

**Minutes of the November 18, 2021
Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the
West Chicago Fire Protection District
Held at Fire Station One
200 Fremont Street, West Chicago, Illinois**

Opened meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance

The Special Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Charles Bratcher with Jim Grobe, Steve Usedom and Ruben Campos in attendance. Also present were Chief Patrick Tanner; Assistant Chief Tim Leidig; Lt. Jason Day, Lt. Ken Zahara, Lt. Mike Buenrostro Sr. and wife Theresa, Firefighters Greg Zudis, Todd Baseggio, Mike Buenrostro Jr., B/C Wade Johnson, B/C Jeffrey Keefe, Agnes Dalecki and Gary Kosnoff from Digital One Insurance and Attorney Douglas Dorando. Accountant James Howard joined meeting via Zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment heard during this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 28, 2021 were reviewed. Trustee Campos made a motion to accept the minutes as written, the motion was seconded by Trustee Usedom and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Minutes of the Closed Session held on September 23, 2021 were reviewed. Trustee Grobe made a motion to approve correction to spelling of "union". The motion was seconded by Trustee Campos, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Minutes of the Closed Session held on October 28, 2021 were reviewed. Trustee Usedom made a motion to accept the minutes as written, the motion was seconded by Trustee Campos, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Accountant James Howard presented via Zoom the financial report for the period ending October 31, 2021.

Trustee Bratcher announced that the account payables for the District for the period of October 28, 2021 through November 18, 2021 totaled \$141,023.71. Trustee Bratcher also announced that the payroll for the District as of November 18, 2021 was \$438,015.61. Trustee Usedom made a motion to approve the total amount of expenditures for the District of \$579,039.32. The motion was seconded by Trustee Campos. Roll call vote showed:

Trustee Campos- Aye

Trustee Bratcher – Aye

Trustee Usedom – Aye

Trustee Grobe - Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. **Finance and Planning:** Gary Kosnoff from Digital One Insurance provided a handout presentation to the Board for the 2022 insurance rates and possible new benefit options. Also talked about ancillary lines of coverage for dental and life insurance. Possibility of employees purchasing additional life insurance for their family members at no cost to the District.

Chief Tanner and Asst. Chief Leidig recommend staying with the plan we have offered.

Trustee Usedom made a motion to approve the recommendation to stay with the current plans we offer, the motion was seconded by Trustee Grobe. Roll call showed:

Trustee Campos- Aye

Trustee Bratcher – Aye

Trustee Grobe – Aye

Trustee Usedom - Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

b. Divisional Reports:

- i. **Administration:**

- a. Chief Tanner provided a Fire Prevention report from Fire Marshal Buenrostro. Report shows new construction, remodels, fire alarms, etc. Board agreed that this report would be helpful if provided quarterly.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Adoption of Ordinance 2021-O-08.** Ordinance Levying and Assessing the West Chicago Fire Protection District DuPage County, Illinois for 2021.

Trustee Usedom made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-O-08, an Ordinance Levying and Assessing the West Chicago Fire Protection District. Motion seconded by Trustee Grobe Roll call showed:

Trustee Campos- Aye Trustee Bratcher – Aye Trustee Usedom – Aye

Trustee Grobe - Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

b. Motion to approve an agreement with the State of Illinois to fund the traffic pre-emption device for a new traffic signal at Rt 59 and Gary’s Mill Road in the amount of \$8,050.00.

Chief Tanner explained that it is the District’s responsibility to pay the \$8,050.00 to purchase the equipment and the City is responsible for the maintenance. The City Manager will provide an agreement that defines all parties’ responsibilities.

Trustee Campos made a motion to approve the agreement with the State of Illinois to fund the traffic pre-emption device. Motion seconded by Trustee Usedom. Roll call showed:

Trustee Campos- Aye Trustee Bratcher – Aye Trustee Usedom – Aye

Trustee Grobe - Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

c. Motion to amend the current contract with Paramedic Services, Inc. Amended contract contains starting salary increases to aid in paramedic onboarding and retention. Chief Tanner added that the amended contract’s end date will coincide with our fiscal year for budgeting purposes.

Trustee Usedom made a motion to approve the amended contract with Paramedic Billing Services, Inc. Motioned seconded by Trustee Campos. Roll call showed:

Trustee Campos- Aye Trustee Bratcher – Aye Trustee Usedom – Aye

Trustee Grobe - Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

d. Motion to approve the retirement agreement with Michael Buenrostro, Sr.

Lt. Mike Buenrostro addressed the Board. He stated that he enjoyed working for the District for 40 years and thanked everyone for being excellent co-workers. He is looking forward to retirement with his wife.

Trustee Usedom made a motion to approve the retirement agreement with Michael Buenrostro, Sr. Motion seconded by Trustee Campos. Roll call showed:

Trustee Campos- Aye Trustee Bratcher – Aye Trustee Usedom – Aye

Trustee Grobe - Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

e. Motion authorizing the Commission to hire two candidates from the current firefighter eligibility list.

Chief Tanner stated that two firefighters needed to be hired to replace Mike Buenrostro, Sr. and Justin Ukleja. Asst. He stated that there was a discussion of hiring a total of five (2 FT and 3 floaters), but after further discussion with James, this will be tabled until early next year. Chief Leidig will start the ball rolling with calls off the candidate list. Chief Tanner also apologized for not including the Greg Zudis promotion on the agenda. A special meeting will be held to get approved.

Trustee Grobe made a motion to authorize the commission to hire two new candidates. Motion seconded by Trustee Campos. Roll call showed:

Trustee Campos- Aye Trustee Bratcher – Aye Trustee Usedom – Aye

Trustee Grobe - Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

f. Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with DuPage Public Safety Communications.

Chief Tanner stated that our stations have equipment that is owned by DuComm (alerting receivers, routers, fiber optics). Ducomm wants a formal MOU so it is understood what equipment we have in house, an inventory so to speak.

Trustee Usedom made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with DuPage Public Safety Communications. Motion seconded by Trustee Grobe. Roll call showed:

Trustee Campos- Aye

Trustee Bratcher – Aye

Trustee Usedom – Aye

Trustee Grobe - Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

MISCELLANEOUS: None.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS: No report.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Trustee Usedom and seconded by Trustee Grobe to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Charles Bratcher President

James Grobe Secretary