

**WONDER LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 23, 2023**

The Board of Trustees of the Wonder Lake Fire Protection District held their regular monthly meeting on August 23, 2023 at Station 1, Wonder Lake, IL

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President/Trustee Todd Rishling, Secretary/Trustee Michelle Stierle, Treasurer/Trustee Dave Bruchsaler, Trustees Cheryl Hammerand and Erv Gall, Chief Mike Weber, Attorney Ericka Thomas and 1 member from the Department or public was present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** M. Stierle motioned to approve the agenda as written. E. Gall seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The July 25, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes were reviewed. C. Hammerand motioned to approve the Minutes as written. D. Bruchsaler seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

The March 21, 2023 Executive Session Meeting Minutes review was tabled until next month.

The June 27, 2023 Executive Session Meeting Minutes review was tabled until next month.

The August 8, 2023 Special Meeting Executive Session Minutes review was tabled until next month.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** E. Gall motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report for August 2023. M. Stierle seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved. PBS collected a gross amount of \$21,601.58 for July 2023 and their fee was \$1,078.95.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – None

**OLD BUSINESS** – Discussed Ambulance Billing Ordinance. It was passed and signed last month and exhibit A was attached this month where residents will be charged \$1350.00 no matter the level of care and non-residents will be charged \$1500.00 no matter the level of care. L. Busse will send Ordinance 2023-02 Ambulance Billing charges to PBS so they can update their records.

Discussed Budget Ordinance. The budget numbers were passed last month. It has not been 30 days since our last meeting and it has to be published. Tabled until next month where we will pass the Budget and Appropriations Ordinance.

Discussed spiller pay Ordinance. Our current Ordinance includes ambulance-billing charges and will need to take that out. Attorney Thomas will update the spiller pay ordinance. Everyone pays the same price resident or non-resident.

Discussed dog/drone program. G. Hennessey handed in \$10,000.00+ worth of receipts, which she spent of her own money and would like to be reimbursed. D. Bruchsaler and T. Rishling would like G. Hennessey to come in and give a progress report to the Trustees. Chief Weber would like a monthly progress report. Tabled until next month when G. Hennessey will give a report to the Trustees.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Discussed saving files on computer. L. Busse advised there is a file on the server marked for Trustees. L. Busse and Chief Weber will contact IT about getting Trustees access to files on the server.

M. Stierle would like to get new recliners for stations. Chief Weber advised recliners at Station #1 were purchased within the last two years. Chief will get prices.

Discussed keeping track of how much gas goes into each vehicle. Chief Weber advised there is a program through BP to make this happen. Will contact BP. Will need to approach Marathon to see if they have a similar program. E. Gall motioned to get individual cards for each rig at both stations. C. Hammerand seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

**ATTORNEY REPORT** – Attorney Thomas is continuing her investigation. L. Busse received a subpoena from one attorney and a motion to Quash from another attorney. Per Attorney Thomas, we are not to send anything out unless we have a court order.

**CHIEF'S REPORT** – Total calls for July 2023 is 116. We provided mutual/auto aid 20 times and we received mutual/auto aid 11 times. When we are short staffed, we will not be sending our crews to cover another station. In July, we had 15 shifts not fully staffed. Of those shifts, eight of them did not have a staffed medic and seven of them we did not have a third spot filled. We went on a mutual aid call for an accident. The acting officer brought a third uncertified person and we were assigned RIT. The third uncertified person did not put on an air pack.

Discussed options to bring up manpower. Metro cost for one paramedic 24 hours a day 7 days a week at a salary of \$70,000.00 would cost us \$344,406.00/year. To have two paramedics would cost \$681,051.00. Discussed sharing employees with other departments. Discussed employee retention. Need to have a huge marketing push. Will ask Joe Houston to get going on marketing. M. Stierle suggested to market to the kids in high school.

