

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
TRI-STATE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
HELD 25 MARCH 2025 AT STATION 123**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1800 hours by Trustee Wolski.

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

III. ROLL CALL OF TRUSTEES –

- Trustee Joesph Wolski: Here
- Trustee Danielle Scarpelli: Here
- Trustee Michael Mensinger: Here
 - Also Present, Chief Patrick Brenn, Attorney Shawn P. Flaherty, Deputy Chief Jeff Allenspach, Deputy Chief Craig Jansen

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Minutes from January 28th and February 25th.

- Two spelling errors noted:
 - Under Director of fire prevention, report 6 line said “payments are being collected on some of the fines issued and thy they are gaining compliance”. Should be they are
 - Under public comment. No public comment, but there was some comment on the word Phin. D.C. Jansen said Phin was the cyber security training.
- A motion was made by Trustee Wolski to approve the minutes of January 28th and February 25th, meeting as presented; second by Trustee Mensinger. Voice Vote: Aye, 3; No, 0. Motion carried, 3-0.

V. APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT –

Treasurer's Report - January

- Statement date: January 2025
- Total disbursements for approval: \$1,511,481.75
- Total deposits: \$254,097.15
- Trustee Mensinger made a motion to accept the Treasures Report for January and pay all invoices: seconded by Wolski. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Wolski: Aye, Trustee Scarpelli: Aye, Trustee Mensinger: Aye. Motion carried, 3-0.

Treasurer's Report - February

- Treasurer’s report for February.

- Total disbursements for approval: \$946,690.55
- Total deposits: \$4,435,409.77
- Trustee Mensinger made a motion to accept the Treasures Report for February and pay all invoices; seconded by Wolski. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Wolski: Aye, Trustee Scarpelli: Aye, Trustee Mensinger: Aye. Motion carried, 3-0.

VI. OLD BUSINESS –

Audit

- Audit for the fiscal year of May 31, 2024.
- The final audit was emailed for the February meeting.
- Trustee Wolski made a motion to accept the audit as presented from May 31, 2024; Seconded by Scarpelli. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Wolski: Aye, Trustee Scarpelli: Aye, Trustee Mensinger: Aye. Motion carried, 3-0.

Treasurer's Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

- The statement was sent in February for acceptance.
- Mike has to sign two copies and file them at the county.
- Trustee Wolski made a motion to accept the treasurer's statement of cash receipts and disbursements for the past year as presented; Seconded by Scarpelli. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Wolski: Aye, Trustee Scarpelli: Aye, Trustee Mensinger: Aye. Motion carried, 3-0.

Discussion and Possible Purchase on a 2017 Pierce Squad Truck

- Chief Brenn was unsuccessful in purchasing the truck.

VII. NEW BUSINESS –

New Business Partnership with COD (College of DuPage)

- Two programs with College of DuPage are being considered.
 - Internship program.
 - EMT riders from COD and Romeoville will complete two 12 hours shifts of ride time.
- The goal is to expose the department to younger individuals and encourage them to apply.

Internship Program Details

- Students pay for semester hours to participate at the fire department.
- Students ride along one 12-hour shift per week, totaling 240 hours per semester.
 - Can do it for up to three semesters (15 credit hours).
- Interns complete training and ride along with the shift.
 - They have a list of objectives to complete.
- Participants must have already passed their EMT-B.
- Interns will wear a shirt that says "intern" on it.
- The summer semester starts the week after Memorial Day.
 - The goal is to start with one intern and then increase to three in the fall.
- Interns will be there from 7am to 7pm, depending on their school schedule.

MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with COD

- The agreement was reviewed and is acceptable, with a minor typo.
- Trustee Wolski made a motion to accept the MOU with COD for the Fire Service Institute agreement; Seconded by Scarpelli. Voice vote, Trustee Wolski: Aye, Trustee Scarpelli: Aye, Trustee M: Aye, Motion carried 3-0.

Annual Rate Adjustment

- Ordinance number 2022-O001 adjusts the ambulance billing rate to match rates from Health and Family Services from Illinois.
- Revised rates were sent out.
- Trustee Mensinger made a motion to accept the annual rate adjustment addendum; Seconded by Scarpelli. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Wolski: Aye, Trustee Scarpelli: Aye, Trustee Mensinger: Aye. Motion carried, 3-0.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS – None

IX. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT –

Commissioner's Report

- Last firefighters test: 12 applicants, 5 took the written test, and only 1 was a paramedic.
 - The final list was posted, and that person is being processed.
- The Board of Fire Commissioners approved going to a new testing company, National Testing Network.
 - Information is being onboarded onto their website.
- Lt. Parris was promoted to Battalion Chief and Engineer Shreve to Lieutenant on February 11th.
 - The lieutenant's promotional process is in process, and the battalion chief's promotional process just began.

