

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 19, DECEMBER 2016 AT DISTRICT #3.

The meeting was called to order at 1830 hours by Trustee Habercoss. On roll call: Trustee Habercoss, Trustee Wolski, Trustee Jewell, Chief Niemeyer, Deputy Chief Brenn, Attorney Wargo and Adm. Asst. Radek.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### I. MINUTES

Trustee Jewell made a request to table the minutes until January as there was a section he would like to have revised.

### PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made to open a public hearing regarding the Truth in Taxation for the 2016 Tax Levy. Whenever an organization's tax levy requested increase exceeds 5%, a hearing must be provided to explain the reason for the requested increase. With the acquisition of Willow Springs, Tri-State has a one-time opportunity to make a 13% request under new property acquisition protocols. The acquisition of all properties taxed in Willow Springs will increase the total taxes received by Tri-State by approximately 1.3 million dollars. The cost of the Willow Springs fire station is roughly 1.4 million dollars which will be paid over a period of 5 years. The additional taxes received will cover the cost of the building, as well as provide full-time fire, rescue and ambulance services to the village. The property taxes in the remainder of the fire district are still subject to the tax cap. Residents in attendance were questioning the increase for the fire department on their tax bill and were convinced it was a result of adding the Village of Willow Springs to our district when in fact, the residents tax bills increased due to the assessed value of their homes increasing.

PAGE TWO  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
DECEMBER 19, 2016

PUBLIC HEARING cont.

Residents were also concerned with the district becoming too large to successfully cover its current residents without going to outside departments for assistance. The District has recently turned down a request from the Village of Justice to acquire their fire department as our current manpower would not be able to sufficiently support any additional acquisitions at this time. The residents stated they feel we have a great group of firemen. We have hired 6 new firemen with 2 more in the current hiring process. The hiring of entry level firemen reduces the amount of overtime.

At 19:08, Trustee Jewell made a motion to close the Public hearing, motion seconded by Trustee Wolski, motion approved 3-0-0.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

Trustee Wolski presented the November 2016 Treasurer's Report. Trustee Habercoss made a motion to accept the November 2016 Treasurer's Report, Trustee Jewell seconded the motion. Motion approved by roll call vote, Habercoss – Aye, Trustee Jewell – Aye, Trustee Wolski – Aye. 3-0-0.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Habercoss made a motion to accept ordinance 16-O-010 The Annual Tax Levy, motion seconded by Trustee Wolski, motion approved by roll call vote, Habercoss – Aye, Jewell – Aye, Wolski – Aye, 3-0-0.

Trustee Jewell made a motion to accept the 2017 Trustee Meeting calendar presented to the board, Trustee Habercoss seconded the motion. Motion approved by roll call vote, Habercoss – Aye, Jewell – Aye, Wolski – Aye, 3-0-0.

Trustee Jewell made a motion to approve Deputy Chief Brenn attending a Health & Safety Officers Class for one week at the cost of \$300.00. Motion seconded by Trustee Habercoss, motion approved by roll call vote, Habercoss – Aye, Jewell – Aye, Wolski – Aye, 3-0-0.

Trustee Habercoss made a motion to approve a bond for Trustee Wolski for both the Board of Trustees and the Pension Board at a cost of \$ 387.00. Trustee Jewell seconded the motion. Motion approved by roll call vote, Habercoss – aye, Jewell – aye, Wolski – Aye, 3-0-0.

PAGE THREE  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
DECEMBER 19, 2016

New Business cont.

Plante-Moran representative, Stacy Reeves presented the audit for fiscal year 2016. Mrs. Reeves stated the audit offers some suggestions for implementing as we move forward. She felt the District and our Accounting firm were very helpful in making this first time audit a smooth task. Trustee Habercoss made a motion to accept the fiscal year 2016 audit as presented, motion seconded by Trustee Wolski, motion approved by roll call vote Habercoss – Aye, Jewell – Aye, Wolski – Aye, 3-0-0.

