

**LEMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 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 February 20, 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 Michael Smollen, Joe Falese, Ray Negrete, Linda Bernacchi. Trustee Dan Tholotowsky is absent.

OTHERS PRESENT: Fire Chief Dan Tasso, Deputy Chief Matt Peksa, Administrative Assistant Sandy Dominik, Attorney John Motylinski, BC Evers, Lt Palcu, FF/PM Jay Hanson, Resident John Bernacchi, Resident John Goushas

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to approve the agenda, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. Goushas stated there was a broken link for the January 2024 meeting minutes on the website and wondered if it could be corrected on the website.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to approve, under consent agenda, January 16, 2025, regular meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Trustee Negrete read the bill listing totaling \$949,160.44. Trustee Negrete made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, as presented, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD: Trustee Bernacchi remarked how phenomenal the NIAFD conference was and highlighted the referendum presentation. Trustee Bernacchi congratulated Deputy Chief Peksa, Chief Tasso, Trustees Falese and Tholotowsky, stating it was something to be proud of. Trustee Bernacchi acknowledged the article Attorney Motylinski published in the Fire Call magazine, Trustee Bernacchi then congratulated Trustee Tholotowsky, who is absent attending his son's swearing in ceremony for Glencoe Police Department. Trustee Falese expressed his gratitude to Jennifer with Discovery Works, *formerly* Creative Entourage for her hard work laying out the blueprint for a successful bond referendum, the largest in Illinois history. Trustee Smollen discussed the sessions he attended at the conference with the architect and Randy Readers presentation.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney John Motylinski reported the 104th general assembly deadline for bills has passed and is waiting to see what is gaining traction and will inform the Board of anything that would need attention.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Peksa updated the Board we are finalizing the Lexipol Safet Grant which has a 4 percent success rate and are hopeful we will have a successful outcome. Canadian National may be another radio tower site which is located behind station 2. One Firefighter may return by the end of March. DC Peksa reported a potential delivery of the new engine in early summer. The Dive Squad update has a possible delivery of February of 2026. We responded to 383 calls in the month of December.

Deputy Chief Truffa informed the Board that the microwave lines on the Tollway Tower is installed and live, still working on the water tower issues being corrected. There is no update on the new ambulance at this time. DC Truffa thanked the crews for participating in the Adopt a Firefighter program which will last through May. DC Truffa stated that after 30 years NIFRS reporting will be changed to NERIS, and the old system will be phased out by the first quarter of next year.

Fire Chief Tasso congratulated BC Evers on his 28 years of service this month. The District is celebrating its 139th year since its organization. President Falese signed the OSFM Construction Rehab Grant application for \$750,000.00. Chief Tasso reported the General Obligation Bonds have been deposited in a newly opened Schwab account and will be reflected on next month's financial report. Chief Tasso is following up with a resident on Longwood Way, which is in unincorporated Lemont regarding a mandatory residential sprinkler system he would like to appeal and may be speaking at the next Board meeting as an agenda item.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to ratify the renewal cost of the annual subscription to Semper Stronger in the amount of \$5,508.00, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to ratify the renewal cost of the annual subscription to ESRI in the amount of \$3,935.00, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: 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 for graphics for the new cause and origin squad with Harmonic Designs in the amount of \$7,875.00, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to approve the annual subscription renewal with Lexipol in the amount of \$12,606.59, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to approve the proposal for Geotechnical Engineering Services with CGMT, INC in the amount of \$18,685.00, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to approve updates to Lexipol purchasing policy #212, as presented, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

The Chief stated that staff, along with Attorney Motylinski and Attorney Nemanich and financial advisors reviewed the Risk Care Management Policy #215 Lexipol Policy was reviewed, and no update is necessary. No action taken.

A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to approve the agreement with Stenstrom Construction Group, pending attorney review and giving Chief Tasso the authority to sign the agreement on behalf of the District Board, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to approve Ordinance 25-02, abating tax heretofore levies for year 2024 to pay debt service on \$3,550,000.00 alternative revenue source bonds series 2020, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM on a motion made by Trustee Negrete, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: 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.

Joe Falese, President

ATTEST:

Linda Bernacchi, Secretary