X. CHIEF'S REPORT –

Chief's Report

- The 2012 Ford Expedition was declared surplus and sold to the high bidder for \$7163.
- Ladder 122 is back from corrosion warranty work.
- DC Jansen has a new car in service, and D.C. Allenspach went into D.C. Jansen's old vehicle.
- Callie Carr, a Hinsdale South wrestler, won a state title.
 - BC Paris, Lieutenant Bukowski, Engineer Freebird, Firefighter Smith, Lieutenant Davis, Engineer Gallagher, and Firefighter Christensen were thanked for their support.
 - She's the first female champion
- Lieutenant Dave Mayotte has submitted his retirement letter; his last day will be June 26th, creating eight vacancies.

Hiring Process Update

- Processing one candidate

Accreditation Workshop

- Chief Brenn and DC Allenspach attended a three-day accreditation workshop in Rockford from March 4-6.
- They are considering pursuing accreditation, finding it a good self-examination process that demonstrates commitment to residents.

Bond Referendum

- Citizen task force letters for the bond referendum have been sent out, with some still needing to be mailed.
- Meeting dates are scheduled for April 23rd and May 6th.
- A reminder was issued regarding the Open Meetings Act and the presence of only one trustee or commissioner.

Pension Fund Error

- The county made a tax levy error, resulting in \$461,097.16 being owed to the pension fund.
- The wire transfer to correct this error took place last week.

XI. DIRECTOR OF EMS REPORT –

Tri-State EMS Performance

- Tri-State EMS is performing well
- Two calls were highlighted:
 - A multi-vehicle accident on 83 in Bluff where crews efficiently assessed and transported six patients to appropriate hospitals.
 - A call to the ice arena for a 62-year-old Chicago Fire captain experiencing chest pain.
 - The crew recognized a myocardial infarction on a 12-lead EKG and quickly transported him to the hospital.
 - "From the time that patient got to the ER door till he got down to the Cath lab and had the vessel opened up was 28 minutes, which is national average, is 90."
 - The patient had a 100% occlusion of his widow maker.
- The hospital wants to host a luncheon for the crew involved in the ice arena call, and the patient may attend.

XII. DIRECTOR OF FIRE PREVENTION REPORT –

Revenues

- Director of Fire Prevention Kevin Mulligan reports that revenues for fees in February were \$1,486, and they collected their first fine of \$100 that same month.
- They are still completing some reports that were opened in 2024, and as they close them out, the statistics go back to that year.
- Current compliance rate is at 87.14% out of 3592 inspections for 2024.
- The compliance rate for 2025 is about 75%, which dropped due to many inspections and some non-compliance.

Willow Springs Fest

- The Village of Willow Springs moved their Willow Springs Fest to July 24th-27th.
 - July 24th (Thursday) is the night of the car show.
 - Fireworks will be on July 27th.
- The reason for the date change is due to a carnival workers convention.

Tri-State's Involvement at the Festival

- Tri-State starts with carnival ride inspections, ensuring they have an Illinois license and checking fire extinguishers.
- They also do public outreach, providing information and hand out goodies, like fire helmets for children.
- They answer questions from business owners, residents, and visitors about fire safety, such as kitchen fire blankets and extinguishers.
- Tri-State issues the permit for the fireworks.

XIII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT –

Attorney's Report

- Friday is the deadline for House bills to get out of the House and Senate bills out of the Senate.
- There is still interest in dropping the full-time fire hire age from 21 to 18.
- A bill has been amended to change the pension code.
 - The bill addresses the concern that firefighters could work 37 years as a Tier 2 firefighter before maxing out their pension starting at age 18.
 - There is pressure to get some people into firefighting at a younger age.
- There are about 40 bills related to pensions.
 - Find out at the end of this week which are the ones that are going to have staying power.
- The Illinois Fire Chiefs Association is tracking about 75-80 bills.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.

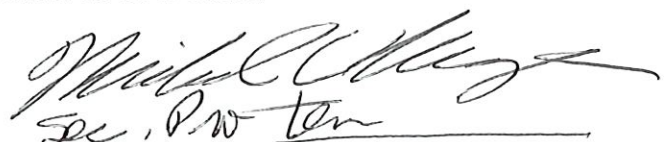
XV. CLOSED SESSION –

- The meeting is going into closed session for section Section 2(c)(2) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) 2C2
- The recording will be stopped and a separate recording will be started for the closed session minutes.

XVI. RE-CONVENE TO OPEN MEETING – POSSIBLE ACTION ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

- A motion was made by Trustee Wolski to approve the proposed CBA (Labor Contract Amendment) second by Trustee Mensinger. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Wolski: Aye, Trustee Scarpelli: Aye, Trustee Mensinger: Aye. Motion carried, 3-0.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT - With no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Wolski made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second by Trustee Mensinger. Voice Vote: Aye, 3; No, 0. Motion passed, 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 1847 hours.



Danielle Scarpelli, Trustee