



Lockport Township Fire Protection District Will County, IL Board of Trustees Meeting

Minutes of the Regular Meeting August 28, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Lockport Township Fire Protection District was held on Wednesday, August 28, 2019, at Lockport Township Fire Protection District Station #6, 19623 Renwick Road, Lockport, Illinois.

Board President Todd Randich called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and remain standing for a moment of silence to honor the past and present members of the Lockport District including the military service and the Heard family and also today is the 29th anniversary of the tornado that came through our area.

Roll Call was taken with the following present: Trustees Henry Meader, Paul Siegel, Todd Randich, William Kendziora, and John Batusich.

Also in attendance: Chief Paul Hertzmann, Deputy Chief Ed Rossetto, Director of Finance Robert Mondrella, HR/Accounts Payable Ashley Hulbert, and numerous Fire District employees. Also present were Attorneys' Karl Ottosen and James Wargo.

MATTERS OF THE PUBLIC

Pat Kelly, Union President Local 1544 was instructed that he had 5 minutes to address the Board.

Pat Kelly, Union President for Local 1544 wanted to take the opportunity to address the members of the Board on the letter of No Confidence for Fire Chief Hertzmann. Kelly stated that there was 77 members voted that they do not trust who the Chief is. They feel there has been a lack of leadership going on for some time. Chief Hertzmann held a labor management meeting where discussions were held on improvements that would be made from the previous management. He met with the shifts wanting to know what they wanted to see. The 77 members all feel as if nothing has been done to improve the Lockport Twp. Fire District. Chief Hertzmann did purchase new Ambulances, Fire Trucks and Air Packs but these are things that a Fire District needs to operate. They could not understand why the Fire Chief would seek a Federal Grant for the purchase of Air Packs.

Trustee Randich asked if anyone else wanted to address the Board. Nobody cared to.

CONSENT AGENDA 19-79

Trustee Siegel asked that Items 1) through 4) on the Consent Agenda that are considered routine in nature and will be enacted upon in one motion.

1. Regular Meeting Minutes July 24, 2019
2. Closed Session Minutes July 24, 2019
(Approved but not released.)

3. Special Meeting Minutes August 2, 2019
4. Approval of Bills in the amount of \$1,390,077.96
5. Approval of Disbursements in the amount of \$101,425.88

Motion was made by Trustee Henry Meader, seconded by Trustee Paul Siegel to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes July 24, 2019, Closed Session Minutes July 24, 2019, Special Meeting Minutes August 2, 2019, Approval of Bills \$1,390,077.96, Approval of Disbursements \$101,425.88. Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Kendziora aye, Trustee Batusich aye.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report stands as presented by Director of Finance Robert Mondrella. A copy of the Treasurer's report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Motion by Trustee William Kendziora, seconded by Trustee Paul Siegel, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Kendziora aye, Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Batusich aye.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Wargo reported that he would have information during the course of the Board Meeting.

Attorney Ottosen wanted to address the Cannabis Legislation that could affect the Districts Policy Manual. Our current Drug Testing Policy follows the Federal Drug Free Work Place Act. If you ever get any Federal money or Federal Grants, if you seek to apply for any Federal Grants, you will have to agree to follow the Federal Drug Free Work Place Act, which will still have marijuana as a prohibited substance. When the General Assembly adopted the Medical Marijuana Laws, it had an exception that the first responders could not use medical marijuana. The General Assembly passage of the Recreational Marijuana Statute said that the first responders cannot use it on duty; Attorney Ottosen voiced that might not be acceptable to some people because it stays in the system. How soon a person goes to work, the persons high could cause many problems if we modify what we have as the current policy. As an employer, we still have the right to continue with the Zero Tolerance Policy, which is what we have in place as far as marijuana use. That is a mandatory topic of bargaining. Research needs to be done on the changes in the making of the marijuana and the quantity it will take for present day marijuana, to achieve the high people are looking for. January 1, 2020 is the first day to possess a small amount in the state of Illinois. Ottosen will answer any questions and will help on the research; the Lockport Board of Trustees will make all final decisions. Trustee Randich will gather information from our representatives.

STAFF REPORTS

Chief Hertzmann, Deputy Chief Blaskey and Deputy Chief Rossetto reports stand as presented. A copy of the reports is attached and made part of these minutes.

Chief Hertzmann reported that 2019 call volume has been down every month so far this year. Engine 4 is back in service and the two new ambulances are now in service. Trustee Batusich requested a date range be put on the list of vehicles that are currently out of service.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Information Item 18-40 Pierce Fire Apparatus Corrosion Issues

Deputy Chief Rossetto reported that Engine 4 will be back this week but there is still some work to be done to it once it returns. There is a crack in the tank that needs to be repaired that was more cost effective to do once it returned.

Item 19-15 Station 3 Phase II Scope of work approval

Chief Hertzmann met with Tria architectural team and selected a design for the shower room at Station 3 estimating cost to be \$67,000. They are still working with vendors to get better pricing for flooring and will be ready for bids in the fall. The ongoing condensation issue was addressed with WJE and a secondary air system might need to be installed. Trustee Randich requested the contractor for WJE to be present at the next meeting for explanation of this issue.

