

**WONDER LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 25, 2024, 5:00 P.M.**

The Board of Trustees of the Wonder Lake Fire Protection District held their regular monthly meeting on September 25, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at Station 1, Wonder Lake, IL

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Trustee/President Todd Rishling (arrived late due to full time job), Secretary/Trustee Michelle Stierle, Treasurer/Trustee Dave Bruchsaler, Trustees Cheryl Hammerand (Remotely) and Erv Gall, Chief Mike Weber, D/C Matt Yegge, Attorney Ericka Thomas and no members from the Department or public was present.

E. Gall motioned for D. Bruchsaler to be President Pro Temp. M. Stierle seconded the motion. All Trustee present voted Aye. Motion approved.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The August 27, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes were reviewed. E. Gall motioned to approve the Minutes as written. M. Stierle seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

The August 27, 2024, Closed Session Minutes were reviewed. M. Stierle motioned to approve the Minutes as written. E. Gall seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: M. Stierle motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report for September 2024. E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved. PBS collected a gross amount of \$42,051.76 for August 2024 and their fee was \$2,098.54.

CORRESPONDENCE – Received a letter from an anonymous concerned citizen regarding the fire department budgeting and spending. It's difficult to respond to anonymous complaints. The Board would be glad to respond to direct questions. Raises were due to shortage of manpower and competing with other departments. During the last 18 months, we didn't have the manpower to go on calls and the District was losing money due to having to call in mutual/auto aid to handle our calls. We are also trying to keep up with the State statute for minimum wages. The D/C vehicle is being used in its appropriate official capacity.

OLD BUSINESS – The Budget and Appropriations Ordinance was passed last month. The appropriate Board members signed the Ordinance and L. Busse will file it at the County.

Discussed Trustee election material. According to the clerks office, the election material should be handled by a non-Trustee. We will post the information on our website.

Discussed Decennial Committee. Will have a meeting in October and November. Will put up a separate agenda for it.

Discussed permanent part time positions. D/C Yegge has handed out a draft policy for this position. D. Bruchsaler motioned to approve the permanent part time policy with the amended change of no payout of accrued personal/sick time if a member resigns from the department. Also, the insurance stipend is paid out after a year of working. M. Stierle seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS – Draft Audit discussion is tabled until next month.

ATTORNEY REPORT – Discussed DN & DRTY case. Attorney Thomas appeared for first appearance but at that time did not have the complete information on the final repairs. Chief Weber has since supplied her with that information. The answer and counter claim will be done on 10/18/24 and the next appearance date is 11/12/24. They will have to answer affirmative defense and counterclaim by 11/12/24. After that all will engage in discovery.

Discussed personnel.

TRUSTEES REPORT – C. Hammerand and D. Bruchsaler attended the Trustees training and have completed the required courses for continuing education. Trustees will submit for their reimbursement in mileage and meals.

M. Stierle suggested having Scott for Aire Fitness in Wonder Lake come to Firehouse and give members direction on proper work out procedures and diet. Chief Weber advised Scott is willing to come for 6 shifts. The consensus of the Board is this is a good idea.

CHIEF'S REPORT – P. Devore will be picking permanent part-time shifts in October and we will be looking for another permanent part time for Gold shift. Based on 26 pay periods per year, their paycheck will stay the same, pay period to pay period, but the hours may change due to time off or trades.

Chief Weber fills most of the Shift Commander spots. We will be looking for additional part-time B/C and their minimum requirement will be FF/PM. B/C may be requested to work with crew riding engines and ambulances. Will also be looking for additional medics. D/C Yegge will post job positions for Battalion Chief. A maximum of two Trustees may sit in on the interviews.

We had 7 people apply for the Lieutenant positions. Will start interviews on 11/13/24 at 5:00 p.m. A few Chiefs from surrounding areas will help with the interview process.

The new ambulance and Chiefs cars were lettered today. Chief Weber is working on moving the cot into the new ambulance. It should be in service shortly.

Our eventual goal is to have 5 members on shift daily/nightly so we can staff both stations.

We have two members in paramedic class. Discussed class reimbursement.

Discussed OSFM small tool grant and OSFM re-build/build grant. Discussed Firehouse Sub grants. D/C Yegge will look into and apply for appropriate grants.

P. Devore, H. Norris and B/C Rodewald are all certified divers. We need to make sure we have the necessary equipment for them. B/C Young is looking into this.

Discussed Lucas Device contract. D. Bruchsaler motioned to approve the Stryker Maintenance Agreement at a cost of \$5,844.60. T. Rishling seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. The agreement is for 2 years on both Lucas devices. It includes, maintenance 1 time per year, new batteries and a loaner device.

Discussed Fall-O-Ween on 10/19/24 where all donations will go towards the District to purchase safety equipment. We have already received \$5,150.00 in donations. E. Gall motioned to authorize the Chief to pay miscellaneous expenses for the Fest not to exceed \$2,000.00. M. Stierle seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Chief Weber would like the Adams bill to be paid after the 1st of the month. D. Bruchsaler motioned to pay Adams invoice in the amount of \$637.46 after the 1st of the month. M. Stierle seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – D. Bruchsaler motioned to go into Executive Session at 6:27 p.m. under five ilcs 120/2 for purposes of discussion on specific personnel, employment, or performance of specific employees. E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Reconvened at 6:50 p.m.

ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL – The invoices and payroll were presented for payment. T. Rishling motioned to approve the invoices and payroll for September 2024 totaling \$190,000.00. D. Bruchsaler seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

D. Bruchsaler motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. T. Rishling seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Approved: _____ Trustee/Secretary: Michelle Stierle