

LEMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 2025
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CALL TO ORDER: Trustee Joe Falese called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lemont Fire Protection District to order on August 21, 2025, at 6:00 PM. The meeting was conducted at 15900 New Avenue, Lemont, IL.

Trustee Falese led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: On call of roll Trustees Dan Tholotowsky, Michael Smollen, Joe Falese, Raymond Negrete and Linda Bernacchi.

OTHERS PRESENT: Fire Chief Dan Tasso, Deputy Chief Matt Peksa, Deputy Chief John Truffa, Attorney John Motylinski.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY: Trustee Falese gave the oath of office of Battalion Chief to David Spivak and the oath of office of Lieutenant to Michael Kingman and Antonio Stefanelli. Congratulations were given by all.

RECOGNITION CEREMONY: Lieutenant Rami Elshareif was awarded the MABAS Humanitarian Award, in appreciation for his support of the MABAS Task Force USAR Team deployment to Texas in response to the flash flood disaster. Congratulations were given by all.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to approve the July 17, 2025, regular meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Trustee Negrete read the bill list totaling \$1,457,101.69. Trustee Negrete made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, as presented, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

FINACIAL REPORT: A motion was made to approve the financial report, as presented, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD: Trustee False informed the Board he will not be in attendance at the September meeting and Trustee Bernacchi will run the meeting in his absence. Trustee Tholotowsky stated how proud he was to be a trustee of the Fire District, with recent promotions, well deserved retirements and Lt. Elshareif's recognition, we should all be proud of these accomplishments. pride. Trustee Tholotowsky reminded everyone that school is back in session and to drive carefully to protect the children.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Motylinski explained to the Board the bill that would allow Districts direct billing to assisted living facilities rather than the residents, has been signed by the Governor and will be in effect by the 1st of the year. Also, the bill that could affect mutual aid EMS calls passed and will be looking into an amendment for the next session. Updates will be given to the Board when available.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Peksa informed the Board of the final inspection of the new engine in Minnesota and will take delivery soon. He reported Lemont Fire was part of another multi-agency drill on Smith Road. DC Peksa informed the Board the 2012 ambulance was sold to Arrow Manufacturing in Iowa. DC Peksa stated MABAS has an agreement regarding sharing reserve vehicles and that our reserve ambulance will be assisting Frankfort at the upcoming fall fest. He stated we responded to 380 calls, a slight increase but still 5 percent lower than this time last year.

Deputy Chief Truffa updated the Board the new stair chairs are in service in all ambulances, this will help prevent injuries to the personnel. FGM is working with Steve Bacho to survey 1051 International. He informed the Board, Franciscan Village met with the Village about adding more apartments and underground parking to their facility. Educator Cole is adding more babysitting classes and will be piloting a Learn Not to Burn program with the Park District. The FPB attended a visit to Franciscan Village with Trustee Tholotowsky and Duff. DC Truffa informed the Board of the upcoming meeting he will attend with Trustee Tholotowsky, FM Murray, Lemont Village and the IL Sprinkler Board to discuss fire sprinkler incentives for downtown businesses.

Chief recognized Inspector Madden on his 7th year anniversary with the district, FF/PM Post and FF/PM Bandyk, 8 years, FF/PM Brown, 12 years and Lt. Bailey for 23 years of service to the District. He informed the Board of the promotional process is going well, 10 candidates for Lt., and 6 for BC, the oral interviews are completed, and the assessments will be coming up next. In a construction update, Chief informed the Board interior finishes and options are being finalized and fine tuning of overall final design plans will be presented by FGM at the October 16th meeting. The presentation could be up to 45 minutes and proposed a 5:30 start time to October's meeting. The Fire Chief evaluation will be held in a special meeting Tuesday September 30th at 6pm. Chief's employment agreement evaluation and contract extension will be placed on the October agenda.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to adopt Resolution #25-03, authorizing the purchase of certain real estate and approving contract for the purchase of said real estate, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to ratify the purchase of Velocity EHS annual subscription, in the amount of \$3,307.50, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to ratify the cost of testing of pumps, ground and aerial ladders with UL Solutions, in the amount of \$7,880.60, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to ratify the purchase of the bailout prop, with Affordable Drill Towers, INC, paid by IPRF Grant funds, in the amount of \$5,700.00 seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to ratify the purchase of Station 3 pay application No. 1 with Stenstrom Construction Group in the amount of \$5, 745.00, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to ratify the purchase of PPV fan for new engine with MES, in the amount of \$6,621.95, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve Invoice 23-3857.02-2 with FGMA, in the amount of \$195,277.50, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM on a motion made by Trustee Negrete seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

Approved as is / amended by the Board of Trustees on the _____ day of _____, 2025.

Joseph Falese, President

ATTEST:

Linda Bernacchi, Secretary