LEMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2025
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CALL TO ORDER: Trustee Joseph Falese called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lemont Fire Protection District to order on October 16, 2025, at 5:30 PM. The meeting was held at 15900 New Avenue, Lemont, IL.

Trustee Falese led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: On roll call, Trustees Dan Tholotowsky, Michael Smollen, Joseph Falese, Raymond Negrete, and Linda Bernacchi were present

OTHERS PRESENT: Fire Chief Dan Tasso, Deputy Chief Matt Peksa, Deputy Chief John Truffa, Attorney John Motylinski, Recording Secretary Sandy Dominik, FGM Representatives; Jake McLaughlin, Shaun Patel, Jason Estes, and Albert Pala

FGM STATION DESIGN PRESENTATION: Jake McLaughlin gave a power point presentation of station designs with an overview of the proposed design and layout for the new fire stations. The presentation included site plans, and conceptual renderings illustrating the overall aesthetic and functional goals of the project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve September 18, 2025, regular meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Negrete. 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 approve September 30, 2025, special meeting minutes, 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 Smollen to approve September 30, 2025, special closed 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 $1,170,443.82. Trustee Bernacchi made a motion to approve the Treasurer's 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.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Chief Tasso presented a financial report that included revenues, expenditures and current budget status. Key items noted included ongoing operational expenses, equipment maintenance costs, and progress on capital projects such as facility improvements and apparatus purchases. A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to approve the financial report, as presented, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD: Trustee Tholotowsky expressed his appreciation to the Chief Administration for preparing tonight's presentation and is very impressed and proud of everyone's hard work. He remarked that Open House was a success and reminded everyone to be safe while Trick or Treating and watch out for children. Trustee Smollen stated at the next village board meeting, 10/27/25, Lemont will be honoring long time resident and advocate Barbara Bushman.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Motylinski reminded the Board, the November 20th meeting will be the budget workshop, 6:00 PM and budget hearing will be in December. He recommended the budget workshop, and hearing be moved up earlier next year. Attorney Motylinski reported to the Board that the Legislature is in Veto session and doesn't expect much to impact operations and will update the Board as needed.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Peksa informed the Board the new engine has been delivered, and it will be going in for graphics and radios soon. He thanked the engine committee that consisted of; Lt. Palcu, FF Rauch, FF Hopkins, FF Kastner, Lt. Anderson, and BC Moses. DC Peksa stated Lt. Elshareif will be acquiring a second K9 for cadaver search. EVT Stacy Devitt has completed his level one certification in ambulances and will now start working on his level two certifications for ambulances and fire apparatus. They have started purchasing mechanic tools and shop equipment in preparations for the new station workspace. DC Peksa reported the District responded to 358 calls in September and still tracking a 3% decrease from last year.

Deputy Chief Truffa informed the Board that IT Director Fernando has begun to connect with vendors for station alerting, security cameras and A/V equipment regarding the new stations. DC Truffa shared that EMS Director Tyler Yost will be attending and speaking as a presenter at EMS World Expo this year in Indianapolis. Director Yost was awarded this opportunity at last year's conference. DC Truffa informed the Board ambulance billing will be affected by the government shut down, Medicare is halting submission of our payments during shutdown. DC Truffa thanked Black shift, fire prevention staff and those that came to help host another successful open house.

Chief Tasso would like to recognize work anniversaries this month; LT Flood (26), LT. Stasiak(22), FFs Hines (22), LT Elshareif, FF's Rauch, Jager, and Decamp (17), LT. Stefanelli (15), Orszulak (5), and Bacho ((2). Chief Tasso informed the board that the preliminary Battalion Chief and Lieutenant promotional process has been completed, and a preliminary list is established. The Board of Commissioners will meet on October 31st to approve the final list which will go live on November 8th. Chief Tasso informed the board there is now a signed contract to purchase the property of 15723 W. 127th and is scheduled to close on October 30th. FGM is working with the Village of Lemont on the Planned Unit Development Submission and will present to the Lemont planning commission at their December meeting. Chief Tasso reminded the Board that November meeting was rescheduled to November 20th, Mr. James Howard will be here to review the budget, levy and financials for the upcoming year.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to ratify the cost of the annual Blue Card renewal with Across the Street Productions in the amount of $4,866.78, a budgeted item, 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 price of annual budgeted extrication tool maintenance with EMC, in the amount of $ 3,797.50, a budgeted item, 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 ratify the purchase of postage for 2025 fall newsletter with Marquardt Printing in the amount of $ 3,374.63, a budgeted item, seconded by Trustee Negrete 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 ratify the cost of the annual renewal with Target Solutions Learning, LLC in the amount of $7,609.66, a budgeted item, 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 Tholotowsky to ratify the purchase of annual gear cleaning and service with Gear Wash in the amount of $6,170.25, a budgeted item, 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 a replacement drill press and accessories with Welder supply, in the amount of $5,454.99, a budgeted item seconded by Trustee Negrete. 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 the purchase of annual fire extinguisher inspections and repairs vehicle from Hutto & Sons, Inc in the amount of $1,084.00, a budgeted item, seconded by Trustee Negrete. 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 approve the purchase of 13 cradle point mobile routers with Verizon, in the amount of $14,300.00, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, no. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to approve the purchase of replacement tablets for engines and truck with Xerox IT Solutions, in the amount of $18,925.00, a budgeted item, 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 approve the purchase of 54 Fireline Multimission field coats with MES, in the amount of $30,126.60, a budgeted item, 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 approve Fire Chief Daniel Tasso's annual evaluation, as presented, seconded by Trustee Negrete. 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 approve the renewal of Fire Chief Daniel Tasso's contract, as presented, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, no. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM on a motion made by Trustee Negrete, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. 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:

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Linda Bernacchi, Secretary