

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
August 18, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER: The August 18, 2026, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 P.M. at 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. also attended via Zoom.

Newly appointed District Trustee Melissa Gracias read her Oath of Office.

Newly appointed District Fire Commissioner Sean Hunt read his Oath of Office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

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

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION/ DEMONSTRATION:

DC Stukel presented a video of a simulator called "SimsUshare", a command, safety, and fire simulator system tool used for officer training.

TREASURER REPORT: James Howard presented the Treasurer's Report explaining the District's Financial Analysis for the 3-month period ending July 31, 2026, and the Summary of Revenue and Expenditures.

Revenue Highlights indicate that we are 25% through the budget year, and 7.1% of the total budget.

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- Collected \$374,500, or 5.2% of the budget (No Major Installment(s) from Cook County).
- Collected \$202,438, or 10.2% of the budget, in Ambulance Fees. Paid GEMT back to the State in the amount of \$54,847.
- Collected \$12,033, or 40.1% of the budget, in Personal Property Replacement Taxes.
- Collected \$53,617 in interest, or 26.1% of the budget.
- Collected \$3,317, or 9.5% of the budget, for Fire Recovery

Expenditure highlights show we are at 21.5% of the total budget (excluding transfers).

- Operating expenditure is \$1,746,131 or 19.6% of the budget.
- We have made 2 of 12 Health Insurance Payments.
- Paid Personnel is \$1,277,496 or 21.9% of the budget.
- Debt Service & Capital Expenditures: \$134,685 or 29.5% of the budget. Station 1 & 2 Asphalt = \$131,105

President Nogal stated that the district had \$396,489.81 in payroll, including \$50,744.42 in overtime, and \$324,373.48 in accounts payable. President Nogal asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Trustee Bump made that motion, and Trustee Gracias seconded. The motion was carried by a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None

LOCAL #4480 UNION REPORT: FF Hamrick reminded the Board that the Union Golf Outing was this Friday, August 21st.

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:

Nothing to report.

TRAINING REPORT:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Discussion of Facility Maintenance/Improvement Plan Schedule**
 - **Replace Station 1 Garage Doors - Discussion ensued.**
Chief Gabriele to put out RFP.
 - **SCBA Air Compressor - Discussion ensued.**

b. Discussion of Establishing Strategic Planning Goals for the District

Still waiting to hear from Rep. Casten on a grant.

c. Discussion of Community Relations Programs

Chief reminded Board of Open House on September 13th.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Review Bids for re-epoxying Station 1 apparatus bay floor with possible board action.**

BIDS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Alternate #1</u>	<u>Alternate #2</u>
Faturity 19	\$20,700	N/A	N/A
CCI Flooring	\$22,700	\$33,000	\$36,000
Matrix Coating	\$31,471	N/A	N/A
Petra Builders	\$66,000	N/A	N/A
Taza Construction	\$58,850	N/A	N/A
Superb Steel & Construction	\$64,500	N/A	N/A
Alliance Allied	\$63,000	N/A	N/A
Public Security Agency	\$42,700	N/A	N/A

Chief Gabriele did his due diligence by following up on all references provided by each company that listed them. After his research, he recommended using CCI Flooring due to their quality of work and excellent references, recommendations, and price.

After extensive discussion, Trustee Nogal asked Attorney Courtney if we could [award the contract to the company based on references and a bid that meets specific qualifications that meet the needs of the district, not just the lowest bidder.] Attorney Courtney stated that that is correct.

Discussion continued.

Attorney Courtney stated that this discussion satisfies Statute, Chapter 70 ILCS 705/11k.

Trustee Nogal asked for a motion, based on Chief Gabriele's recommendation to award the epoxy flooring contract for Station 1 to CCI Flooring, Alternate #1, 5 layers, in the amount of \$33,000.00. Trustee Bump made that motion, and Trustee Gracias seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

b. Discussion and possible board action on Battalion Chief Foley's contract renewal

To be discussed in closed session.

c. Discussion on changing monthly board meetings start time from 7 pm to 5 pm

Discussion ensued.

Trustee Nogal asked for a motion to change the monthly board meeting start time from 7 pm to 5 pm, effective starting the September 15th meeting.

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

Attorney Courtney stated that the board should be reorganized at the next meeting.

Brief fire prevention discussion ensued.

Trustee Nogal asked for a motion to go into closed session to discuss issues concerning personnel, contract, full-time negotiations, and/or matters of legal counsel and possible litigation at 8:40 pm. Trustee Verdino made that motion, and Trustee Bump seconded. On a roll-call vote, the motion passed.

Return to Open Session at 8:58 pm.

Trustee Nogal asked for a motion to approve Battalion Chief Foley's contract as presented. Trustee Verdino made that motion, and Trustee Bump seconded. On a roll-call vote, the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to bring before the Board, President Nogal moved to adjourn the open session at 8:59 pm. Trustee Adams 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, September 15th, at 5:00 p.m. This meeting will be held at Station 1, 8815 W. 123rd Street.

 _____ Sharon R. Bump	 _____ Melissa Gracias
 _____ Julie Adams	 _____ Richard J. Nogal
 _____ Richard J. Nogal	

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
CLOSED SESSION MINUTES
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
August 18, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER: August 18, 2026, Closed Session, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to discuss issues concerning personnel, contract, full-time negotiations, and/or matters of legal counsel and possible litigation was called to order at 8:41 pm.

The Board discussed Battalion Chief Foley's contract.

Discussion ensued.

Nothing else to be discussed in closed session.

Trustee Nogal asked for a motion to adjourn the closed session and return to open session at 8:57 pm. Trustee Bump made that motion, and Trustee Adams seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT: The closed session of the Board of Trustees adjourned at 8:58 pm.








