

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING
JULY 9, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER: The July 9, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:01 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 and Russell Miller responded as present. Trustee Richard Nogal was on vacation and thus was not present.

MOTION TO REVISE: At this time, Trustee McCurrie asked for a Motion to Revise Agenda to start with the MDA presentation. Motion was made by Trustee Miller and seconded by Trustee Adams. On a roll call vote, the Motion passed. A presentation was made with the Shop family present to state that \$3900 was collected by the Palos Park Fire Department for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Kelsey went on to introduce Carter and Maddy Shop, both of whom are afflicted with muscular dystrophy. The Shop children spoke about the MDA Camp and about the new drug introduced to enable people with muscular dystrophy to do more everyday things that they couldn't do before. Discussion ensued and questions asked by the Trustees were answered by the Shop family.

OTHERS PRESENT: Chief Mike McDonald, Attorney Thomas Courtney, Brad O'Sullivan of Governmental Accounting, Inc., Recording Secretary Maxine Bell, Administrative Assistant, Dana Fischl 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 June 4, 2018 meeting of the Board of Trustees, as written. On a roll call vote, the Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Brad O'Sullivan, who stepped in for vacationing 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 and Brad stated that everything was within budget. Trustee McCurrie stated that the District had \$340,637.06 in payroll and \$188,733.80 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 Adams. The motion carried by a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Mike McDonald, at this point, introduced Dana Fischl, the Administrative Assistant at Station 1 for the Palos Fire Protection District, to each member of the Board of Trustees. The Trustees welcomed Dana.

- A) Chief McDonald's addressed the issue of having two employees out on worker's comp. The first employee has been out for an extended period of time and has filed for disability pension. He is waiting for a date on his hearing. Chief McDonald stated that the second employee injured his leg while stepping off the engine. He is scheduled for therapy and an MRI. He is scheduled to be off until August 8th. Trustee Adams asked about injuries in training to the first employee and Chief McDonald explained how his injury occurred.
- B) Chief McDonald went on to advise Trustees that promotions were given to Chris Courtney as Captain/Shift Commander on June 16th. Chief also stated that Joe Lenzen was promoted to Lieutenant on June 16th. Chief McDonald went on to state that on July 16th Dave Godzal will be promoted to Captain/Shift Commander and Mike Gabriele to Lieutenant. The District is also processing three more members for full time positions: Mike Wasag, Joseph Hicks and Ben Stubblefield. Chief stated that he is gathering all data referencing all three. Chief mentioned that Mike Wasag has been completely cleared and his starting date will be July 16th. Chief hopes that the other two will be able to start on August 1st. There will be a Commissioners Meeting on July 12th and Chief will get approval for all above to happen. Discussion ensued.
- C) Chief advised that the District has a commitment from a unanimous donor to purchase a new engine. The committee has met multiple times and has viewed engines from several manufacturers at station one. The Chief and Brian Vlcek went down to the convention in Peoria to view several vendors. One of the vendors was Pierce. Chief McDonald and others met extensively with the salesman and the plant manager. Pierce assured them that they want to maintain their commitment to us and are actively working to resolve the rusting undercarriage on engine 6304. They were exploring doing an entire frame restoration of the vehicle as well as resolving the paint issues we have had with engine 6303. Pierce assured the engine committee that there wasn't going to be a frame restoration but that they would resolve any issues that the District may have. Chief asked Pierce's plant manager if he could get the above-stated offer in a written e-mail and Pierce assured him that he would do that. Chief McDonald stated that he received this e-mail about 2 hours after Pierce left.
- D) Chief McDonald then advised the Trustees that the new Ford Explorer Shift Commander vehicle has been ordered. It is scheduled to arrive in the next few weeks. Captain Rath then advised the Trustees that vehicle was to be delivered at the beginning of July but we are still waiting. Radios have been ordered, lights have

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been ordered and we are talking to vendors to install this equipment. Striping and decals will also be taken care of when vehicle arrives.

- E) Chief McDonald alerted the Trustees that the Palos Fire District had two unusual events with animal rescue. The first event involved the rescuing of a fawn. The baby deer and its mother were trapped in a yard and while attempting to escape, the mother suffered a deadly trauma by not clearing a fence. The fire fighters helped the resident by opening the fence to free the fawn and were also able to secure a location where the fawn would be well taken care of. Another event was the rescue of a turtle.
- F) Chief next indicated that the District responded to 257 requests for service this month including general alarms, a vehicle fire, citizen assistance, auto accidents, carbon monoxide and the like.
- G) The Trustees and Mr. Courtney then discussed the issue of receiving the funds for the new vehicle, getting an invoice and bill of sale and when purchase of this vehicle would be completed. Discussion ensued.
- H) Chief McDonald also mentioned, at this point, that the Woman's Club has donated another \$1000 to the Fire District to purchase another AED piece of equipment. Chief McDonald read the letter from the Woman's Club.

OLD BUSINESS: Trustee McCurrie asked for a Motion to Approve the 2018/2019 Budget. A Motion was made by Trustee Adams and seconded by Trustee Thielmann. By a roll call vote, the Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS: The next issue was to have a discussion regarding the approval of a VEBA plan for former Chief Graben. Trustee McCurrie stated that this issue was already approved contingent upon the Union providing the Trustees with a proposal in regard to VEBA. Discussion ensued.

CLOSED SESSION: A Motion was made by Trustee Miller and seconded by Trustee Thielmann to adjourn to closed session to discuss personnel issues, contracts, full and part-time negotiations and/or matters of possible litigation. On a roll call vote, the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:38 P.M.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: The meeting returned to open session at 8:00 P.M. Trustee Miller, at this time, made a Motion to Approve the Employment Contract of Chief

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Mike McDonald. This motion was seconded by Trustee Adams. By a roll call vote, the Motion passed.

Mr. Tom Courtney wanted to alert the Trustees to a recent (February, 2018) Supreme Court case wherein an individual did not want to become a Union member or pay full Union dues. The case was resolved with the Supreme Court agreeing with this individual and concluding that the Union cannot be obligated to collect Union dues from a new hire unless the new hire gave consent. Discussion ensued as to existing members, etc. Mr. Courtney stated that this issue is one that the bargaining unit will obviously bring to the table.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M. on a Motion to Adjourn made by Trustee Miller and seconded by Trustee Adams. On a roll call vote, the motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, August 13, 2018.





