

**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 851 1487 4944  
Password 205709**

The Board of Trustees of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District, Cook County, Illinois convened via Zoom on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of February 2021 at 6:31 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.

**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 January 11, 2021.

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)  
January 31, 2021

Assets

**Checking and money market accounts:**

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	189,651.25
Wintrust -MM #2776	76,101.47
Wintrust- Checking #9771	105,041.13
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	946,292.16
Wintrust- Medical #0599	3,861.17
Wintrust- Donation #4129	928.90
Wintrust- FSA #0713	5,183.25
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$1,327,059.33</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)	580,576.42
Belmont Bank (2.50% 01/19/21)	<u>405,507.45</u>
Total certificates of deposit	<u>\$1,680,104.91</u>
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$3,007,164.24</u>

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Evans to approve the January's accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$456,032.24 and the Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for January 2021.

Trustee Avino explained that expenses were higher this month, there was sick buyback and the purchase of a vehicle.

Trustee Rybak asked if there are specific times employees can request sick buyback? Chief stated that the CBA does not specify when.

Trustee Skyba asked when we are approving the vehicle purchase. Chief stated it was approved and that depending on the cost of radios and striping, we may need to have that approved.

At the September 2020 board meeting, the board approve 2 vehicles at a cost not to exceed \$45,000 for each vehicle, no down payment. 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.

The cold weather has made things interesting for the crews, they just came back from an extra alarm fire where they were at for hours.

Today we had an interview with a new medic (for PSI), he has worked for a few years on a private ambulance. During the interview, the District received 4 calls, the medics that were in on the interview had to leave and then the Deputy Chief had to leave to staff equipment. It was cool for this kid to see what working here is like.

The staff continue to apply for grants, currently we are working on a FEMA grant, IDPH grant for a Lucas Device, Small Equipment grant through the State Fire Marshal. We also have had communication and finished up additional paperwork they were requesting for the \$150,000 that has been allocated for the District.

Tax money should begin coming in this month.

Marty Lupo is going to be the DICO for both PDs. There has been a couple exposures and the District has had to assist since they do not have their own DICO.

The District has been busy, trending down on COVID calls but being warned of a possible surge.

Most personnel have received their 2 COVID vaccines.

There have been discussions with IDPH and ALGH for the personnel to administer the vaccine. We still are not able to, but we will assist if we are able.

Trustee Kolaski asked if we have any liability being the PD's DICO, chief explained that we offer guidance and then they will work with their occupation health if needed.

Trustee Rybak asked when we will receive the second new squad, chief stated that it should be here next week.

Trustee Rybak stated that they are started to vaccinate 65+, currently at Resurrection Hospital there are 20 patients with COVID.

Trustee Skyba asked if we will be helping Triton with the vaccination?

Chief stated that it is being run by the National Guard.

MABAS is trying to get involved but there are not enough vaccines. Discussion

Trustee Skyba asked what an invalid assist is? Chief explained.

Motion by Trustee Skyba seconded by Trustee Rybak to approve the Chief's report for January 2021.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

**President's Report:** Trustee Cichon stated this month they will begin CBA discussions. Trustees Cichon, Rybak, and Evans are on the negotiation committee.

There are a couple of missing signatures on the bank signature cards. Trustee Cichon read off a list of Fire Districts that have their Chief as a signer. He stated that this is common and makes thing run efficient and smoothly. A trustee will still need to sign the checks and all the trustees receive a report with all checks that have been issued.

Discussion.

Trustee Cichon states that it will be put on the agenda and we will look at the policy.

**Committee Reports:**

Finance Committee- Trustee Avino stated that they had a committee meeting and minutes are attached. The administration shopped for rates on CDs. Rates are incredibly low.

Building and Equipment Committee- Trustee Evans confirmed that at the September 2020 meeting the board approved 2 vehicles for \$45,000 each.

Policy & Strategic Planning Committee- Trustee Kolaski stated there is not much to report. They will investigate policy and job description on check signing.

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

Pension Fund Member & Commissioner Oversight- Trustee Skyba stated the meeting went well via Zoom. The fund did well in the last quarter. Pension President Peistrup stated they had a 3-million-dollar increase.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business**

Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Evans to approve the payout of elective sick time buyback to the following:

Leigh Unger 120 hours \$4,382.88

Total elective sick time buyback \$4,382.88.

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 Avino to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee held on January 25, 2021.

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 Santoro to adjourn the 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

Meeting adjourned at 7:22pm.

---

Joanne Rybak  
Secretary

---

Andrew Cichon  
President