
Bourbonnais Fire Protection District

Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, April 27, 2021
1080 Armour Road – Station #1

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting of the BFPD Board of Trustees was called to order by President Myers at 4:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** President Randy Myers, Senior Trustee Paul Grzelak, Treasurer William Hemm; Trustee Rob Casino, Secretary Alice Argyelan; Chief Jim Keener, Battalion Chief Kenneth Gebhardt, Attorney Tom Gilbert.
3. **Public Comment:** None
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Senior Trustee Grzelak at 4:01 p.m. to approve the minutes of the Regular Session Meeting of March 23, 2021 with a correction of meeting date. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
5. **Secretary's Report:** No Report
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Hemm reported on current account balances: \$288,055.35 Peoples Bank; \$75,093.50 Illinois Funds and \$1,469,217.93 Schwab. Treasurer Hemm reported on the fiscal health of BFPD, where we stand budget-wise and highlighted certain anticipated expenses which have been pushed to the FY2022 fiscal year. Chief Keener noted the payroll expense on the report was zero as we have yet to receive an invoice from Metro. Treasurer Hemm reassured everyone district finances are being handled well.
7. **Bills for Approval:** Chief Keener noted the Pierce payment is only one-half of refurbishment cost. The remaining half is being held back until the unit is complete and fully serviceable. Discussion ensued as to issues with this refurbishment project and concerns regarding Pierce and MacQueen. Chief and B/C Gebhardt will continue to follow up on this and report back. A motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Secretary Argyelan at 4:25 p.m. to approve the bills for payment. President Myers questioned item 10-6211. Chief reported the expense was for an area-wide Fire Chief's meeting held at Station 1. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
8. **Attorney Report:** Attorney Gilbert spoke of legislation proposed regarding municipalities annexing property and its effect on fire protection districts' tax revenues. The legislation is to make collection a more enforceable process. IL Municipal League does not support this. IAFPD and Northern Alliance do support the legislation. Chief Keener spoke of new legislation SB2150 which increases the maximum age from 35 to 40 for firefighters exam.
9. **Reports:**
 - A. Chief's Report: Chief Keener reported on insurance meetings, and ongoing talks with the bargaining unit. Chief Keener spoke of a thermal imaging camera which was lost during a call. An insurance claim was filed, but the camera was eventually found, but very damaged. Chief will report back as to disposition. Treasurer Hemm

questioned testing processes. Chief Keener gave everyone an update on the need to continue opening this process again as there is anticipated turnover and not everyone is successful in this process. Chief mentioned potential to team up with other districts to help defray the cost. Chief called everyone's attention to the District emails for Trustees. Chief Keener will forward on account passwords separately. Attorney Gilbert encouraged everyone to keep their District email exchanges separate from their personal email accounts.

- B. Battalion Chief Report: Battalion Chief Gebhardt presented his report in writing. B/C Gebhardt spoke of A65 being at Delong Ford in Dwight for repair, answering inquiries into its age and mileage, noting the motor as replaced in 2019 and mileage is 100,000 on the vehicle. B/C Gebhardt also reported the B/C Bunkroom is complete, offices moved, fans and switches replaced, and additional fans in bay area will be replaced. The quote for #69 Reurbishment was disseminated. It reflected a detailed list of costs and a variety of options. If everything on the list is done, the full cost would be between \$620,000 to \$630,000. Based upon eliminating options, it may be possible to cut the cost back dramatically. Treasurer Hemm questioned life expectancy – to which, B/C responded 8 to 10 years. Discussion ensued regarding Pierce, there being proprietary issues and the need to research other options for this type of work.
- C. Andres Billing Report: Chief Keener reviewed the numbers for this past month.
- D. Committee Reports:
 - 1. Recognition: Chief Keener called everyone's attention to the birthdays and anniversaries within the District for May. Secretary Argyelan recommended a different format for this information.
 - 2. Buildings and Grounds: Trustee Casino reported on the retention wall which seems to be caving in. This happened once before so, instead of replacing the wall, other options are being considered and will be put to bid. The potential for ONU helping with this project was discussed.

10. Old Business:

- A. District Insurance: Chief Keener and President Myers spoke about the District's Commercial Insurance quotes. Based upon the comparable coverages and lesser cost, they both recommended the Board work with Compass, at a savings of approximately \$22,000. Following discussion a motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Treasurer Hemm at 5:01 p.m. to accept the bid from Compass Insurance Partners for \$31,929. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

11. New Business:

- A. Discuss/Approve Lexipol Policies: Chief Keener presented a list of Lexipol policies which have been reviewed and approved by District personnel. Senior Trustee questioned a slight wording change on policy 205.3. This policy was not a part of today's submission. Chief Keener will address this separately. A motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Trustee Casino at 5:12 p.m. to approve the policies as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- B. Discuss/Approve Employee Health Insurance Package: Chief Keener presented the renewal rates from the current insurance agent. Considering the size of the increase, Secretary Argyelan requested Chief Keener to go back to the Agent to see if anything can be done and/or potentially look at other local agents who work with Blue Cross/Blue Shield to see if they can do better. This item was tabled until May meeting.

- C. Discuss/Approve Ambulance Balance Billing: Lengthy discussion was held concerning this concept. Chief Keener presented a wealth of information concerning District tax rates/payments from around the community based on random addresses. Attorney Gilbert assured the group that our current Ordinance will allow for balance billing (exception: Medicare, Medicaid and Veteran's coverages). Everyone agreed there needs to be a set policy in place to ensure a fair and equitable program for everyone and, the need to meet with Andres to discern our options. Senior Trustee offered to be on a committee to meet with Andres.
- D. Discuss/Approve An Ordinance Adopting the 2018 International Fire Code: Chief Keener explained our current ordinance meets the 2006 requirements. Everyone concurred the need to be up to date with the Village of Bourbonnais and National Code Levels. A motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Senior Trustee Grzelak at 5:57 p.m. to approve Ordinance Number 04-272021 to Adopt 2018 International Fire Code with Certain Amendments. Motion carried by roll-call vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays; 0 Absent.
- E. Discuss/Approve Surplus Equipment: A list of surplus equipment and supplies was presented. Treasurer Hemm suggested donating the turnout gear to KACC. Chief Keener will reach out to Ed Leeson. A motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Secretary Argyelan at 5:59 a.m. to approve the surplus equipment designation. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- F. Discuss/Approve Kankakee County Tax Computation: No action was needed/taken on this item.

12. **Closed Session** – No Closed Session held.

Adjourn

A motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Trustee Casino at 6:01 p.m. to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the BFPD Board of Trustees. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Posted by:

Alice E. Argyelan, Secretary
Board of Trustees
Bourbonnais Fire Protection District