

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER: The January 7, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:02 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, Attorney Thomas Courtney, James Howard of Governmental Accounting, Inc., recording secretary Maxine Bell, and personnel of the Fire Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A Motion was made by Trustee Miller to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2018 meeting, and seconded by Trustee Thielmann. 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, property taxes and ambulance fees. Trustee McCurrie stated that the District had \$290,626.04 in payroll and \$144,454.03 in account payables. Trustee McCurrie asked for a Motion to Approve Treasurer's report, as presented. Motion was made by Trustee Nogal and seconded by Trustee Adams. The motion carried by a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief McDonald addressed the issue of Nick Agostinelli having his disability pension meeting on January 14th. This should be his final stage and Chief McDonald also advised Trustees that Lieutenant Stukel has returned to work.

Chief McDonald advised Trustees that Engine 6304 is at Pierce to get some needed repairs done. We are still using an Orland Truck while ours is being serviced by Pierce.

Chief informed Trustees that Steven Hanley has been hired full time and is progressing well. Chief also noted that a date must be set for the swearing in ceremony for multiple people.

PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – JANUARY 7, 2019

Chief McDonald stated that he has received a Grievance from the Part Time Union regarding a pay issue and that he was working with Mr. Courtney in this regard. Mr. Courtney interjected here that he would like to discuss this with the Trustees in closed session

The final issue on Chief's Report was that last month, the Fire District responded to 221 requests for service. The calls are broken down as follows:

Fire	3
Fire Alarms	12
General Alarms	5
Box Alarms	3
Assist Other Agencies	12
Rescue & EMS	145
Auto Accidents	11
Service Calls	3
Miscellaneous	27

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: Trustee McCurrie asked that the Labor Attorney issue be discussed. Chief McDonald stated that he called Laner Muchin and the gentleman that he used to talk to must have moved up the chain because the person he currently talked to stated that the Chief was probably gnashing his teeth waiting for a response. Chief stated that he spoke to the law firm of Ottosen Britz recently. Trustee McCurrie asked about the cost difference with this firm. Chief recommended that a representative from the law firm of Ottosen Britz come to the station to present the firm to the Trustees and then Trustees can make a decision. Trustee Nogal suggested that Ottosen Britz should give the Trustees a written proposal so that we have something in writing. Chief asked if Trustees should have a special meeting prior to February's regular meeting. Discussion ensued. Mr. Courtney stated that he would secure a copy of our current contract with Laner Muchin and Mr. Courtney and Mr. Nogal would review this contract and terminate if justified and if decision is made to do so. Trustee McCurrie stated that there is an immediate need to act on this issue.

Chief next brought up subject of Mobile Modular Container that firefighters want to build to use for training, The facts are that something similar to an obstacle course would be built inside of container for training in hostile areas. This device would have escape hatches built on ceilings and sides. Chief simply put this issue before the Trustees to see if they would entertain the idea. Discussion ensued regarding fencing, zoning issues, residents, size, product description, cost, placement, etc. Trustee Thielmann suggested a written proposal be drafted

PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – JANUARY 7, 2019

and presented to the Trustees. Trustees determined that more research has to be done and that there are any number of options available for this endeavor.

The next issue presented to the Board was a discussion regarding the adoption of forest areas into District and update tax data on parcels. Chief said that he would like to adopt all forest preserves in the district we serve. Mr. Courtney said that we must file an annexation and go through Court process to modify our territory, file a case to get an order for annexation. Trustee Adams suggested Mr. Courtney provide this documentation to Mr. Morrison to present to County Board. Trustee McCurrie requested a Motion to Adopt Forest areas into District and update tax data on parcels and to direct Mr. Courtney to provide documentation to Cook County. Trustee Miller approved the Motion and Trustee Nogal seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

Mr. Courtney brought to the attention of the Trustees the fact that the District should increase ambulance fees and then stated that he will prepare a presentation.

Trustee Adams brought up the issue of the change of the Trustee's meeting to 6:00 p.m. He stated that most taxpayers won't be able to make it at that time due to travel from downtown, etc. Mr. Courtney suggested that the Board put an ad in the newspaper that the time of the meetings will be changed to 6:00 p.m. Discussion ensued regarding day of meeting also. Trustees approved Tuesdays and time was being discussed among the Trustees. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that the day and time would be deferred to next month. It appears that the Trustees agreed to 6:30 as starting time for the meeting and it was requested that this new time will be put on agenda for next month. It was, however, agreed upon that the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees would be February 4, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION: A Motion was made to adjourn to Closed Session to Discuss and Interview Deputy Chief candidates with potential Board action and to discuss pending issues concerning personnel, grievances, contracts, full and part-time negotiations and matters of possible litigation. Trustee Nogal approved this Motion and it was seconded by Trustee Thielmann. By a roll call vote, the Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:10 P.M.

At this time, Trustee McCurrie thanked Tom Foley and Chris Courtney for coming forward as candidates for Deputy Chief. Trustee McCurrie stated that he would call each candidate in to closed session when they were needed.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: The Board of Trustees meeting returned to open session at 9:11 p.m. President McCurrie thanked both candidates for being here

PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – JANUARY 7, 2019

and announced to all present that the Board, unanimously, promoted Chris Courtney to the position of Deputy Chief. A Motion to promote Chris Courtney as Deputy Chief, subject to contract approval and effective February 1, 2019 was made by Trustee Adams and seconded by Trustee Nogal. By a roll call vote, the Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 P.M. A Motion to Adjourn was made by Trustee Adams and seconded by Trustee Thielmann. On a roll call vote, the motion passed. The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, February 4, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

_____	_____
_____	_____
-	_____