of Chief level VEBA with TASC/4 Wealth Update was brought up and a few Trustees asked questions which the Chief answered. Chief stated that this was still in process and should be finished very shortly.

NEW BUSINESS: Brad O'Sullivan stated the 2019 Tax Determination was still processing and he gave a short presentation to the Trustees. Brad went on to explain about extensions, CPI, EAB and tax rates and how they would look on a tax bill. Brad spoke about pensions and pension funding. Trustees questions were answered and Trustee McCurrie asked for a Motion to Approve 2019 Tax Determination as presented by Brad. Trustee Miller made a Motion to Approve 2019 Tax Determination and Trustee McCurrie seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

Mr. Tom Courtney stated that he will get an engagement letter for tax exemption. The District has done this every year. Discussion ensued. Mr. Courtney stated that this should be on the agenda for next month.

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Trustee McCurrie added that at a meeting regarding marijuana that he attended this week, Mr. Karl Ottosen said he will have a written opinion within 30 days and it should be out by November 30th. Trustee McCurrie said that firemen cannot have medical marijuana but they can have recreational marijuana. The Chief from Lisle/Woodridge stated that they are trying to put legislation out that all firemen will have to get CDL. He also stated that Federal Grants are null and void if we don't follow federal policy. It was noted that the CBA says 0 tolerance is in effect. Trustee McCurrie then stated that this issue will be tabled to a future meeting. Discussion ensued and Trustee McCurrie stated that they are trying to make it unified. Trustee McCurrie advised that the Board should wait and read what Karl Ottosen's opinion states and then go from there.

CLOSED SESSION: A Motion was made by Trustee Thielmann and seconded by Trustee Nogal to adjourn to closed session to discuss personnel issues, contracts, full time negotiations and/or matters of possible litigation. On a roll call vote, the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:37 P.M.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Trustee Miller made a Motion to Return to Open Session and this Motion was seconded by Trustee Adams. By call of the roll, the Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. on a Motion to Adjourn made by Trustee Miller 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, December 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.







