

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 5, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The February 5, 2018 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. 123<sup>rd</sup> Street, Palos Park, Illinois.

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

**ROLL CALL:** On call of the roll, Trustees Kevin McCurrie, Todd Thielmann, Gene Adams and Russell Miller responded as present. Trustee Richard Nogal was running late and arrived at 8:07 p.m.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chief James Graben, Attorney Thomas Courtney, James Howard of Governmental Accounting, Inc., Recording Secretary Maxine Bell and personnel of the Fire District and families of John Barcas and Daniel Tornga as well as Joel J. Babbitt, Benefits Coordinator of IPPFA Benefits.

**REVISION OF AGENDA:** Trustee McCurrie asked for a Motion to Revise Agenda to bring the Swearing in of two new Full-Time Employees to the beginning of the Agenda. Motion was so approved by Trustee Adams and seconded by Trustee Thielmann and by a roll call vote, the Motion passed.

President McCurrie stood beside Firefighters John Barcas and Daniel Tornga as they took the oath of office for their position as Full-Time Firefighters/Paramedics before their families and Fire District personnel. Firefighter Barcas' and Firefighter Tornga's wife each pinned on their husband's badge and the new employees were congratulated by Chief Graben. The Chief welcomed the new employees and spoke about this being a joyous occasion and the new firefighters and their families left to celebrate with much applause from all present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A Motion was made by Trustee Thielmann and seconded by Trustee Adams to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2018 Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, as written. On a roll call vote, with Trustee Miller abstaining due to his absence at the January 8, 2018 meeting, 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 \$305,929.58 in payroll and \$151,328.74 in account payables and Trustee McCurrie asked for a Motion to approve the Treasurer's report, as presented. Motion was approved by Trustee Miller and seconded by Trustee Thielmann. The motion carried by a roll call vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY:** None

**CHIEF'S REPORT:**

- A) Chief summarized the issue of having one employee out on worker's comp. This employee has had an Independent Medical Evaluation which was scheduled by worker's comp. The results of the IME are not yet available, but once available, the District will get an update

PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – FEBRUARY 5, 2018

from worker's comp. Worker's comp will advise the District what the next step would be for this individual. Chief indicated that full time staffing is currently back up to 9 employees per shift, thus reducing the cost of overtime pay. Chief indicated that he is constantly trying to hire more part-time employees.

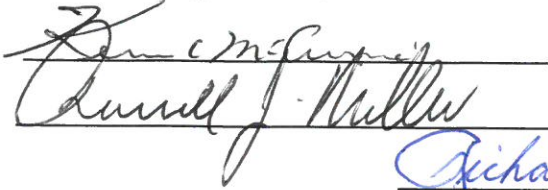
- B) Chief stated that the station one alerting and public address system has been upgraded and is working well.
- C) Chief mentioned that the District has received a check for \$14,510.00 from Southwest Central Dispatch for the purchase of the Image Trend records management program. Firefighter Joe Lenzen is working on the implementation of the new program.
- D) Chief advised Trustees that the District has ordered the new AED for the shift commander vehicle. The majority of funds for this purchase was made by a local resident. This new AED will serve the District's residents by having it available to the Shift Commander in case he is the first responder on the scene of a cardiac event.
- E) Chief went on to state that Captain Rath is researching specifications for a new Shift Commander vehicle. Speaking with James and working with committees the District is possibly looking at purchasing a new vehicle. Our current vehicle is a 2004 Ford F-350 with 6.0 diesel engine pickup truck with 93,000 miles. This vehicle does respond to many calls and the District believes that there is a good resale market for the existing vehicle to offset the cost of a new shift commander vehicle. The District is looking at the possibility of an Explorer or a smaller pickup truck. The cost to purchase a new vehicle is included in the current budget.
- F) Chief stated that in January the District responded to 273 requests and he broke it down in categories for the Trustees. Chief mentioned that 75% of call volume is EMS related and 25% is fire related. Trustee Adams asked about ambulance calls and the increase in volume for ambulance calls. Chief went on to explain how most of the residents need the help of an ambulance. Trustee Adams inquired about the difference between Station 1 and Station 2 in regards to calls. Chief said that he will get a breakdown and report back.
- G) Chief wanted to add here that Deputy Chief McDonald wrote a letter commending Matt Zanta on his positive attitude and work ethic. Chief read the letter and wanted to bring it to the attention of the Trustees. Trustee McCurrie commended Deputy Chief McDonald for his efforts in drafting this letter.

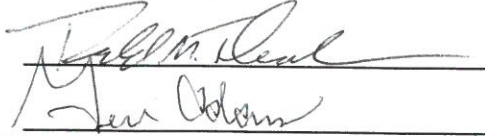
**NEW BUSINESS:** Trustee McCurrie noted that a discussion regarding possible implementation of a Retirement Healthcare Funding Plan was next on the agenda. Trustee Miller interjected that he thought this was a matter to be taken up with the Union. Chief went on to explain about VIBA accounts and how this plan might be beneficial for the District's employees. Mr. Joel Babbitt of IPPFA Benefits was invited to this meeting to speak about this plan and his company. He went on to explain how this plan would affect retirees' health care plans, tax ramifications, sick days, etc. Discussion ensued between trustees, Mr. Courtney, Chief Graben, James Howard and Mr. Babbitt. Questions were asked and answered and each Trustee gave their individual input. After further

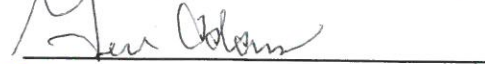
PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – FEBRUARY 5, 2018

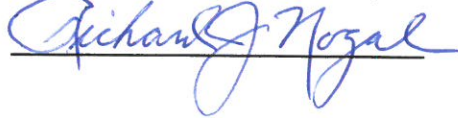
explanation from Chief and Mr. Bobbitt, Trustee McCurrie ended this discussion by stating that the District will further explore this option.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M. on a motion made by Trustee Miller and seconded by Trustee Thielmann. The motion carried by a roll call vote. The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, March 5, 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council J. Miller

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee Thielmann

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee Adams

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee Nozal