

TRI-STATE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

Held Tuesday, February 16, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
10S110 Madison Street, Burr Ridge, IL

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
 - a) Roll Call - The meeting was called to order at 1830 hours by Commissioner Salvatore Molinaro. Roll Call: Commissioner Christopher Sandilands, Commissioner Cheryl Hansen. Also present: Chief Administrator Daniel P. Niemeyer.
 - b) Pledge of Allegiance - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
 - a) Regular Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2017. A motion was made by Commissioner Sandilands, second by Commissioner Hansen to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes. Voice Vote: Aye, 3; No, 0. Motion passed, 3-0.
- III. COMMUNICATIONS
 - a) Correspondence – An e-mail was received from a candidate for the Lieutenant's Promotional Exam and will be tabled.
 - b) Invoices & bills –an invoice in the amount of \$25 was received from Jacqueline M. Timmons, Recording Secretary, for taking and transcribing the January Regular meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Molinaro, seconded by Commissioner Sandilands to approve the invoice from Jacqueline Timmons in the amount of \$25 and submit for payment. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Molinaro, aye; Commissioner Sandilands, aye; Commissioner Hansen, aye. Motion passed 3-0.
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
 - a) Lieutenant promotional process – Chief Niemeyer stated to his knowledge there are no military points. None were submitted. Commissioner Sandilands stated there was one question and per the language in Section 7 of the contract states that you have to have a 70 percent on your final score in order to be eligible for the Final Eligibility List. There was some confusion and so he contacted Attorney John Murphey, the District Commissioner's attorney. Mr. Murphey said to follow the contract. The contract supersedes any past practice. The Union and the Administration have the option of waiving Section 7 language and to allow everyone to make the list. It would be an agreement between the Union and the District and at that point it would be on public record that they are allowing candidates that did not pass the test to still be on the Eligibility List. Commissioner Molinaro said this is new language as an amendment to the contract, and so past practice would not apply. The way the language is written for the Ascertain Merit section, you will never get to the 15 points or even close. Out of 15 candidates, the high was 5.23. That leaves 10 points on the table. Although it was likely not the intent of either party, that is what the language says. Commissioner Molinaro strongly suggested that since they are currently in contract negotiations, that it should be addressed. Commissioner Molinaro said they should move forward with the test as written and

accept the List as is. A motion was made to proceed with posting of the List and finalization of the List and then posting by Commissioner Molinaro. There can be a Special Meeting to promote the candidates. Chief Niemeyer said when the List is approved, the promotions are effective tomorrow. They will be assigned to their shifts moving forward. One will stay on his shift as it is anticipated and the other would be moving. The swearing in will be tied in with the new hires as talked about in past meetings. Commissioner Molinaro amended his motion to reflect the changes that the Chief stated and finalizing and posting the List and going ahead with the first two promotions on the List, Kevin Arias and James Decho. Second by Commissioner Sandilands. Voice Vote: Aye, 3; No, 0. Motion passed, 3-0.

- b) Processing of 2 new hires – Chief Niemeyer said the two candidates are in the final stages. References are being contacted. The information should be given to the District by tomorrow. Then they will go to the next part of the process with the Commissioners or the Trustees to them on the District's rolls. In the next two to three weeks or sooner they will get their physicals. After they have successfully passed their physicals, the Commissioners or Trustees will do what they have to for the hiring.
- c) Processing of 3 three additional candidates – The Commissioners contacted approximately 16 people from the last Eligibility List that were not given the opportunity for oral interviews and of those 16, five had made commitments. Two of those five subsequently were either hired somewhere else or decided not to come to Tri-State. Three candidates went for oral interviews. There will be an amended Eligibility List adding those three people to the List. The current List will expire in August.

V. NEW BUSINESS -

- a) Budget FY 2018 – The numbers from last year's budget were received. Chief Niemeyer said it will be possible that another Lieutenant's test will be run in the next fiscal year and possibility to having another Battalion Chief's test if one of the Battalion Chiefs leaves in the next fiscal year, the one candidate would be promoted, thereby exhausting the current list. Chief Niemeyer will do a further analysis of what each one of the components costs to get an idea where they will be at to establish those budget categories. Of the overall District budget, the Commissioners get \$35,000. Being a little more proactive, breaking it down to examinations and whatnot, and then getting that information to the Commissioners individually. Chief Niemeyer would then meet with one of the Commissioners to make sure that he understands what the needs of the Commissioners are and understand the budget proposition that he proposes and then the next meeting, the Commissioners can take the final submission and approve that for the coming fiscal year. Chief Niemeyer hopes to have the final budget approved by June. The Commissioners should try to have their final number by April. Potentially at the next meeting the Commissioners could discuss the hiring of a company to run a test using this year's budget. There is also a Commissioners conference in April.

VI. CLOSED SESSION (If necessary) - No Closed Session.

- VII. OPEN FORUM - AUDIENCE: Comment by Jim Decho to thank the Commissioners for running the test. He said it was probably one of the best they have had.

- VIII. BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – Commissioner Molinaro said it is important that the test was open and honest. The testing company was instructed when the results were sent to Chief Niemeyer and to Commissioner Sandilands, the candidates got the results, the Union got the results. A test can be 100 percent fair, but if the people that are taking the test and the Department doesn't perceive it to be fair, then it's not fair. Congratulations were given to Jim.
- IX. ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Commissioner Molinaro to adjourn, second by Commissioner Hansen. Voice Vote: Aye, 3; No, 0. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 19:05 hours.

Respectfully Submitted.

Cheryl Hansen, Secretary