

**LEMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2025
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

CALL TO ORDER: Trustee Linda Bernacchi called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lemont Fire Protection District to order on September 18, 2025, at 6:00 PM. The meeting was conducted at 15900 New Avenue, Lemont, IL.

Trustee Bernacchi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Fire Chief Dan Tasso, Deputy Chief Matt Peksa, Deputy Chief John Truffa, Recording Secretary Sandy Dominik and Attorney John Motylinski.

APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT PRO TEM: A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to appoint Trustee Bernacchi as President Pro Tem to preside over the meeting in the absence of the President Falese, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, aye. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve and release, under consent agenda, the August 21, 2025, regular meeting minutes, as amended, September 30, 2024, special meeting closed minutes and October 17, 2024, regular meeting closed minutes, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Trustee Negrete read the bill list totaling \$1,236,716.08. 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 Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD: Trustee Tholotowsky thanked the Union members for planning a wonderful family picnic. Trustee Tholotowsky extended sympathies for the loss of long time Lemont resident, Barbara Buschman, extending thanks to her for her commitment of service to Lemont. Trustee Bernacchi also remarked the family picnic was a huge success and thanks to all that helped organize and took pictures.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Motylinski reminded the Board and Chiefs that the budget and levee process is on track for November. Chief stated instead of a separate workshop the budget will be reviewed at the regular meeting in November. Discussion took place regarding Cook County taxes not forthcoming until after the budget process.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Peksa stated we will have delivery of the new engine by October 2nd. The promotional process is finalized and will be completed next week. The surplus 2010 Ford Expedition has been sold. Recipients of the FEMA Safer Grant will be announced in October. Deputy Chief Peksa stated we answered 398 calls for service last month, which is still down about 4% from this time last year.

Deputy Chief Truffa updated the Board on the new ambulance, which is slated for a 2026, third quarter delivery and we have prepaid the chassis and cot with autoloader. He was informed there is about a 2.5-year timeline for ordering new ambulances and will be meeting with the manufacturer next month to get pricing. Public Educator Cole is busy with babysitting classes and has begun working with Everest to offer babysitting classes to the students. Deputy Chief Truffa informed the Board, the meeting with the Village to incentivize sprinkler installation in downtown Lemont went well, the village already does have a \$50,000.00 grant program in place. Discussion took place about cost matching that program and possibly adding that item to the budget.

Chief Tasso congratulated those with work anniversaries this month; FF/PM Atwood-2 years, FF/PM Kuzmicki and Lt. Holtz-18 years, Lt. Puckett-21 years, FF/PM Sienkiewicz-22 years. Chief Tasso updated the Board on the promotional process, candidates will complete the assessment next week, the written test is October 1st and the process will be completed with new list being effective November 8th. In a construction update, Chief stated that a lot of things are being done behind the scenes. Permits with Metropolitan Water have been filed. FGM will be making their final presentation to the Board at the October regular meeting, which will begin at 5:30 PM. Chief reminded the Board there will be a special meeting for Chief's evaluation September 30th.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to ratify the cost of 13, 3-year cradle points with routers with Verizon, in the amount of \$4615.00, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to ratify the cost of emergency lights and radio installation on the Deputy Chief vehicle with Camz Communications, in the amount of \$5,985.00, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to ratify the cost of 800 MHZ Radio for new engine with Chicago Communications, in the amount of \$5,175.85, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to ratify the cost of Station No. 3 - Pay application No. 2 with Stenstrom Construction Group, in the amount of \$9,567.22, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to ratify the cost of Open House handouts from Promos 911, in the amount of \$3,823.01, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, aye. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve FGMA Invoice 23-3857.02-03, in the amount of \$76,725.00, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM on a motion made by Trustee Smollen, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, 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