M. Stierle motioned to flip pay raises where we give pay raise for day duty now .75 and night duty now 1.25. In January, it will be a pay raise of .50 day duty and .75 night duty. D. Bruchsaler seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Pump testing on 1644 did not pass. T. Rishling and Chief Weber are hesitant to throw money at it. Chief Weber would like to sell 1644. D. Bruchsaler motioned to sell 1644 as soon as possible. E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved. Trustees will look into getting a loan for the new engine from various banks in the area. The District put \$400,000.00 down on the new engine.

Discussed security cameras and will have pricing next month. We will need to pick the quality of camera and what we want them to do.

Discussed purchasing a new generator at Station #1. The current cost is \$77,000.00. Chief Weber is working with Chief Spraker and trying to write a grant for it. Attorney Thomas suggested calling County Board to find out about ARPA grants. L. Busse advised we have \$46,000.00 in the budget for generator. D. Bruchsaler motioned to purchase a new generator for Station #1 not to exceed \$78,000.00 and put ½ down payment now. E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Discussed Knox Box lock replacement. The cost to replace the lock mechanism on all of them is \$2,000.00. D. Bruchsaler motioned to approve the replacement tumblers on Knox boxes not to exceed \$2,000.00. E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

We have issues with the septic tank at station #1. With the storm, it backed up on the bay floor. John Raber is looking into what we need to do and what kind of system we need.

Forwarded information on a chrome fire bell to Ray O'Brien. Will wait to hear back from him.

The following employees have resigned from the department: Myles Stekl, Dakota Slone, Scott Mullis, Izair Romero and Chris Weber. E. Gall motioned to accept all resignations. D. Bruchsaler seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye except T. Rishling voted against it. Motion approved.

C. Laing took on a full time job at Hoffman and has not taken an official leave of absence. She cannot work shifts but was hoping to give CPR classes etc. T. Rishling recommends she do a leave of absence until her probationary period at Hoffman is over. Chief Weber advised we usually review leave of absences after 6 months. C. Hammerand motioned for C. Laing to take a 6-month leave of absence and review after that. D. Bruchsaler seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Discussed sexual harassment issue. Attorney Thomas advised until someone is ready to come forward and make a formal complaint, the recommendation is to do nothing. Attorney Thomas will hold another sexual harassment class. It is always in Chiefs authority to talk to an employee if there are sexual harassment rumors going around. It does not always need to be a formal investigation. If a relationship is happening between a supervisor and a subordinate, the Chief should be notified.

T. Rishling advised the letter going out from the EMS department is Countywide and Wonder Lake is not being singled out.

Chief Weber would like to purchase two sapphire I.V pumps at a cost of \$4,000.00. D. Bruchsaler motioned to purchase two sapphire I.V. pumps not to exceed \$4,000.00. C. Hammerand seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved. .

New Web page is up and running.

**TRUSTEES REPORT** – M. Stierle motioned to reimburse E. Gall after the first of the month for his Trustee training. D. Bruchsaler seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

T. Rishling attended paramedic dinner for J. Lentz, A. Ibarra and G. Duszak. Congrats to all!

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – S. Young advised the Boy scouts are hosting a fall court of honor for the Eagle Scouts on 9/16/23 at Hickory Grove campsite in McHenry County Conservation District and the Trustees are invited to attend. There are increased dues this year. If we could donate to the troop, it would be greatly appreciated. S. Young will get numbers for next meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – C. Hammerand motioned to go into executive session at 10:30 a.m. under five ilcs 120/2 for purposes of discussion on specific personnel, employment or performance. E. Gall

seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved. C. Hammerand motioned to come out of executive session at 10:37 a.m. M. Stierle seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

**ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION** – None

**APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL** – The invoices and payroll were presented for payment. M. Stierle motioned to approve the invoices and payroll for August 2023 totaling \$85,000.00. D. Bruchsaler seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

D. Bruchsaler motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:23 p.m.; E. Gall seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Trustee/Secretary: Michelle Stierle