

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING
MAY 2, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER: The May 2, 2019 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, Richard Nogal and Russell Miller responded as present.

OTHERS PRESENT: Chief Mike McDonald, Deputy Chief Chris Courtney, Attorney Thomas Courtney, James Howard of Governmental Accounting, Inc., recording secretary Maxine Bell, Commissioner Tom Crowhurst and personnel of the Fire Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A Motion was made by Trustee Miller to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2019 meeting. This Motion was seconded by Trustee Nogal. 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 Adams and Trustee Nogal asked questions of James regarding appeals. Discussion ensued between trustees, James and Tom Courtney. Trustee McCurrie stated that the District had \$310,492.27 in payroll and \$153,903.57 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 Thielmann. The motion carried by a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief McDonald informed the Trustees that SWCD continues to work on our computer/radio problems. Chief advised that the District did present Mr. Shandley with a letter indicating our intention to leave SWCD. The letter was presented at a CAD meeting and Chief indicated that he thinks Mr. Shandley, judging by his facial expression, was a little taken back by this letter. Chief stated that we have some additional issues as a result of the CAD. We just had a

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situation where it was our third call and that call was on the west side of LaGrange and SWCD chose to ask Palos Heights to take that call which creates a real issue especially if it was a true life threatening situation. Chief advised trustees that every time the District has an issue, as small as in-house tones not going off, incorrect tones, etc., the issues are documented and given to Chief McDonald or Deputy Chief Courtney and then they are forwarded to Mr. Shandley at SWCD. Trustee McCurrie asked of the Chief if SWCD is doing anything when they are confronted with these problems. Chief answered "they are doing nothing." Trustee McCurrie asked Chief McDonald if this is shocking to him. Chief answered "no." Trustee McCurrie said that it is shocking to him and Trustee Miller also mentioned that it surprises him as well. Discussion ensued between the Chief and trustees. Trustee McCurrie spoke to Mr. Shandley and indicated that the District was considering leaving SWCD. Mr. Shandley said that he would rectify any problems that the District encountered. Trustee McCurrie stated that Mr. Shandley told him he would do this, but did not do anything. Chief McDonald stated that he knew that SWCD would either do everything possible to correct the problems incurred by them or do nothing at all. SWCD chose to do nothing. Discussion ensued.

Chief next reported that Brian Vleck remains off on workman's compensation for an injury he received during training evolution. Brian had surgery last week and is to begin therapy very soon.

The fire department has not seen any benefits with the new CAD system that SWCD updated. The fire department is also suffering as a result of this new CAD system. SWCD promised a lot of things, but the fire department has never seen any of these things. Trustee Adams asked if any of these issues would affect any of the District's firefighters. Chief answered and explained a little about locations and how the firefighters handle using maps, etc. Deputy Chief Courtney said that response time is a little slower because the firefighters are not using GPS but are given locations on the maps.

Chief's next issue was stating that the Fire Protection District has completed Rescue Task Force training with neighboring departments (both Police and Fire) at Palos South Campus on Sunday, April 28th. The Department has received all equipment for technical rescue and is moving forward.

Chief McDonald informed trustees that he cannot give a number of calls this month due to the change in CAD. Further discussion was had about reasons to back up the poor performance of SWCD and how this would justify our reasons for leaving. Discussion ensued about taking care of the problems with SWCD.

OLD BUSINESS: Trustee McCurrie stated that the next topic is adopting Amended Fire Ordinance. Chief stated that he spoke with Mr. Courtney and they would like to table this issue to the June meeting. Discussion ensued regarding mid-rise and construction issues.

Trustee McCurrie commended Chief McDonald and Deputy Chief Courtney on the great job they did in connection with the Promotional Ceremony. Trustee McCurrie stated that there were a lot of people and everything went smoothly. Deputy Chief Courtney interjected that the photographer at the ceremony was going to put all the pictures on a disk and give it to the Fire Department to use on the Palos Fire Protection District's website. Chief McDonald extended thanks to all the trustees for approving this ceremony and stated that it was a proud moment for all involved.

NEW BUSINESS: (a) Renewal of General Liability Insurance. Chief McDonald stated that they were working with Horton & Korkill to compare policies. The District made a decision to go with Korkill. Tom Courtney asked that he have time to review this policy but action must be taken soon as policy expired on May 1st. A Motion to Renew General Liability Insurance policy pending Tom Courtney's approval of a defense coverage clause being submitted was made by Trustee Nogal and seconded by Trustee Adams. By a roll call vote, the Motion passed. At this time, Chief McDonald left the meeting to make a call to Mr. Barnett with Korkill Insurance to ask about the issue of active shooter response and if it was being incorporated into the policy. Discussion ensued. Chief returned to meeting stating that he left a message for Mr. Barnett.

Trustee McCurrie mentioned renew of possible adoption of trust ordinance. This issue is being tabled to June meeting.

(b) Pierce Engine and possible Quint discussion. Chief stated that he met again with a salesman from Pierce to try and stop the production of the engine. We have been unsuccessful with Pierce stating that the engine has been in production for a while now. We took exception to the fact that we did not sign off on the final drawings to begin production. Chief mentioned that if the District pursued this issue it would lead us to litigation and we probably, in talking to Mr. Courtney, would not be successful. The District is continuing to go with the production of the engine. The District's argument with Pierce was that we had not signed the final approval for production. Chief stated that he informed all personnel that no one was to sign for approval but Pierce used Jeff Rath's signature on a print in January as approval for production. Chief McDonald stated that Jeff Rath was not authorized to approve drawings. Chief stated that there is

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no question that Pierce is in error but it would take litigation to prove it. Mr. Courtney, at this point, stated that he would like to have further discussion on this in closed session because it may go to litigation and the Board has to be careful on what they say. Trustee McCurrie agreed to continue discussion in closed session.

(c) Workman's Compensation discussion of Tactical Athletes, Lexipol Solutions Proposal. Deputy Chief Courtney advised that workman's comp initiated a \$130,000 increase in claims and therefore we are working with carrier in trying to reduce our exposure. We are certainly working very actively in trying to reduce any exposure to injury. Part of this plan is to hire Tactical Athletes for \$264 per person. It is a group that all the professional teams use and what it does is that any person injured sees a doctor immediately, has immediate access to MRI and basic surgery is scheduled. The approximate time to return to work is ten weeks. This plan offers the ability to extend their services to the injured member's immediate family at no cost. This plan would have to be updated every year and a grant from IPRF would cover the cost. A Motion to Approve the Hiring of Tactical Athletes was made by Trustee Adams and seconded by Trustee Miller. By a roll call vote, the Motion passed.

Deputy Chief Courtney next spoke about Lexipol Solutions Proposal. Deputy Chief said that most of the District's rules and regulations and policies and procedures are not up to date and this particular proposal would bring it up to date. If we put together our own policies and procedures, this system would also meet the legal challenges. Trustee McCurrie asked about the cost and was informed it would cost \$8,300 and that IPRF would also cover the cost for this. This system would be updated every year. Trustee Thielmann made a Motion to Approve Lexipol Solutions Proposal for initial 12-month period pending a review to extend it after that. Trustee Miller seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

CLOSED SESSION: A Motion was made to adjourn to Closed Session to Discuss issues concerning personnel, full and part-time negotiations and/or matters of possible litigation by Trustee Miller and seconded by Trustee Adams. By a roll call vote, the Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:46 P.M.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: The Board of Trustees meeting returned to open session at 8:26 p.m.

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ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:27 P.M. A Motion to Adjourn was made by Trustee Thielmann and seconded by Trustee Nogal. On a roll call vote, the motion passed. The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on June 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.





