

**LEMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2026
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 September 24, 2026, 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 Daniel Tholotowsky, Michael Smollen, Joe Falese, Ray Negrete, Linda Bernacchi.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Trustee Tholotowsky made a motion, seconded by Trustee Negrete to approve Consent Agenda items;

- a) Approve Station 1, Invoice 23-3857.02-14 in the amount of \$25,184.31
- b) Approve Station 2, Invoice 23-3857.03-3 in the amount of \$58,125.00
- c) Approve Station 1, Pay Application No. 6 in the amount of \$517,347.38
- d) Approve Station 3, Pay Application No. 7 in the amount of \$786,994.47
- e) Approve Station 4, Pay Application No. 5 in the amount of \$335,534.30

Total Consent Agenda Approval: \$1,723,185.46. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to approve September 24, 2026, regular 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.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Trustee Negrete read the bill listing totaling \$2,920,476.84. 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.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Chief Tasso presented a financial report that included revenues, expenditures and current budget status through August 31st, 2026. Chief Tasso discussed ongoing operational expenses, equipment maintenance costs, and progress on capital projects such as facility improvements and apparatus purchases. A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve the financial 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.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD: Trustee Tholotowsky spoke about missing last month's meeting due to a trip to New York and recommended, anyone that gets an opportunity to visit ground zero. He highlighted the 25th anniversary of the 911 event and expressed gratitude to the first responders. Trustee Tholotowsky and Trustee Falese have entertained the notion of the District having an official Chaplin for the department if one would be needed. Chief Tasso and DC Peksa stated they will reach out to other departments and provide more feedback.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Motylinski advised the mass FOIA campaigning continues and looks to the general assembly to take action on this matter by December. An upcoming deadline of October 1st for EMS rate reporting, IDPH is in the process of updating fee schedules. Trustee Tholotowsky asked for an update about the IGA with the Village of Lemont. At this time, we have not heard back from the village.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Peksa stated the Dive Squad vehicle is in final production and the committee will be traveling to South Dakota in late October for final inspection. In a WESCOM update, things are continuing behind the scenes, meetings continue and expecting a soft switchover around mid-February. The District responded to 376 calls for service in August, a slight decrease of 401 calls from last year and 2726 calls for service at the end of August.

Deputy Chief Truffa informed the Board since receiving the new ambulance, it has been decided the graphics will be done locally as opposed to the manufacturer. Lettering and designs will be surveyed by the committee with majority win. With new ambulance build times of 24 months, Deputy Chief Truffa explained pricing has begun and will update the Board by the end of the year to order a new ambulance slated for production. EMS Coordinator Tyler Yost is attending and presenting at the Word Expo. This national conference will bring exposure to Lemont and it's representatives. Fire Prevention is preparing for Open House October 3rd, the event will begin at 10:00am to attract more visitors.

Chief Tasso recognized work anniversaries this month; FF/PM Kevin Atwood (3), FF/PM Lisa Kuzmicki and LT. Mike Holtz (19), LT Andrew Puckett (22), FF/PM Scott Sienkiewicz (23). In a construction update Chief Tasso informed the Board: The concrete work continues at Station One, working east to west and Stenstrom has been coordinating with the contractors. Station Two: Design team is meeting biweekly and design documents have been turned into Stenstrom for review, budget documents will begin. Planning to apply to Village for building permit approvals in December and expect to go to bids early 2027 with demo starting February 2027. Stations Three & Four have brick and masonry work being done and the steel truss roof has been installed at Station Four. Utilities and plumbing have been approved and concrete will be poured. The next Board of Commissioners meeting will be November 2nd and anticipate approval of an initial eligibility list which includes 22 applicants. The final list would be posted by mid to late November. Trustee Tholotowsky questioned the rezoning billboard locations; Chief Tasso clarified the PUD Agenda rezoning dates. Trustee Negrete questioned the construction deadline due to the weather, Chief Tasso explained what work can continue in the winter.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Anthony Miceli of Speer Financial presented to the Board a presentation of Bond Sale Issuance and overview of Ordinance. A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to Adopt Ordinance 26-02, as presented, providing the issuance and sale of general obligation bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$7,595,000.00, and providing for the levy of taxes sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereon, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

John Falduto provided an update of Bond Proceeds 2025 and Bond Proceeds 2026 and how to keep them separate and allocated. Tracked inflows and outflows, maturities and net investment gains. A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve establishing a new Schwab account for GO Bond Proceeds expecting to be received October 2026, 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 a total simulation training system from 3B Scientific, a budgeted item for a cost of \$42,321.90, 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 approve the purchase of ten 800MHz radios from Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$84,723.83, 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 annual cost of Air One's five-year lease program in the amount of \$8,068.00, per year, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried. \$3,000.00 will be used from the remaining IPRF grant funds and the remaining will be coming from the HazMat tools and equipment budget.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to ratify the cost of the annual SCBA flow testing of all air packs in the amount of \$3,642.06, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to enter closed session at 6:50 PM on a motion for discussion of appointment, employment, compensation, performance or dismissal of an employee, evaluation of the fire chief with no anticipated action to be taken, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting reconvened at 7:44 PM on a motion by Trustee Bernacchi, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM on a motion made by Trustee Negrete, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. 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 _____, 2026.

Joseph Falese, President

ATTEST:

Linda Bernacchi, Secretary