

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 23, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Palos Fire Protection District was called to order on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. by President James Staszczuk at Station #1, 8815 W. 123rd Street, Palos Park, Illinois.

ROLL CALL: On the call of the roll, the following Commissioners responded as present: Commissioners James Staszczuk, Commissioner Robert Stevens and Commissioner Tom Crowhurst.

OTHERS PRESENT: Chief Mike McDonald, recording secretary Maxine Bell and fire station personnel.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Stevens made a Motion to Approve the Minutes of the July 12, 2018 Commissioners Meeting and Commissioner Crowhurst seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Questions were asked by the Commissioners as to the hiring of Joseph Hicks as a full time employee and Ben Stubblefield as a temporary full time employee due to recent circumstances. Chief McDonald stated that the Commissioners have already approved the hiring of Joe Hicks as a full time firefighter and he was hired to replace Brian Duggan. Chief also stated that Ben Stubblefield was to be hired due to an opening pursuant to Lieutenant Stukel's recent injury. Chief assured Commissioners that Trustees know all about this and once they approve, Ben Stubblefield will be hired.

Chief McDonald informed the Commissioners that currently the promotions of Dave Gozdal to Captain and Mike Gabriele to Lieutenant will have to be put on hold due to the recent hiring circumstances. Chief McDonald said he is talking with Trustees about moving shift commanders to Battalion Chiefs and have them leave the Union. Chief said he will see how this works out. Chief went on to say that the bottom line is that he has 4 or 5 people that would be eligible to become Deputy Chiefs, but who are hesitant to leave the Union. Chief informed Commissioners that the pay structure is not necessarily current and the individuals are too young. These individuals are afraid something might happen if they left the Union. Chief said he agrees with their reasoning. Chief stated that he recommends sending these individuals to classes and get them

PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING – AUGUST 23, 2018

prepared and educated to handle the position of Deputy Chief. Chief stated that the Board wants to keep the position of Deputy Chief internal.

Commissioner Staszczuk confirmed that the Battalion Chief's position is part of management. Commissioner Staszczuk wants to be advised when Trustees make decision regarding Battalion Chiefs and also to be advised about the hiring of Ben Stubblefield. Chief McDonald assured the Commissioners that he would do so. Discussion ensued.

The next issue that was presented was full time testing. Chief McDonald stated that he spoke to Resource Management. Packets were available for pick up on the 27th of this month. Chief stated that orientation would be on Friday, September 21st at Palos South School and written test would be given same day and the candidates will know on that day if they passed or failed. Chief McDonald stated that oral interviews can then be given and he would work on tentative dates tonight. Chief McDonald stated that he should know just how many candidates there will be on September 10th. Chief stated that oral interviews can be had after the October 11th regular Commissioners' meeting if he knows how many candidates will be there or if too many, another day may have to be added. Commissioner Staszczuk advised that Commissioners can conduct approximately four interviews an hour. Discussion ensued as to overall testing procedures and next Commissioners' meeting. It was noted by Chief McDonald again that the Captain and Lieutenant promotions would have to be put on hold until the Trustees decide what to do.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Commissioner Staszczuk to adjourn the meeting at 5:11 p.m. Commissioner Bob Stevens seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion carried.

