

**ROBERTS PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
January 9, 2024  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO  
ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Roberts Park Fire Protection District Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Bernardoni at Station #1, 8611 S. Roberts Road, Justice, Illinois, for the purpose of conducting all regular business of the District, proper notice having been given and posted accordingly.

Secretary Stratakos led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:**

President Brian A. Bernardoni  
Secretary Steve Stratakos  
Treasurer (Vacancy)  
Fire Chief Jeff Ketchen  
Deputy Chief Chris Spoo  
Commissioner Ron Weszelits  
Commissioner Ken Osborne  
Administrative Advisor Don Fontana

**Absent:** Tim Dooley

**Others Present:** Recording Secretary Berger, On-Duty FF/PMs, Attorney Brian Miller

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS**

None.

**OPEN FLOOR**

President Bernardoni opened the floor for public comments. With no comments, President Bernardoni closed the floor for public comment at 6:03 p.m.

**CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

None.

**BOARD APPROVAL**

***Minutes***

Motion to accept the Open Session Minutes of December 12, 2023, was made by Secretary Stratakos, seconded by President Bernardoni. Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, President Bernardoni; Nays: None. Motion carried.

***Accounts Payable/Treasurer's Reports***

Motion to accept the Accounts Payable/Treasurer's reports for the month of December 2023 by Secretary Stratakos, seconded by President Bernardoni. Accounts Payable December 2023: \$386,807.90; Payroll, December 2023: \$222,378.45. Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, President Bernardoni; Nays: None; Motion carried.

***Budget Review***

None.

## **REPORTS**

### ***Fire Chief Jeff Ketchen:***

*Structure Fire* – On-duty crews responded in the early morning hours of January 2<sup>nd</sup> to a reported fire in an apartment building in the 8700 block of 80<sup>th</sup> Court. Upon arrival, a fire was confirmed, and two victims were removed. One deceased and one person transported to Christ Hospital with serious injuries. The fire was contained in a matter of minutes and no other injuries were reported.

*January Staffing Report* – While maintaining nine positions per day, we were able to reduce overtime significantly for the month of January.

*Healthcare Plan* - The new health care plan went into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The new plan provides better coverage and reduced out of pocket costs to our members and saves the District some money on the premiums.

*Fleet Status* – Tower Ladder 305 continues to have ongoing issues with its rear suspension. We are working with engineers from an alternate provider to consider replacing the system in its entirety.

*Public Outreach* – Every year, the Village of Justice invites us to participate in a Christmas tree decorating contest, competing against other public agencies. Chief was proud to announce that Roberts Park took first place this year.

### ***Deputy Chief Chris Spoo:***

*Incident Counts December 2023* – 373 total incidents (73% EMS)

24 Invalid Assists

23 MVAs

Aid Given vs Received – 28/21

Tollway: 10 responses (4 w/in our Fire District)

Lyons Twp: 216 responses with 49 in the Trace, 24 in Sterling Estates, 6 in Ashbury Woods

Palos Twp: 130 responses

Forest Preserve: 4 responses

2023 Year-End

4512 Total Incidents

*Grants* – OSFM small equipment grant submitted. Awaiting decision.

*Operations* – Preparing for ISO inspection on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

*Communications* – Additional alerting equipment being installed at the end of this month.

***Commissioners:*** Quarterly meeting held tonight at 7:00 p.m.

***Attorney:*** No report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

None.

## **DECENNIAL COMMITTEE**

Motion to suspend the regular meeting at 6:18 p.m. for the purpose of conducting the Decennial Committee Meeting was made by Secretary Stratakos, seconded by President Bernardoni. Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, President Bernardoni; Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion to reconvene the regular meeting at 6:28 p.m., with all Trustees present, was made by Secretary Stratakos, seconded by President Bernardoni. Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, President Bernardoni; Nays: None. Motion carried.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

None.

**CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 p.m. was made by Secretary Stratakos, seconded by President Bernardoni. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

*Open Session Minutes prepared by Lisa Berger, Office Manager  
Approved: 2/13/2024*