
Bourbonnais Fire Protection District

Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, May 28, 2024
1080 Armour Road – Station #1

1. **Call to Order:** The Regular Meeting of the BFPD Board of Trustees was called to order by President Myers at 4:03 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call:** President, Randy Myers; Treasurer, Bill Hemm; Secretary, Alice Argyelan; Trustee Rob Casino; Chief, Jim Keener; and, Attorney, John Motylinski.
Public Comment – None
4. **Approval of Minutes:**
A motion was made by Secretary Argyelan, seconded by Trustee Casino at 4:05 p.m. to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2024. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
5. **Secretary's Report:** None
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Hemm reported the following account balances: People's Bank Checking \$290,115.64, Money Market \$102,939.33, and Illinois funds \$417,623.80. Chief Keener reported a deposit of \$1,500 was put into the money market account to keep it from going dormant. Following short discussion, a motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Trustee Casino at 4:07 p.m. to approve the \$1,500 transfer to money market account and authorize Chief Keener to make additional small deposits when conditions are favorable. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
7. **Bills for Approval:** A motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Trustee Casino at 4:09 p.m. to approve the bills for payment. President Myers questioned some of the payments revolving around vehicle maintenance and requested Battalion Chief Gebhardt re-review and verify payment should be made on the invoices in question prior to payment. Treasurer Hemm requested an amendment of his original motion, with a second by Trustee Casino at 4:11 p.m. to amend the motion to approve payment of all invoices in total of \$242,333.77 with the exception of withholding payment on the invoices in question until they can be verified. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Treasurer Hemm questioned whether due to the age of our fleet, might we need to ramp up preventative maintenance schedules?
8. **Attorney's Report:** Attorney Motylinski reported a variety of legislative items which have progressed this session. The bidding bill did pass allowing for an "original" item purchase need to bid amount increased to \$50,000. Original standards remain at \$20,000. The bill allowing to accumulate funds in the ambulance fund passed, enshrining the ability to save for future purchases. The firefighter paid family leave legislation stalled.

Chief Keener reported on legislative discussions at the recent IFCA meetings concerning treat/no transport. The original legislation presented by Rep. Haas will not move forward due to another bill which will hopefully move forward. The Chief spoke of unusual minimum standards of what it means to provide treatment. Additionally, the Chief spoke about potential to transport patients directly to a mental health facility or an urgent care facility. This is not yet approved.

Meeting suspended at 4:24 p.m. to address item 11.h. Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act. (See separate Efficiency Committee Meeting Minutes). Meeting resumed at 4:55 p.m.

9. **Reports:**

- a. Chief's Report: Chief Keener presented everyone with a report on activities this past month. Chief highlighted discussions at a recent IFCA Symposium where there was a roundtable of both labor and management together. Chief spoke of recommendations made to potentially capture additional revenue for fire protection districts and forward the contact information, etc. to Lt. Santilli as there is a resolution conference scheduled in the very near future and the need to think about how we can be included in a variety of taxes. Streamline has reached out to BFPD offering to redo and host our website for \$3,000. This will be brought to the June meeting. Chief mentioned being contacted by a company offering IT safety. Discussion ensued concerning our current arrangements and the need to solidify potential to continue and compensation for our vendor. Chief Keener mentioned Riley Coughlin started as an intern and is doing a wonderful job with the records retention act, cleaning up and identifying files to be destroyed.
- b. Ambulance Billing Report: Chief Keener highlighted the written report and expressed some concern with new ownership of our vendor and level of service.
 - i. Update on Medicaid Payments: Revenue is starting to pick up a bit, anticipating revenue to reach \$1.4 million.
- c. Committee Reports:
 - i. Building Grounds – No report.
 - ii. Birthdays and Anniversaries: Written report presented.

10. **Old Business:**

- a. Discuss/Approve Referendum: President Myers updated everyone on activities surrounding this process.

11. **New Business:**

- a. Discuss/Approve Blue Cross/Blue Shield Plans: Chief reported on a meeting with Susie Werner from HomeStar Insurance, presenting a variety of available plans. Currently, BFPD has the option of up to six plans. After learning about the plans, five were identified as ones providing employees with good options for their individual and family needs. Chief will confirm the five plans with Ms. Werner, who has agreed to return to meet with staff and if they like, their spouses so everyone know their opportunities. A motion was made by Secretary Argyelan, seconded by Treasurer Hemm at 5:16 p.m. to authorize Chief Keener to complete the paperwork with HomeStar Insurance for plan selection. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- b. Discuss/Approve IAFFPD Golf Outing: Following discussion, a motion was made by Secretary Argyelan, seconded by President Myers at 5:19 p.m. to approve a \$500 donation to be used specifically for a Lunch Sponsor. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- c. Discuss/Approve GEMT: Following discussion, a motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Trustee Casino at 5:20 a.m. to engage the services of Lauterbach for our annual GEMT audit. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- d. Erroneous duplicate of item 11.a.

- e. Recognition of EMT-B Graduates: Chief Keener was delighted to congratulate both Ryan Lattz and Luke Tsilis, who completed their EMT-B program and now await taking the national certification test.
- f. Recognition of Fire Academy Graduates: Chief Keener reported BFPD had 7 graduates of the Fire Academy, which is extremely exciting. Treasurer Hemm, who attended the graduation stated he was impressed with the number of graduates and the fact BFPD had 4 of the 7 candidates earn honors. A blanket and challenge coin was given to each new graduate who are: Kaylee Bowen, Nicole Corum, Adam Desmarteau, Nathan Duchane, Erin Sweet, Rita Hernandez, and Andrew Bowes. Congratulations to all.
- g. Discuss/Approve MABAS Swap Meet: Following short discussion, a motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Trustee Casino at 5:24 p.m. to approve \$40 payment and participation in the swap. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- h. This item was discussed in a separate meeting. No action taken.
- i. Discuss/Approve Union Negotiations. Chief Keener updated the Trustees on the ongoing contract negotiations process and recommendations from everyone involved in the process. No action was taken. Chief will report back to the Trustees as the process moves forward.

12. **Closed Session:** None

Adjourn

A motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Trustee Casino at 6:16 p.m. to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the BFPD Board of Trustees. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Alice E. Argyelan, Secretary

Randy Myers, President