

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
August 19, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: The August 19, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Kevin McCurrie at Kaptur Administration Center, 8999 W. 123rd Street, Palos Park, Illinois.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Kevin McCurrie led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

OTHER PRESENT: Fire Chief Christopher Courtney, Deputy Chief Michael Gabriele, Attorney Thomas Courtney, Recording Secretary Dana Fischl, family and friends of members, and fire station personnel are also in attendance. Bradley O'Sullivan from Governmental Accounting, Inc., is also in attendance via Zoom.

AWARD PRESENTATION:

Deputy Chief Gabriele led the award presentation for an outstanding job done at an incident that occurred on May 16, 2025, that involved a motor vehicle crash into the Church of Transfiguration with entrapment, located at 12216 S. 86th Ave. Company 9, Company 10, and Battalion Chief Foley were commended, awarded, and recognized for their selfless, courageous, and exemplary performance at this incident.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee McCurrie requested a motion to approve the July 1, 2025, open session minutes as written. Trustee Adams made the motion, which Trustee Nogal seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT: Bradley O'Sullivan presented the Treasurer's Report and did an excellent job of explaining the District's Financial Analysis for the 3 months ending July 31, 2025, and the Summary of Revenue and Expenditures.

Revenue Highlights convey that we are 25% of the budget year and 5.0% of the total budget.

- Collected \$0 or 0% of the budget (No Major Installment(s) from Cook County).
- Collected \$311,222 or 27.3% of the budget in Ambulance Fees.
- Collected \$11,348 or 28.4% of the budget in Personal Property Replacement Taxes.
- Collected \$117,337 in interest, or 71.1% of the budget.
- Collected \$15,439 or 61.8% of the budget in Fire Recovery

Expenditure Highlights convey that we are at 22.3% of the total budget (excluding transfers).

- Operating expenditure is \$1,807,432 or 20.5% of the budget.
- We have made 2 of 12 Health Insurance Payments.
- Paid Personnel is \$1,277,482 or 23.5 % of the budget.
- Debt Service & Capital Expenditures: \$114,545 or 27.4% of the budget.
 - St 2 Roof and Skylights = \$91,400
 - Station Alerting Installation = \$23,145

President McCurrie stated that the district had \$693,845.85 in payroll and \$187,447.72 in accounts payable. President McCurrie asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Trustee Nogal made that motion, and Trustee Verdino seconded. The motion was carried by a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: NONE

CHIEF REPORT:

- The district is currently fully staffed. All members have been assigned to a shift and are rotating between all three shifts on a three-month rotation while completing their training.
- Congressman Sean Casten visited the Fire District on August 14th to discuss issues the district may be facing. The discussion included recruitment and retention, vehicle emissions regulations, and GEMT/Medicaid. He was unaware of the maintenance problems caused by emission regulations imposed on fire agencies. He will provide a letter of support for our AFG request.
- Orland Central hosted a meeting to introduce the new interim leadership and ensure continuity of operations. The current contract has expired, and I informed them that the new agreement will not be signed in its current language. They need to review and get back to the district.
- The district's request for funding through the Office of the State Fire Marshal's Fire Station Rehabilitation and Construction Grant Program has been denied.

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- It has been said that the substantial problems with the Cook County taxing software will not be cured quickly and will possibly delay tax receivables until January 2026. This could put a significant strain on district finances.

A brief discussion ensued.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Adopt Ordinance 2025-002

Trustee McCurrie asked for a motion to adopt the Ordinance Imposing Lift Assist Fees, Ordinance No. 2025-02, effective January 1, 2026. Trustee Thielmann made that motion, and Trustee Verdino seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

Trustee McCurrie asked for a motion to go into closed session at 7:37 pm to discuss Healthcare renewal, Battalion Chief Contract, and possible litigation. Trustee Nogal made that motion, and Trustee Thielmann seconded. On a roll call vote, that motion passed.

Back in Open Session at 7:58 pm.

b. Approve Health Care Renewal

Trustee McCurrie asked for a motion to approve the Health Care Renewal. Trustee Nogal made the motion to move to approve the awarding of the health insurance contract to the IAFF Option 1; a BCBS plan, comparable to the current policy, contingent upon Chief Courtney negotiating a cost-savings agreement with the Union by August 27, 2025, in the amount of \$85,000.00 (eighty-five thousand dollars). Trustee Verdino seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

c. Battalion Chief Agreement

Trustee McCurrie asked for a motion to approve the Battalion Chief Agreement. Trustee Verdino made that motion, and Trustee Nogal seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

Trustee McCurrie asked for a motion to approve the Battalion Chief Retirement Waiver Release Agreement. Trustee Thielmann made that motion, and Trustee Verdino seconded. On a roll call vote, that motion passed.

Brief discussion ensued.

Trustee McCurrie asked for a motion to reschedule the September 16th meeting. Trustee Nogal made the motion to move the September 16th meeting to Wednesday, September 24th at 7 pm. Trustee Verdino seconded. On a roll call vote, that motion passed.

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ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to be brought before the Board, President McCurrie asked for a motion to adjourn the open session at 8:05 pm. Trustee Thielmann made that motion, and Trustee Nogal seconded. On a roll call vote, that motion passed.

The next regular meeting of the Palos Fire Protection Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, September 24th, at 7:00 p.m.





