

**WONDER LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 25, 2025, 6:00 P.M.**

The Board of Trustees of the Wonder Lake Fire Protection District held their regular monthly meeting on February 25, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Station 1, Wonder Lake, IL

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Treasurer/Trustee Dave Bruchsaler, Secretary/Trustee Michelle Stierle, Trustees Cheryl Hammerand (Remotely) and Erv Gall, Chief Mike Weber, Attorney Ericka Thomas and four members from the Department or public was present.

M. Stierle motioned for D. Bruchsaler to run the meeting as President Pro Temp. E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees 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 January 28, 2025, Regular Meeting 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 February 2025. E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved. PBS collected \$27,292.91 in January 2025 and their fee was \$1,364.65.

Tracy Stevens, who is a resident of Spring Grove and cousin of Matt Yegge, is an organ transplant recipient. April is the gift of hope initiative with promoting organ donation. She would like us to turn the station purple with hanging purple lights outside of station. She eventually would like this to be a County wide initiative. D. Bruchsaler motioned to turn the station "purple" in the month of April. M. Stierle seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Discussed bills and transparency.

CORRESPONDENCE – Received a letter from a company willing to buy our tower in the amount of \$400,000.00. The Board needs to research this. Tabled until next month.

OLD BUSINESS – Discussed Sawyer Falduto investment. Sawyer Falduto contract has been signed and sent back to them. We are awaiting an investment policy and can make changes as needed.

NEW BUSINESS – Lexipol LLC is a company who updates department SOG's with proper terminology and abiding by laws. The Board is in favor of the Chief looking further into this.

ATTORNEY REPORT – Discussed Down and Dirty. Attorney Thomas appeared in court this morning. The motion to dismiss was scheduled for hearing on 3/27/25 in front of a new judge. We are trying to get them to pay for our damages and attorney's fees.

Discovered we do not have an Open Meeting Act Officer. D. Bruchsaler volunteered to be the OMA Officer. E. Gall motioned for D. Bruchsaler to be the department's OMA Officer. C. Hammerand seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Attorney Thomas advised she can draw up an investment policy if we need one.

TRUSTEES REPORT – D. Bruchsaler, Chief Weber and G. Basista attended the Boy Scouts pine wood derby.

CHIEF'S REPORT – Had a meeting with OSFM. There's a few things we need from employees for their files and are in the process of updating that.

Permanent part time policy will be out this week. We need a PLAWA policy. Attorney Thomas advised she sent the PLAWA policy to M. Yegge.

The swearing in of new employees and promotions will happen when we receive all the helmets. This will be a special meeting.

We have interviewed eight applicants, and they are in process of getting physicals. We would like to put them on pending the outcome of their physicals from the hospital. D. Bruchsaler motioned to hire the eight applicants pending the outcome of their physicals. M. Stierle seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Looking to make some changes at Station #1 including sleeping quarters. Will get prices before we submit the proposal.

We were not able to apply for the grant for station remodel due to gathering all information by the deadline.

We are sponsoring E. Bonni in the Light and Fight class. N. Maahs and G. Duszak will be taking Advanced FF at MCC. We will pay for classes up front and will deduct cost from their paychecks. The paramedic program has an increased cost and will now cost \$6,261.00 plus books. Switching from Northwest to Mercy would be difficult.

March's schedule is looking good, and we are doing better with coverage.

Chief's will get a placard placed at both stations stating we are not staffed 24 hours a day.

M. Yegge will look into future strategic plan.

Discussed purchasing tactical gear using funds that were generated/donated from the Fallween Fest. The cost is \$15,497.00 and would like to make purchase next month.

The IPRF grant of \$7,142.00 was received. We will be purchasing protective gear and reflective vests.

In December we received a call for patient not breathing and coding on way to hospital. Our crews along with Woodstock brought him back. Woodstock Fire Dept. is having a recognition ceremony on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at Woodstock Station #3 on Raffle Road. They would like to recognize all involved. Zoll will also award members at one of our meetings.

We had a fire on Shady Lane. Damage was minimized due to quick response. The community was helpful in helping this family out. Thank you to everyone who helped out.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - Concerned about bunk rooms off of apparatus floor and breathing in carcinogens. That will be considered when we are suggesting ideas for bunk rooms at station #1.

Chief thanked Joe Houston for everything he does for the department and community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - D. Bruchsaler motioned to go into executive session for purpose of discussion of personnel and on-going investigation. At 7:03. E. Gall seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Reconvened at 7:57

ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION – D. Bruchsaler motioned to direct Attorney Thomas to investigate a personnel matter discussed in closed session. M. Stierle seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye.

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL – The invoices and payroll were presented for payment. M. Stierle motioned to approve the invoices and payroll for February 2025 totaling \$130,000.00 . E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

M. Stierle motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. E. Gall seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Approved: _____ Secretary/Treasurer

