

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
TRI-STATE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HELD 19 JANUARY 2021 AT STATION 123

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1830 hours by Trustee Wolski

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. ROLL CALL OF TRUSTEES: Trustee Joseph Wolski, Trustee Michael Mensinger.  
Also Present: Fire Chief Sam Molinaro; Deputy Chief Patrick Brenn; James G. Wargo,  
Attorney; and Jacqueline M. Timmons, Recording Secretary. Absent: Trustee Danielle  
Scarpelli.

A motion was made by Trustee Wolski to appoint Trustee Mensinger as Secretary  
Pro Tem, second by Trustee Mensinger. Voice Vote: Aye, 2; No, 0. Motion carried 2-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Approval of District Meeting Meetings – December 21, 2020. A motion was made by  
Trustee Wolski to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2020, Regular Meeting as  
written; second by Trustee Mensinger. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Mensinger, aye;  
Trustee Wolski, aye. Motion carried, 2-0.

V. TREASURER’S REPORT – APPROVAL OF BILLS

Trustee Wolski made a motion for disbursement of funds for the month of December  
through December 31, 2020, in the amount of \$2,113,721.71; second by Trustee  
Mensinger. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Mensinger, aye; Trustee Wolski, aye. Motion  
carried, 2-0.

VI. OLD BUSINESS – None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Reorganization of the Board – Trustee Wolski made a motion that he serve as President,  
Trustee Mensinger serve as Treasurer and Trustee Scarpelli serve as Secretary; second by  
Trustee Mensinger. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Mensinger, aye; Trustee Wolski, aye.  
Motion carried, 2-0.

Trustee Mensinger made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-R-001 authorizing the  
sale, donation or disposal of surplus personal property of the Tri-State Fire Protection  
District, second by Trustee Wolski. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Wolski, aye; Trustee  
Mensinger, aye. Motion carried, 2-0.

## VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

A letter was received from Rathje Woodward, attorneys for the Village of Westmont in the annexation of property that is in the Tri-State Fire Protection District. Chief Molinaro and Deputy Chief Brenn met virtually with the Westmont Village Manager and the Fire Chief of the Westmont Fire Department. An area referred to as a paper fire district is under a two-year contract with the Westmont Fire Department for coverage. Westmont will not be renewing their contract and is going to suggest that they join the Tri-State Fire Protection District. The area was formerly unincorporated and is now in the City of Darien.

## IX. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Two firefighter/paramedic candidates will begin February 1<sup>st</sup> to fill the two vacancies. The Battalion Chief exam is in the final stages. The Written Test will be held January 27<sup>th</sup> and the Preliminary List will be posted. The new Commissioner, Denis O'Halloran, attended his first meeting.

## X. CHIEF'S REPORT

Construction of the addition at Station 121 is nearing completion. They are wrapping up loose ends. The new garage door is going to be installed this week and the new furniture for some of the offices is being delivered this week. The old furniture from Station 3 will be delivered there next week. They should be completely moved in by the end of January.

The Health, Dental and Vision Insurance plans are up for renewal March 1<sup>st</sup>. The insurance broker, OneDigital, presented the rate to the Insurance Committee, consisting of Administration staff and Local 3165 members. Gary Kosoff from OneDigital stated that the average increases in the industry are between 9-12 percent. Due to the low number of claims and the younger workforce, they were able to keep a low renewal rate with a 2.08 percent increase. The current monthly rate is \$92,323.35 and it will renew at \$94,247.51 per month.

## XI. DIRECTOR OF EMS REPORT

Director Jim Gutierrez reported the COVID-19 inoculations have begun. There is 66 percent participation in the District. A large number of them will be getting their second vaccination next week.

## XII. DIRECTOR OF FIRE PREVENTION REPORT

Director Larry Link did not have anything additional to add to his report, but he did do a year-end report. There were 213 plan reviews, 1,235 annual inspections, 1,521 re-inspections, fire alarm inspections and more. Investigations are counted by hours instead of by incident. So there were 8 hours of industrial and 27 hours of residential.

Trustee Mensinger asked how the fees are received. Mr. Link stated there is a fee structure. There are fees for false alarms, plan reviews and other finable expenses.

### XIII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

There has been a change in the Illinois General Assembly. There is a new Speaker of the House, so things could change. A big crime bill was passed that has resulted in a lot of unfavorable comment. It may or may not carry over to the Fire side.

Another District only had 40 percent participation in the COVID vaccination.

Trustee Mensinger asked if there was much difference between the 2015 and the 2018 edition of the Handbook for the Trustees. Mr. Wargo will speak with Shawn at his firm who writes them and will let Chief Molinaro know if there are any major changes between the two editions.

### XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

### XV. CLOSED SESSION – None

### XVI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Mensinger made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Wolski. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Mensinger, aye; Trustee Wolski, aye. Motion carried, 2-0. The meeting adjourned at 1902 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Mensinger, Secretary Pro Tem