

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
May 19, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER: May 19, 2026, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 P.M. at the Palos Fire Protection District, 8815 W. 123rd Street, Palos Park, Illinois.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Everyone in attendance rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: On the call of the roll, Trustees Richard Nogal, Gene Adams, and Ed Verdino responded as present.

OTHER PRESENT: Chief Gabriele, Deputy Chief Stukel, Recording Secretary Dana Fischl, Attorney Thomas Courtney, and fire station personnel are also in attendance. James Howard from Governmental Accounting Inc. is also in attendance via Zoom.

OATH OF OFFICE TRUSTEE THOMAS BUMP:

Thomas Bump read his Oath of Office and was sworn in by President Nogal.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON FILLING THE SECRETARY VACANCY:

Trustee Nogal thanked former Trustee Todd Thielmann for his 14 years of dedicated service to the board. Trustee Nogal nominated Trustee Ed Verdino to be the next Secretary for the Palos Fire District's board of Trustees. Trustee Adams seconded. On a roll call vote, that motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Nogal asked for a motion to approve the open session minutes of the April 21, 2026, regular meeting, as written. Trustee Verdino made the motion, to which Trustee Adams seconded. Trustee Bump abstained. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION/ DEMONSTRATION:

At 7:07 pm, the Board was invited to go upstairs to see the Dive Squad.

At 7:21 pm, the meeting reconvened.

TREASURER REPORT: James Howard presented the Treasurer's Report and did an excellent job of explaining the District's Financial Analysis for the 12 months ending April 30, 2026, and the Summary of Revenue and Expenditures.

Revenue Highlights indicate that we are 100% through the budget year and 99.5% of the total budget.

- Collected \$6,674,709 or 95.8% of the budget (1st and 2nd Major Installment(s) from Cook County).
- Collected \$1,202,785 or 105.7% of the budget in Ambulance Fees.
- Collected \$29,661 or 74.2% of the budget in Personal Property Replacement Taxes.
- Collected \$248,746 in interest, or 150.8% of the budget.
- Collected \$41,522 or 166.1% of the budget for Fire Recovery

Expenditure Highlights convey that we are at 92.4% of the total budget (excluding transfers).

- Operating expenditure is \$8,425,206 or 84.4% of the budget.
- We have made 13 of 12 Health Insurance Payments.
- Paid Personnel is \$5,499,030 or 101.3% of the budget.
- Debt Service & Capital Expenditures: \$140,248 or 33.6% of the budget.
 - St 2 Roof and Skylights = \$91,400
 - Station Alerting Installation = \$23,145
 - Ambulance 10 Loan=\$10,000 (9 of 10)
 - St 1 Roof = \$11,125

Brief discussion ensued.

Trustee Nogal requested that James go over the FY27 Budget Draft.
Brief discussion ensued.

James logged off at 7:44 pm.

President Nogal stated that the district had \$378,097.57 in payroll, including \$52,428.8 in overtime, and \$337,136.20 in accounts payable. President Nogal asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Trustee Verdino made that motion, and Trustee Bump seconded. The motion was carried by a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: FF/PM Lucas Mathias spoke up to invite the board and their families to a union picnic and a golf outing.
Brief discussion ensued.

CHIEF REPORT:

The board acknowledged receiving Chief Gabriele's report as presented.
The board acknowledged the Deputy Chief's response times report as presented.
Discussion ensued.

INVESTMENT REPORT:

District investments discussion ensued.

TRAINING REPORT:

The board acknowledged receiving the Deputy Chief Stukel's April 2026 Training Report and response times as presented.

LOCAL #4480 UNION REPORT: Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Discussion of Facility Maintenance/Improvement Plan Schedule**
- b. **Discussion of Establishing Strategic Planning Goals for the District**
- c. **Discussion of Community Relations Programs**

Discussion of all the above items ensued.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Discussion and possible board action on the Comprehensive Investment Policy Ordinance 2026-02.**

Trustee Nogal asked for a motion to approve the Comprehensive Investment Policy Ordinance #2026-02. Trustee Verdino made that motion, and Trustee Adams seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

- b. **Review Annual Budget Ordinance 5/1/2026-4/30/2027 Draft.**

Discussed earlier.

- c. **Discussion and possible board action on asphalt replacement proposals for Station 1 & 2.**

The district received the following bids:

- o **Matthew Paving** – Station 1 Paving Total \$28,000, Alternate Pad Extension \$350.00 & Station 2 – North Lot \$38,975.00 & South Lot \$40,180.00. Grand total of \$107,505.00.
- o **Seal Rite Asphalt Maintenance** – Station 1 \$26,000.00 & Station 2 North Lot \$44,700.00 & South Lot \$46,500.00. Grand total of \$117,200.00.
- o **Pavement Fore & Construction** – Station 1 \$30,700 & Station 2 North Lot \$47,200.00, South Lot \$49,630, Catch Basin North Lot \$3,250, and Catch Basin South Lot \$3,250. Grand total \$96,830.00.
- o **Irish Castle Paving** – Station 1 \$26,700 & Station 2 North Lot Option 1- \$47,115.00 or Option 2 - \$55,450.00. Station 2 South Lot Option 1- \$45,400.00 or Option 2 - \$53,400.00.

Discussion ensued.

Trustee Nogal asked for a motion to approve Matthew Paving's bid for Stations 1 & 2 North and South, subject to the provisions regarding start and completion dates, and a waiver-of-lien provision for the asphalt supplier. Trustee Bump made that motion, and Trustee Adams seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

- d. **Discussion and possible board action on concrete repair proposals in Station 1 apparatus bay.**

Discussion of proposals submitted ensued.

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The design for the drain size was changed to reflect a cost under \$20,000; no Board approval is needed.

Discussion on the process of filling a Fire Commissioner vacancy.

Chief will post on the district website to receive any interest.

A generous donation of \$100.00 was made to the district from residents Rimas & Judy Dagys.

CLOSED SESSION: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to bring before the Board, President Nogal moved to adjourn the open session at 8:55 pm. Trustee Verdino made that motion, and Trustee Bump seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

The next regular meeting of the Palos Fire Protection Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, June 16th, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be held at 8815 W. 123rd Street.






