

**MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
VIA Zoom PA 100-0640 (SB 2135)
Meeting ID 818 6057 8516
Password 618762**

The Board of Trustees of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District, Cook County, Illinois convened via Zoom on the 11th day of January 2021 at 6:34 P.M. Meeting was held remotely, President Cichon determining that an in-person meeting is not prudent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Chief Blondell was present at the regular meeting place.

The meeting was called to order and upon roll call the following named members answered present:

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes, Chief Blondell; yes, Attorney Flaherty; yes.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE (Public Participation)

A motion was made by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Skyba to suspend the rules to permit visitors to be recognized. The Board retains the right to refuse to recognize any individual if they feel their comments are not relevant or to "put them off" if they exceed their time allotment. After all have had an opportunity to address the Board, the President moves the rules be reinstated, and the Board will proceed with meeting.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Avino approve the following minutes:

- 1- Approve the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes held on December 14, 2020.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES:7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT

Schedule of Assets
(Arising from Cash Transactions)
December 31, 2020

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	172,285.42
Wintrust -MM #27766	528,650.53
Wintrust- Checking #9771	96,841.12
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	869,720.18
Wintrust- Medical #0599	4,158.67
Wintrust- Donation #4129	828.84
Wintrust- FSA #0713	10,942.31
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$1,683,427.07</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (3.00%, 02/10/21)	694,021.04
Belmont Bank (3.00% 01/21/21)	577,718.53
Belmont Bank (2.50% 01/19/21)	<u>402,991.41</u>
Total certificates of deposit	<u>\$1,674,730.98</u>
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$3,358,158.05</u>

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Evans to approve the December's accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$305,850.16 and the Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for December 2020.

Trustee Avino stated that the monthly expenditures is low due to only having one pay period processed in December.

Chief discussed a couple of line items that are showing negative balances.

Trustee Skyba stated that there are 2 CDs coming due.

Trustee Avino stated that they will have a Finance Committee meeting and will shop rates for the CDs.

Chief stated that we are in a good cash position and do not need to cash the CDs. Discussion.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Chiefs' Report:

Chief stated he hopes all is well and that all Trustees have received a written report.

Chief stated that most of the personnel have received their 1st COVID vaccine. Some were at ALGH and some at Jewel.

Over the weekend, the crews responded to a 2nd alarm fire. We also had an ambulance company exposed to something other than COVID.

We should begin to receive our 1st installment of property taxes in the next month.

The Approved Audit will be filed with the Cook County Clerk's office tomorrow on the portal.

Sikich will file the report with the Illinois Comptroller.

Chief asked Attorney Flaherty if Trustee Rybak, the Secretary, can sign the Certificate of Ballot for the election since she is running. Attorney Flaherty recommended having a Secretary Pro Temp.

Chief stated that he is making an educational list of information for the Negotiation Committee.

Discussion on how Fair Share is no longer going to be part of the CBA, it is now Federal Law.

Waiting for the CBA to be completed before drug policy can be discussed.

Attorney Flaherty stated that his firm is negotiating many different things when it comes to this. There have been no cases yet.

Discussion on vaccine. Trustee Rybak stated that at Resurrection Hospital, they had the highest call-in after the 2nd shot was administered. Many people complaining of fever, chills, headache, and GI issues.

Chief stated the 2nd doses are being scheduled on the first day off duty, so they have 48 hours to recover. Many complained of arm pain after the first dose.

Motion by Trustee Skyba seconded by Trustee Rybak to approve the Chief's report for December 2020.
AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

President's Report: Trustee Cichon stated "Happy New Year, hoping for 2021 to be better. The CBA is on the table, the committee will meet this month and keep the board posted". He is looking forward to a great year.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Trustee Avino wished everyone a Happy New Year. There has not been a committee meeting. The audit has been going on and is a lot of work. There are many positives in the audit.

Trustee Skyba asked if the Finance Committee went over the PSI contract. Discussion during motion.

Building and Equipment Committee- Trustee Evans wished everyone a Happy New Year. Asked Chief about the money for \$150,000 grant. Chief stated that there was a lengthy document that had to be completed as part of the general assembly process. Recently spoke to a representative and we are going in the right direction.

