
Bourbonnais Fire Protection District

Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, August 27, 2024, 4:00 p.m.
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 4:06 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Everyone in attendance recited the Pledge.
3. **Roll Call:** President, Randy Myers; Treasurer, Bill Hemm; Secretary, Alice Argyelan; Trustee Rob Cassino; Chief, Jim Keener; Battalion Chief, Ken Gebhardt; and, Attorney, John Motylinski.
4. **Public Comment** – None
5. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - a. A motion was made by Secretary Argyelan, seconded by Treasurer Hemm at 4:06 p.m. to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2024. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
6. **Secretary's Report:** None
7. **Treasurer's Report:**

Bank Balances: Treasurer Hemm noted Peoples Bank of Kankakee Checking is \$291,044; Money Market \$205,518; and Illinois funds \$326,839. A motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Senior Trustee Grzelak at 4:18 p.m. to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
8. **Bills for Approval:** Following brief discussion and clarification of transactions, a motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Trustee Casino at 4:11 p.m. to approve the bills for payment in the amount of \$249,039. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
9. **Attorney's Report:** Attorney Motylinski reported Kankakee County Clerk confirmed proper referendum filing received and will appear on November 5 ballot. Legislators are out of session currently, but veto session will be held in November. Attorney Motylinski spoke of potential issues to be taken up during veto session.
 - a. Firefighters & Mesothelioma Guide: Chief Keener reported he has received a request to allow an outside attorney group to post information on this subject on our website. Everyone in attendance agreed the District should not open its website to outside groups.
 - b. Paid Leave for All Workers Act: Chief Keener questioned policy/procedure formation for this new requirement. Discussion ensued. Attorney Motylinski will forward sample policy/procedure information. Lexipol will also be researched for samples.
10. **Reports:**
 - a. Chief's Report: Chief Keener provided a brief overview of activities during the past month, which has been quite busy. Kankakee Co. Board should be considering Efficiency document during their meeting September 3rd; Chief appeared on two podcasts, one on WVLA and another with Jake Lamore concerning information on referendum, large fire event with \$3 million in damages sustained; Food Truck Fest, with 4 patients being transported, Football game transport, meeting with ONU Admin staff, Bickford House Admin, and

CEO of EMS billing (revenue is increasing). On behalf of BC Gebhardt who departed to answer a BFPD emergency call, a meeting will be arranged with Senior Trustee Grzelak and Trustee Casino regarding the new phone system.

- b. Ambulance Billing Report: The written report was included in the packet. Treasurer Hemm reviewed the numbers and questioned if there was any momentum for secondary GEMT. There is not. Treasurer Hemm questioned if work is being done to create a GEMT report which may garner additional revenue. There is not.
- c. Committee Reports:
 - i. Building Grounds – No report was made. Chief Keener mentioned that the sprinkling system was repaired.
 - ii. Recognition: Birthdays and Anniversaries. Written report presented.

10. **Old Business:**

- a. Discuss/Approve Referendum: Meetings and #Friday5 postings are ongoing. There are volunteers who will be walking door-to-door on September 21. Letters of support have offered by BPD, Sherriff's Union, Assistance from St. George School District, etc. There will be a family night at St. Paul's school. Attorney Motylinski reminded Trustees they cannot get involved under the auspices of BFPD.
- b. Discuss/Approve Union Negotiations: Chief confirmed Trustees received Negotiations update. Brief discussion ensued concerning educational stipends. A motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Trustee Casino at 4:57p.m. to accept the terms as negotiated subject to additional verbiage clarifying the new education stipend in the contract. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

11. **New Business:**

- a. Discuss/Approve Trustmark/Life Insurance: Discussion ensued about the policy and its historical context. A motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Secretary Argyelan to allow the policy to expire. Following additional discussion, Treasurer Hemm withdrew his motion at 5:12 p.m. This item will be tabled until the September meeting for further clarification.
- b. Discuss/Approve budget and appropriations ordinance for fiscal year ending May 31, 2025: The budget was reviewed and slightly revised. This information will be open to the public for their review and consideration.
- c. Discuss/Approve Open House: Following brief discussion, the date of October 26, 2024, was selected for this year's open house/pancake breakfast.
- d. Discuss/Approve Red Gala: BFPD sponsored a table at the Red Gala. Proceeds will go directly to MABAS 7 Fire Chiefs. Everyone agreed Chief Keener should determine distribution of tickets.
- e. Discuss/Approve Surplus List: Chief reviewed items to be marked surplus, all of which will be donated to appropriate agencies/schools. A motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Treasurer Hemm at 5:26 p.m. to mark the items surplus. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- f. General Information: Friday will be Riley's last day with BFPD. She did an excellent job while employed. The Chief gave a brief update on an incident from 2.5 years ago and continuing inquiries.

12. **Closed Session:** None

Adjourn

A motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Treasurer Hemm at 5:34 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