Motion by Trustee Paul Siegel, seconded by Trustee John Batusich to approve going out for bids for Phase II for Station 3 when prepared. Motion carried by a Roll Call as follows: Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Batusich aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Kendziora aye. Motion Passed.

Item 19-57 Ordinance 2019-06 Revising or Possible Revocation of Ordinance 2019-04, Salary and Benefits for Employees Holding the Rank of Battalion Chief

After a lengthy discussion Motion by Trustee Paul Siegel, seconded by Trustee Henry Meader to table and not keep on the agenda the amendment of the Ordinance and the current Ordinance stays and the current contract for the Battalion Chiefs stays in effect. Motion carried by a Roll Call as follows: Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Kendziora aye, Trustee Batusich aye. Motion tabled.

Item 19-73 Permission to Surplus RV Trailer

Trailer was offered For Sale by bid. We received one bid which was opened at 12pm on August 21, 2019 and SOLD for \$3751.00.

Item 19-77 Pension Board Vacancy

At the direction of the Board last month, the position advertised with no response on the internet. Trustee Randich advised that Battalion Chief John O'Connor would be appointed to this position.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 19-80 First Half Payment of Village of Romeoville per 2004 IGA; \$751,801.00

Motion by Trustee William Kendziora, seconded by Trustee Paul Siegel to approve the first installment of the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Romeoville and the Lockport Twp. Fire District for \$751,801.00. Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Kendziora aye, Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Batusich aye. Motion Passed.

Item 19-81 Purchase New Ambulance Extended Warranties

Motion by Trustee Henry Meader, seconded by Trustee William Kendziora to purchase extended warranties for the two new Ford Ambulances from Rod Baker Ford in an amount not to exceed \$11,860.00. Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Kendziora aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Batusich aye. Motion Passed.

Item 19-82 Discussion/Action to purchase 7 Zoll Series X Cardiac Monitors

The District has multiple cardiac monitors between the ambulances and suppression vehicles. We place the newest unites in the ambulances and “Push Down” the older unites to the suppression vehicles. There are some units on the suppression vehicles are up to 15 years old. While they still function and pass annual testing, there is a concern of reliability and parts availability.

Motion by Trustee John Batusich, seconded by Trustee William Kendziora to purchase 7 Zoll Series X Cardiac Monitors with 0% financing for up to 5 years. Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Batusich aye, Trustee Kendziora aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Siegel aye. Motion Passed.

Item 19-83 Out Processing for Firefighter Heard

Motion by Trustee John Batusich, seconded by Trustee Henry Meader to approve the out-processing for Firefighter Heard for \$12,377.86. Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Batusich aye, Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Kendziora aye. Motion Passed.

Item 19-84 Out Processing for Battalion Chief Pastore

Motion by Trustee William Kendziora, seconded by Trustee Paul Siegel to approve the out-processing for Battalion Chief Pastore for \$48,360.80 Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Kendziora aye, Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Batusich aye. Motion Passed.

Item 19-85 Hire Additional Firefighter/Paramedic

Motion by Trustee Batusich, seconded by Trustee Kendziora to approve the hiring of one new Firefighter/ Paramedic. Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Batusich aye, Trustee Kendziora aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Siegel aye. Motion Passed.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Trustee Paul Siegel, seconded by Trustee William Kendziora to go into Closed Session to discuss Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Kendziora aye, Trustee Meader aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Batusich aye. Motion was made at 7:36 P.M.

Roll call taken in Closed Session with the following present. Trustee Meader, Trustee Siegel, Trustee Randich, Trustee Kendziora, Trustee Batusich. Also present was Chief Hertzmann, Deputy Chief Blaskey, Deputy Chief Rossetto and Attorneys Karl Ottosen and James Wargo.

Motion to come out of Closed Session by Trustee John Batusich, seconded by Trustee Bill Kendziora. Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Batusich aye, Trustee

Kendziora aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Siegel aye. The Board of Trustees returned to open session at 9:47 P.M.

Motion by Trustee John Batusich, seconded by Trustee Paul Siegel to accept Retirement letter from Fire Chief Paul Hertzmann dated August 20, 2019, effective September 20, 2019 with Deputy Chiefs Rossetto and Blaskey to be in charge of the District upon Chief Hertzmann's retirement until further notice. Motion carried by a roll call vote as follows: Trustee Batusich aye, Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Kendziora aye. Motion Passed.

Motion by Trustee John Batusich seconded by Trustee Paul Siegel for Trustee Randich to interview outside law firms to look into the events that occurred during the week of Firefighter Devan Heard's passing. In addition, Chief Paul Hertzmann is to send notice to the Fire District in respect to investigation advising all personnel that the investigation was not being conducted for a disciplinary purpose but to encourage all members to work together to avoid any similar event in the future. Motion carried by a roll call vote as follows: Trustee Batusich aye, Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Kendziora aye. Motion passed.

Item 19-86 ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee John Batusich, seconded by Trustee Todd Randich to adjourn. Motion carried by a Roll Call vote as follows: Trustee Siegel aye, Trustee Randich aye, Trustee Kendziora aye, Trustee Batusich aye. Meeting adjourned at 9:53 P.M.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED/AMENDED

Henry C. Meader, Secretary