Discussed the large apparatus and communication equipment. There are committees of firefighters working on the specifics and will report back to the Building and Equipment Committee once there is more information.

Policy & Strategic Planning Committee- Trustee Kolaski wished everyone Happy New Year. Stated that they Chief stole his thunder regarding the drug policy. We will wait to see what happens with the CBA and then discuss policy.

Community Relations Committee-Trustee Santoro stated there is nothing to report and to stay safe.

Pension Fund Member & Commissioner Oversight- Trustee Skyba wished everyone a Happy New Year and there is nothing to report.

Trustee Rybak asked if any Commissioners are up, Chief stated that Andrew Golebiowski is up in May.

Attorney Report:

Attorney Flaherty asked if there was an update with Nagrocki case.

Commander Peistrup, Pension President, stated that he is due for his annual physical in February. Alan Nagrocki was insistent on an in-person hearing, which is why nothing has happened yet.

Commander Peistrup stated, "Once results are in, we will go from there".

While having Zoom meetings, it should be documented in the minutes that you cannot meet in person due to COVID-19.

There will be training for the trustees, January 30th from 8am- 12:30. Cyndi stated that the trustees are already signed up.

Legislatively, there is not much except for Covid. Attorney Flaherty stated "Wednesday is when the new folks get sworn in, this was the least productive year".

Trustee Skyba stated that this year they need to work to combine the pension funds.

Attorney Flaherty stated that this has already happened and by August they will be ready for the money.

Trustee Skyba asked if we should say we waived the pledge. Attorney Flaherty states that is up to us. Some Districts do it, some do not.

Trustee Cichon stated that we are moving in the right direction and that everyone is doing great.

He would like Chief Blondell added as a signer to the checks.

Attorney Flaherty stated that if there are two signers, he does not see a problem. Trustee Cichon asked if this was the norm, Attorney Flaherty stated that it was not uncommon to have the Fire Chief as a signer on the accounts.

Trustee Cichon asked if there were any questions or comments, there were none.

Discussion on conference and if more than one Trustee can be together. Explained that each Trustee will need their own computer so they can answer polls for proof of participation.

Old Business:

None

New Business

Motion by Trustee Avino and seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve the payout of mandatory sick time buyback to the following:

Larry Curran 127 hours \$5,215.97

Stanley Koy 144 hours \$6,257.52

Matt Mattio 120 hours \$4,457.28

Jeff Peistrup 93 hours \$4,103.94

Ron Schneider 108 hours \$4,461.72

Stephen Swank 127 hours \$4,711.86

Total mandatory sick time buyback \$29,208.29

Discussion of the review process.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Cichon to accept the audit for the 2020 fiscal year as presented by Sikich, LLP.

Trustee Avino stated that the District’s expenses decreased, and revenue increased which is a testament to staying fiscally sound.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Evan to approve the one-year extension (per Section 14) of the Paramedic Services of Illinois billing contract, at a rate of 3%.

Chief explained that Paramedic Services of Illinois has been doing our ambulance billing for years now at a rate of 3%, the average is 5%. PSI was asked if they will extend the 3% rate and they agreed. Attorney Flaherty stated that it was a great rate and that we do not have to go out to bid for this. Chief explained that he spoke with Trustee Cichon and Trustee Rybak and was given permission to put the motion on the agenda. Trustee Cichon stated that he sees no reason to go out to bid if we are happy with their service.

Chief reiterated that this has nothing to do with the contract paramedics, but ambulance billing only. They have assisted us with GEMT, COVID and grants, and have nothing but great things to say about them.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Consent Agenda

Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Evans to approve the consent agenda:
-ratify the payment to AMITA Resurrection Medical Center in the amount of \$10,319.00 for flu vaccinations (total amount reimbursed to District by Mary Field).

Trustee Cichon stated, “every year Mary Field does this for our residents”.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Skyba stated that he hopes to meet in person.

Trustee Cichon stated that we are going to be safe rather than sorry, we have staff dealing with COVID right now.

Chief reminded the Trustees that we need to have their harassment training certificates.

Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Santoro to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

Joanne Rybak
Secretary

Andrew Cichon
President