The Commissioners have informed the Board that they are ready to proceed with the hiring of 2 new candidates. Trustee Habercoss made a motion to authorize the process of hiring 2 new candidates, motion seconded by Trustee Wolski, motion approved by roll call vote, Habercoss – Aye, Jewell – Aye, Wolski – Aye, 3-0-0.

The board was informed of the need for a new command vehicle and a brush/pump truck. The brush truck is not available thru state purchase program but both vehicles will follow the RFP under the departments purchasing policy. Trustee Habercoss made a motion to proceed with the purchasing of 2 new vehicles, motion seconded by Trustee Jewell, motion approved by roll call vote, Habercoss – Aye, Jewell – Aye, Wolski – Aye, 3-0-0.

Once again, Fire fighter Stoffle introduced the board to MDA rep Ellen Sanders and her soon to be territory replacement, Kelsey. Ellen thanked the District and the residents for their continued support to MDA. Nationwide, firefighters raised over 26 million dollars for MDA. This past year Tri-State raised \$ 19,760.00. MDA has had many research breakthroughs as well as opening 5 new clinics in the Chicagoland area.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

The board was presented with the amended contract for Deputy Chief Patrick Brenn. Trustee Habercoss made a motion to approve the contract, motion seconded by Trustee Jewell, motion approved by roll call vote, Habercoss – Aye, Jewell – Aye, Wolski – Aye, 3-0-0.

Lt. Allenspach informed the board that Tri-State followed all the correct procedures in obtaining bids for the SCBA grant and reminded the board that Tri-State would be liable for 10% of the total cost. Trustee Habercoss made a motion to accept the bid, motion seconded by Trustee Wolski, motion approved by roll call vote, Habercoss – Aye, Jewell – Aye, Wolski – aye, 3-0-0.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

Chief Niemeyer attended the Willow Springs water commission meeting and was advised that there was adequate water provided during the ballroom fire, questions were raised regarding the water pressure. It was a very large fire, it became apparent early on that saving surrounding structures was a main focus.

VI. COMMISSIONERS

No Commissioners were present.

VII. CHIEF'S REPORT

ACDC continues to meet, Tri-State is joined by Pleasantview and Westmont. We currently are not employing any dispatchers, they are all employees of the Village of Addison now.

Investigations are ongoing 2 months after the Willowbrook Ballroom fire. We have had many fire report requests from a variety of attorneys.

Lieutenant testing – January will be the written test, currently there are 5 individuals in the testing process.

Currently we are reviewing training software programs.

January Commissioners meeting will swear in Firefighter Parlick

Insurance committee has had 2 presentations to date with a 3<sup>rd</sup> remaining.

Darien-Woodridge has a new chief, Steve Gorski. Outgoing chief is Dave Lambright.

VIII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ottosen & Britz law firm will be speakers in the upcoming NIAFPD conference being held in later January.

The government is now requiring travel expense forms for all traveling expenses. It is recommended that individuals use their own vehicles and request mileage reimbursement for any expenses.

PAGE FIVE  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
DECEMBER 19, 2016

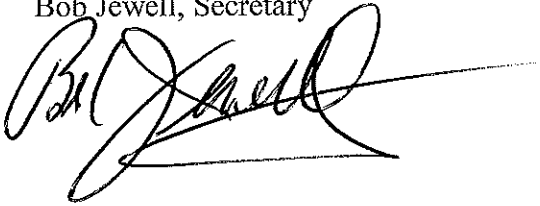
- X. AUDIENCE COMMENTS – the residents expressed concerns over the pension expense associated with the acquisition of the Willow Springs Fire Department. Some residents feel we should have never taken over Willow Springs, that we would have best served the District with the remaining station. The board informed that residents that acquiring Willow Springs is a win for us as well as a win for the residents. The additional revenue will assist us in meeting our obligations and our current ISO rating will be beneficial to the resident of Willow Springs.

XI. RECESS AND ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the board, at 2006 hours, Trustee Jewell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, motion was seconded by Trustee Habercoss. Motion approved 3-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bob Jewell, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Jewell", with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.