

MINUTES OF THE RE-SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
TRI-STATE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT HELD 28 JULY 2025 AT STATION 123

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1700 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: Chief Patrick Brenn, Deputy Chief Jeffery Allenspach, Attorney Shawn P. Flaherty.
Absent: Trustee Danielle Scarpelli.

Trustee Wolski made a motion to appoint Trustee Mensinger Secretary Pro Tem, second by Trustee Mensinger. Voice Vote: Aye, 2; No, 0; Absent, 1. Motion passed, 2-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Approval of District Meeting Minutes – June 24, 2025
Trustee Wolski made a motion to approve the June 24, 2025, meeting minutes with noted corrections, second by Trustee Mensinger. Voice vote: Aye, 2; No, 0; Absent, 1. Motion passed, 2-0.

V. APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT

- Approval of June 2025 Treasurer’s Report including expenses for the District
Trustee Mensinger presented the Treasurer’s Report showing disbursement of funds for the month of June 2025 in the amount of \$1,219,887.83 and showing total deposits in the amount of \$5,125,484.86. Trustee Mensinger made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report as presented and to pay all invoices, second by Trustee Wolski. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Mensinger, aye; Trustee Wolski, aye; Trustee Scarpelli, absent. Motion carried, 2-0.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- 10-Year Service Award – Lieutenant Stephen Shreve
Chief Brenn presented the 10-Year Service Award to Lieutenant Stephen Shreve.
- Review Tentative Budget – Chief Brenn e-mailed the tentative budget to the Trustees. He asked if there are any questions or comments. The tentative budget has been placed on display as per statute. It gives 30 days for the public to come in and view it. It will be approved at the August meeting.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS – None.

IX. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT – Four candidates are confirmed to start next Monday, August 4th. They are awaiting the results of the physical of the fifth candidate, which will take place tomorrow. Job listing for the New List is active on National Testing Network. It will close August 15th. When Chief last looked, there were 17 applications. There are possibly more now. There were five waiting to take the test. Lieutenant Armentano was sworn in on July 8th as well as candidate firefighter Drew Clow. Congratulations to both of them. The Battalion Chief Assessment Center is this Friday.

X. CHIEF'S REPORT – There were a couple significant calls. June 27th there was a structure fire at 15W322 – 81st Street in Burr Ridge. The cause was from a ceiling exhaust fan that was left on. The house is a total loss. The fire had been burning in the mansard for quite a while before the fire department got there. On June 29th, there was a structure fire at 8000 Archer Avenue in Willow Springs due to lint in a clothes dryer. There were storms last Thursday and Friday. There were 113 calls total between the two days. Thursday, the 24th, there were 69 calls, 44 calls during the storm itself. The District went into emergency operations with ACDC. Deputy Chief Allenspach ran the calls from the car at Station 1. What happens during emergency operations is ACDC will dispatch priority 1 and 2 calls directly, so fire calls or any EMS calls. Deputy Chief Allenspach has dispatch for prior 3 to 4s; flooding, wires down, those sorts of calls. On the 25th there were 44 calls total. There were a lot of flooding calls and stranded vehicles in the roadway.

Medic 125, a 2019 Ford, was at Osage for a three-month refurbishment. It was picked up last week. Regarding Verizon putting equipment on Station 122's communication tower, the District is working on getting a date for Verizon to do a site walk. That is still in progress.

XI. DIRECTOR OF EMS REPORT – He apologized for missing last month's meeting. He does not have anything to report.

XII. DIRECTOR OF FIRE PREVENTION REPORT – The June report was sent. The fees collected for June were \$5,612.30, and the fines collected were \$625.00. As the Chief outlined, there was some fire activity. They are busy handling those investigations.

XIII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT – The federal bill, some call it the Big Beautiful Bill, others, the BBB legislation, there are two potential impacts on fire districts. The first is that there is a limited window for employees to not be taxed federally on overtime wages. That is cut off on certain salary thresholds. It is capped at \$12,500 for a single person, \$25,000 for a married person. There have been questions on what to do with this. Mr. Flaherty said continue to take the taxes out from your payroll per usual. At the end of the year, for next year's taxes, when the W-2s come out, that will be indicated on the W-2 how much overtime was taken out. So when folks fill out their taxes, they will have that information. If they itemize, they will be able to get a break on their taxes. Mr. Flaherty's understanding is it won't impact anybody who takes the standard deduction (he is not a tax lawyer). It is only for four years right now. They passed that and the one on tips for four years. After that, we don't know if it is going to be extended again. The second thing that is interesting, which isn't directly in the bill, but they shaved Medicaid big time. Medicare they didn't touch that much. A lot was cut from Medicaid. There are certain factors in society that this Administration

wants to remove benefits from from Medicaid. That will take some of the blunt of the cuts to Medicaid. The experts say they are still going to have to cut more. That is where GEMT is at risk. GEMT (Ground Emergency Medical Transportation) is not even listed in the bill, but the worry is that there is so much that's been cut, after the rest is cut, they will still have to make other cuts in GEMT, as well. Hospital and Medicaid are two areas that people are concerned about. So the District should be good for the rest of the year. After that, just apply a question mark. The District shouldn't plan the budget on GEMT, necessarily, from year to year, because it might not be there. Trustee Wolski asked if they signed the Article II bill that they are waiting on to equal out the pensions. Mr. Flaherty said he is not sure if Articles 5 and 6 of the Chicago Police & Fire have been signed. He said the Governor will sign the bill. It is basically a catch-up bill for Chicago to catch up with where downstate Police and Pension bills are. Trustee Mensinger asked how much of the Tri-State budget is from GEMT. Chief Brenn said between 1 and 2 million the District gets from GEMT. This year it is around 1.4. If GEMT goes away, it will make the budget tight. Mr. Flaherty asked if the 1.4 is net of what is paid to the State or gross? Chief Brenn said that is total not counting the State's half.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

XV. CLOSED SESSION – No Closed Session.

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, 2; No, 0; Absent 1. Motion passed, 2-0. The meeting adjourned at 1717 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Mensinger", is written over the typed name below.

Michael Mensinger, Secretary Pro Tem