

**WONDER LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 24, 2025, 9:30 A.M.**

The Board of Trustees of the Wonder Lake Fire Protection District held their regular monthly meeting on June 24, 2025, at Station 1, Wonder Lake, IL

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Treasurer/Trustee Dave Bruchsaler, Secretary/Trustee Erv Gall, Trustees Jackie Basista and Rick Berndt, Chief Mike Weber, Attorney Ericka Thomas and no members from the department or public was present.

E. Gall motioned for D. Bruchsaler to act as President Pro Temp. R. Berndt seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 27, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes were reviewed. E. Gall motioned to approve the Minutes as written. J. Basista seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

May 27, 2025, Executive Session Meeting Minutes were reviewed. J. Basista motioned to approve the Minutes as written and keep closed. R. Berndt seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: E. Gall motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report for June 2025. R. Berndt seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved. PBS collected a gross amount of \$44,699.91 for May 2025 and their fee was \$ 2,235.00.

We received distributions from the County in the amount of \$875,939.11

The interest we have made on the Schwab accounts are as follows: \$1,838.32 for the Ambulance Account and \$2,181.99 for the Capital Account.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

OLD BUSINESS - Ambulance billing ordinance discussion tabled until next month. Will discuss once we get the report from PBS.

Discussed selling Crystal Lake Engine. The original owner did not want the engine back. Chief Weber would like to have it shipped to Bradford Fire Apparatus at a cost of \$1,595.00 for them to sell. It will get a better showing this way. The original parameters are still in place. R. Berndt motioned to have the donated Crystal Lake Engine shipped to Bradford Fire Apparatus at a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00 for shipping. J. Basista seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Discussed budget. Need to look into bundling internet, phone and tv. Discussed new ambulance which should arrive in January 2026. We will finalize the budget and publish in July and adopt the ordinance in August. Further discussion tabled until next month.

Discussed Capital Investment Resolution.

R. Berndt would like to use purchase orders for all our purchases. Administrative staff will come up with something for next month.

Discussed training and call back policy. This was handled last month but we need a policy set in place. Attorney Thomas will draw up a policy.

Discussed physicals for members. Tabled until next month. Will need a policy for this as well.

Discussed status of temporary sleeping arrangements at station #1.

Discussed home depot credit card. All chief officers have their own card and have been notified of how to use this card and PO system.

Discussed 75th Anniversary update. Discussed logo for shirts and they are \$12.00 per shirt. Discussed challenge coin logo. Each member would receive 1 cup, 1 mug, 1 challenge coin and a shirt. J. Basista advised T. Rishling approved her to order 75th anniversary novelties for throwing in the parade. D. Bruchsaler motioned to purchase mugs, cups, challenge coins and t-shirts not to exceed \$4,000.00. J. Basista seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved. D. Bruchsaler motioned to approve the expenditure of \$2,510.30 for 4th of July parade novelties already purchased. E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

J. Basista is donating her professional camera to the department for using for ID badge pictures. The department only needs to purchase an SD card. The Board thanked J. Basista for her donation.

J. Basista made a spread sheet for all members shirt sizes. Will be updating the picture board wall along with ID cards.

J. Basista advised Chief Mike Weber is officially the Parade Marshal for the 4th of July Parade.

J. Basista also suggested having a department picnic at a later date for our members and past members in place of our awards banquet.

Discussed ECG monitor status. Chief Weber advised we will not be purchasing monitors or stair chairs. The intent was simply to see what is out there on the market currently.

Per Attorney Thomas, a District stamp is not a necessity.

NEW BUSINESS – Discussed the Capital Funds Account Resolution. R. Berndt motioned to approve the Resolution approving a reserve fund policy for the Wonder Lake Fire Protection District (25-001). J. Basista seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

The Zoll AED the District purchased for Nippersink Golf Course in memory of Trustee Doug Albrecht needs servicing. R. Berndt motioned the District service the AED at Nippersink Golf Course. D. Bruchsaler seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

TRUSTEES REPORT – Discussed fiduciary insurance for the Trustees. L. Busse will look to see if the Trustees have a bond and covered by fiduciary insurance.

ATTORNEY REPORT – Discussed Down and Dirty Law Suit. Chief Weber and Attorney Thomas are working hard on Discovery. Will meet with Bull Valley Ford tomorrow. The case will be sent to arbitration shortly. The case is shaping up well for the consumer fraud claim. Down and Dirty came and solicited the business from the District and followed up with emails.

The investigation report was sent out to Trustees.

CHIEF'S REPORT – Thank you to D. Bruchsaler and L. Busse for helping with the budget.

Discussed Explorer Program. Chief Weber has met with 4 members who would like to take charge of the program. One will be in charge of EMS, one in charge of Fire, one in charge of fundraisers and one to oversee it all. We have approximately 10-12 Explorers in the program currently. The District has donated to the Explorers in the past but now, they are doing good financially. They raised approximately \$1,000.00 with the burnout competition over the weekend.

Discussed Safer Grant. Per Attorney Thomas, we can only apply for the second grant. We can use it for training to fund paramedic school etc. It is the consensus of the Board to continue on to apply for the second portion of the Safer Grant.

Chief Weber met with retired Trustees Cheryl Hammerand and Michelle Stierle to give them their plaques and gift cards.

We received a 2024 member safety award from IPRF.

Discussed MOU with police department and sharing equipment. The police would only operate the department deck boat which is kept on the lift at the lake. Per Attorney Thomas, we need something in the MOU about who is insuring what vehicle. Will vote on once that is put in the MOU and Attorney Thomas has reviewed it. Attorney Thomas advised it is acceptable to train on the equipment. Tabled until next month.

Will send out a copy of the timeline for the July 5th festivities. Chief Weber would like to know what Trustees would be available for the festivities.

The PLAWA, Permanent Part Time and Paramedic Student Policies have been signed and emailed to Trustees.

Discussed the last alarm board. Will get it updated.

The engine is getting fitted for all the new equipment. Once it is done, we will take it to Firehouse Subs for a picture.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – R. Berndt would like a policy in place for a time limit on public comments. Attorney Thomas was directed to draw up a policy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – D. Bruchsaler motioned to go into Executive Session at 12:01 p.m. to discuss specific individuals pursuant to two (c) (1) of the Opens Meeting Act. R. Berndt seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Reconvened at 1:19 p.m.

ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION – E. Gall motioned to give a 3% salary increase for the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief and Office Salary. R. Berndt seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

The Board directs the Chief to create a committee and put together a long term plan for the department (5, 10 and 15 year). One or two Trustees can be a part of the committee as well.

The Board directs Attorney Thomas to create job descriptions for Joe Houston who is our social media director, web page director and photographer, Pastor Dan who is our department Chaplain and in charge of door access at both stations and Greg Mielsing who is our Safety Officer.

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL – The invoices and payroll were presented for payment. R. Berndt motioned to approve the invoices and payroll for June 2025 totaling \$210,000.00. E Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

J. Basista motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:33 p.m.; E. Gall seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Approved: _____ Trustee/Secretary: Erv Gall