

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
June 16, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER: June 16, 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, Thomas Bump, 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.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON REORGANIZING THE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD:

Trustee Nogal moved to approve the following board elections.

Trustee Nogal as Board President.

Trustee Adams as Treasurer.

Trustee Verdino as Secretary.

Trustee Verdino made that motion, and Trustee Adams seconded. On a roll call vote, that motion passed.

Trustee Adams amended this motion to add that Trustee Verdino, as Director of Investment Advisor for the board. 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 May 19, 2026, regular meeting, as written. Trustee Verdino made the motion, to which Trustee Adams seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION/ DEMONSTRATION:

Fire Chief Gabriele introduced the district's new Fire Marshal, Bill Leddin.

Fire Marshal Leddin went on to explain to the board his goals and achievements thus far in his role in the Fire Prevention Bureau.

Brief discussion ensued.

TREASURER REPORT: James Howard presented the Treasurer's Report and did an excellent job of explaining the District's Financial Analysis for the 1-month period ending May 31, 2026, and the Summary of Revenue and Expenditures.

Revenue Highlights indicate that we are 8% through the budget year, and 1.0% of the total budget.

- Collected \$0 or 0.0% of the budget (1st and 2nd Major Installment(s) from Cook County).
- Collected \$7,794 or 0.7% of the budget in Ambulance Fees.
- Paid GEMT back to the State in the amount of \$54,847.
- Collected \$6,059 or 20.2% of the budget in Personal Property Replacement Taxes.
- Collected \$67,402 in interest, or 32.8% of the budget.
- Collected \$1,743 or 5.0% of the budget for Fire Recovery

Expenditure Highlights convey that we are at 6.8% of the total budget (excluding transfers).

- Operating expenditure is \$594,028 or 6.7% of the budget.
- We have made 1 of 12 Health Insurance Payments.
- Paid Personnel is \$410,527 or 7.1% of the budget.
- Debt Service & Capital Expenditures: \$0 or 0% of the budget.

President Nogal stated that the district had \$394,013.41 in payroll, including \$58,823.03 in overtime, and \$240,864.88 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: None

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:

A brief discussion ensued on district investments.

TRAINING REPORT:

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

LOCAL #4480 UNION REPORT: Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Brief discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Adopt Annual Budget Ordinance 5/1/2026 – 4/30/2027**

James summarized the highlights of the FYE 4/30/2027 Budget.

Trustee Nogal asked for a motion to approve the Annual Budget Ordinance 2026-03 for FY 5/1/2026 through 4/30/2027. Trustee Verdino made that motion, and Trustee Adams seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

- b. **Discussion and possible board action on filling the Fire Commissioner vacancy.**

Discussion ensued.

- c. **Approve the Proclamation concerning Board Secretary Todd Thielmann's retirement.**

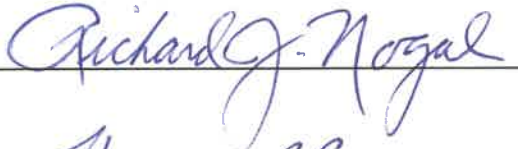
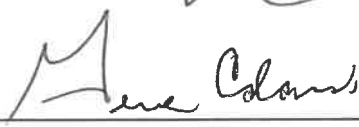
Trustee Nogal read the Proclamation.

Trustee Nogal asked for a motion to approve the Proclamation honoring Trustee/Board Secretary Todd Thielmann. Trustee Adams made that motion, and Trustee Bump seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

CLOSED SESSION: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to bring before the Board, President Nogal moved to adjourn the open session at 8:05 pm. Trustee Bump made that motion, and Trustee Adams 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, July 21, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be held at the Village of Palos Park, 8999 W. 123rd Street.

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