

FOUNDED IN 1946



## TRI-STATE

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

419 PLAINFIELD ROAD • DARIEN, ILLINOIS 60561 • (630) 323-6445

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
THE TRI-STATE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HELD 16, NOVEMBER 2015  
AT DISTRICT #3.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1830 hours by Trustee Habercoss. On roll call: Trustee Jewell, Trustee Habercoss, Trustee Wolski, Deputy Chief Gergits, Attorney Ottosen and Administrative Asst. Radek.

Pledge of Allegiance

**II. MINUTES**

Trustee Habercoss made a motion to accept the minutes of 26, October 2015 meeting, with some minor changes. Trustee Jewell seconded the motion. Motion approved by the Board 3-0-0.

Trustee Habercoss made a motion to accept the minutes of 02, November 2015 Special Meeting. Trustee Jewell seconded the motion. Motion approved by the Board 3-0-0.

Discussions regarding Closed Session minutes will be discussed in closed session.

**III. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Trustee Habercoss made a motion to accept the November 2015 Treasurer's Report, Trustee Jewell seconded the motion. Motion approved by roll call vote: Jewell – Aye, Wolski – Aye, Habercoss – Aye.

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Tax Levy Ordinance 15-O-004 – Trustee Habercoss made a motion to approve the Tax Levy Ordinance 15-O-004, Trustee Wolski seconded the motion, Motion approved by roll call vote: Jewell – Aye, Wolski – Aye, Habercoss – Aye.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

A resident asked if we could move the audience comment section of the meeting to the beginning as he would like to speak but is unable to stay until the end. Trustee Habercoss first thanked Trustee Wolski for the time he took to be with the accountants and Terri to help better understand the accounting procedures here at Tri-State. He thanked the Battalion Chiefs for stepping up to the plate. Thanked Deputy Chief Gergits, while he is not interested in the Chief position he will currently remain as Deputy Chief/Director of EMS. Trustee Habercoss thanked the firemen and staff for their efforts, reinforced that we are a team and to look forward to the future.

A resident spoke to the board, stated the most important things for the future is to create a 5 member board, to identify and recruit potential candidates prior to the November 2016 election. The contract needs to be settled, reduce lawsuits and find 2 trustees. One with emergency room experience, and a second candidate with possible business owner experience. The 3 existing trustees should choose the candidates.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

We are ready to hire 3 new firefighters, once the candidates are cleared medically, we will extend an offer. Trustee Habercoss made a motion to continue with the hiring process of 3 new candidates, motion seconded by Trustee Jewell, motion approved by the board 3-0-0.

Trustee Habercoss made a motion to authorize the commissioners to temporarily appoint an acting Lieutenant for 180 days while we are currently in negotiations as there is currently no promotional list of lieutenants. Trustee Jewell seconded the motion, motion approved by the board 3-0-0.

Battalion Chief promotional test will take place on November 30, 2015. The trustees will contact the commissioners regarding the merit and efficiency rating points.

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NEW BUSINESS cont.

Forensic audit – Trustee Wolski made a motion to get bids for having a forensic audit of the books, Trustee Habercoss seconded the motion. Motion approved by the board 3-0-0.

Trustee Habercoss made a motion to accept the resolution regarding the settlement agreement of Chief Mancione. Trustee Wolski seconded the motion. Motion approved by the board by roll call vote – Habercoss – Aye, Jewell – Aye, Wolski – Aye.

Dispatch liaison. – Trustee Habercoss suggested the Battalion Chiefs head up the process of possibly moving our dispatch to another location separate of Tri-State. Discussions regarding the matter to be held in Closed Session.

Trustee Habercoss made a recommendation to the board to increase the current salary of Jason McCaig in maintenance by \$10,000.00. Discussions regarding the matter to be held in Closed Session

Trustee Habercoss made a motion to establish a vehicle tracking system for all 7 administrative vehicles. Thru Verizon, there would be a one-time fee of 830.00 to set up the system and then 132.00/month. Trustee Wolski seconded the motion, motion approved by the board 2-1-0.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

The board was presented with a report from Fire Marshal Zalesiak detailing the events of the past month.

Trustee Habercoss would like to discuss putting the meeting video on the website. He would like for the department to become very transparent, similar to Lockport FD.

VI. COMMISSIONERS REPORT

The new Battalion List should be available mid December 2015.

Working on getting state approval for old records destruction.

Will begin working on a lieutenant test the first of the year.

VII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Ottosen brought up for discussion the purchasing/leasing a new vehicle for the fleet. Current contract states at the end of the 7 year lease we would be required to pay a balloon payment or turn in the vehicle and would then be required to purchase a Pierce vehicle. Mr. Ottosen did not feel we should bind a future board with the lease requirements. More discussion regarding the new vehicle to be held in Closed Session.

A special meeting needs to be scheduled to discuss the contract, approve resolution. In addition the December meeting will require a change of date, the new date to be determined.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION

At 1945 hours, Trustee Habercoss made a motion to move from the Regular Scheduled Board Meeting and go into Closed Session. Motion seconded by Trustee Jewell. Motion approved by the Board 3-0-0.

At 2123 hours Trustee Habercoss motioned, with a second from Trustee Jewell, to return to the open session; a roll call vote carried the motion 3-0-0.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The regular open meeting re-convened at 9:25 PM.

Trustee Habercoss motioned, with a second from Trustee Jewell to appoint B/C Patrick Brenn to Acting Fire Chief. B/C Brenn was told that he would retain his rank but as long as he was Acting Fire Chief he would be given a 10% increase to his base pay and use of a district vehicle, cell phone, computers, tablets, etc.

A/C Brenn would, as directed by the Board:

- rescind General Order 11-002A referred to as "the gag order",
- work with a B/C of his choice to form a team to work on the district's transition from our in-house PSAP to the Addison PSAP,
- contact the commission and determine what merit and efficiency ratings they need to move forward with the current promotional examination process,
- work with Trustee Habercoss and Attorney Ottosen to encourage the Union to re-open good faith bargaining as soon as possible.

At 9:30 PM Trustee Wolski motioned to adjourn the regular meeting, with a second from Trustee Habercoss, to return to the open session; a voice vote carried the motion 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Jewell, Board Secretary

