

**ROBERTS PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
JULY 14, 2026
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 Dan Borst- Late arrival

Chief Christopher Spoo

Commissioner Tim Dooley

Commissioner Ken Osborne

Commissioner Ron Weszelits

Others Present: On-Duty and Off-Duty FF/PMs, OM Stacey Collaros,
Attorney Vlado Vranjes

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS

President Bernardoni acknowledged all the guests in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Bernardoni opened the floor for public comments at 6:01 p.m.

Motion to open the floor for public comments was made by Secretary Stratakos and seconded by President Bernardoni. Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, President Bernardoni; Nays: None.

Motion carried

With no comments, questions, or concerns, President Bernardoni closed the floor for public comment at 6:01 p.m.

Motion to close the floor for public comments was made by Secretary Stratakos and seconded by President Bernardoni. Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, President Bernardoni; Nays: None.

Motion carried

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

President Bernardoni extended congratulations to Firefighter/Paramedic Flood, Lieutenant Scanlon, and Battalion Chief Janchenko.

Secretary Stratakos administered the Official Oath to Firefighter/Paramedic Caitlin Flood

Secretary Stratakos administered the Official Oath to Lieutenant Rebecca Scanlon

Secretary Stratakos administered the Official Oath to Battalion Chief James Janchenko

Retired BC Anderson congratulated BC Janchenko and passed along a bugles pin badge that was given to him by the prior BC Gary Foster who was also in attendance. BC Janchenko then passed along one of his Lieutenant badges to Lt. Scanlon. Lt. Scanlon passed a firefighter badge along to Firefighter Flood.

STAFF COMMENDATIONS/CITATIONS

President Bernardoni discussed the tornado and storms that recently hit the district area. There were a record number of calls and he expressed pride in the dedication and services that the Fire District provided.

(Treasurer Borst arrived at the meeting at 6:10 p.m.)

Fire Chief Spoo congratulated the three newly promoted members. He then recognized the members who worked on June 10th and June 11th during the tornado and storm damage.

The following members were called forward, commended, and received citations for their outstanding actions and exceptional service on June 10, 2026:

BC Anderson, Lt. Grazier, BC Janchenko, FF/PM Flood, FF/PM Herrera, FF/PM McDermott, Lt. Scanlon. FF/PM Shaw, FF Corral, FF Prado and FF Risley.

The following members were called forward, commended, and received citations for their outstanding actions and exceptional service on June 11, 2026:

BC Knights, BC Janchenko, Lt. Byrd, Lt. Baron, FF/PM Evans, FF/PM Hooten, FF/PM Flood, FF/PM Lox, FF/PM McKendry and FF Cash.

Recess

A motion was made to recess the meeting by Secretary Stratakos and seconded by Treasurer Borst at 6:13 p.m.

Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, Treasurer Borst, President Bernardoni; Nays: None.

Motion carried

The open session returned from recess with all Trustees present.

A motion was made to reconvene the meeting at 6:21 pm by Secretary Stratakos and seconded by Treasurer Borst.

Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, Treasurer Borst, President Bernardoni; Nays: None.

Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

None.

BOARD APPROVAL

Minutes

Motion to table the Special meeting Open Session Minutes of June 30, 2026, was made by Secretary Stratakos and seconded by Treasurer Borst.

Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, Treasurer Borst, President Bernardoni; Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Open Session Minutes of June 9, 2026, Executive Session Minutes of March 10, 2026 and Executive Session Minutes of May 12, 2026 the was made by Secretary Stratakos and seconded by Treasurer

Borst. Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, Treasurer Borst, President Bernardoni; Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Accounts Payable/Treasurer's Reports

Motion to approve the Accounts Payable and Treasurer's Report as presented for June 2026 was made by Treasurer Borst and seconded by Secretary Stratakos (Accounts Payable June 2026: \$256,050.52; Payroll June:

\$255,129.58). Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, Treasurer Borst, President Bernardoni; Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Financial Report/Budget Review – June 30, 2026

Review of the Financial Report by James Howard, Governmental Accounting, by video call.

An overview of the Financial Report was presented for the 2 months ending June 30, 2026 at 17% through the fiscal year. Revenues were at 9% and expenses were at 15.5% of budget. Property tax money is reported to be delayed again for this fiscal year. He reviewed the accounts and fund breakdowns. Expenses that are shown as over budget are due to timing and payouts at the start of the fiscal year. Mr. Howard stated that we will be drawing on reserves as we await tax revenues. He commented on the possible proposed GEMT cap.

Investment Report – June 30, 2026

Accepted

REPORTS

Fire Chief's Report:

Fire Chief Spoo summarized his report:

Incidents: June 2026

- Total incidents were up due to the storms (519)

Personnel:

- BC Anderson retired on July 4th.
- We are still in process of hiring and are awaiting a candidate to receive his paramedic licensure. After that we will go through the list with no wait time given to any of the candidates. They should have all their necessary qualifications or we will move on. Subsequently, the list will be exhausted and new testing will need to begin.
- Additionally, the Battalion Chief list is now exhausted and promotional testing will need to occur.

Finances:

- There was a transfer of \$300,000 from the Schwab account to the Operating account.

Grants:

- Received a grant from OSFM for the purchase of thermal imagers.

Misc.:

- Roof repairs were completed over the front office and living quarters area.

President Bernardoni thanked Chief Spoo for his efforts during the storms and for coming in on his time off to assist the members.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Osborne stated that they will have the Fire Commissioners regular meeting tonight and will discuss the hiring list and promotional testing. Commissioner Osborne also stated that this will be his last meeting and he will retire from the Board of Fire Commissioners. He stated that he has served the district for over 21 years.

Commissioner Dooley expressed his own and the BOFC thanks to Commissioner Osborne for his years of service and leadership.

The Board of Trustees also thanked Commissioner Osborne for his years of service.

Attorney:

No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of a contract with Discovery Works Collaborative as a referendum advisory consultant.

Motion to approve the contract with Discovery Works Collaborative was made by Secretary Stratakos and seconded by Treasurer Borst. Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, Treasurer Borst, President Bernardoni; Nays: None.

Motion carried

The Board of Trustees commented on the upcoming efforts and community involvement needed for the

anticipated referendum in April of 2027.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Bernardoni opened the floor for public comments at 6:35 p.m.

Don Fontana commented on the yard signs throughout the district promoting the USA and district anniversaries. He asked if the signs could be reused for the open house or to promote the referendum. He also spoke about the history of the start of the district with full-time members.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

None.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m. was made by Secretary Stratakos and seconded by Treasurer Borst.

Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Secretary Stratakos, Treasurer Borst, President Bernardoni; Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Open Session Minutes prepared by Stacey Collaros, Office Manager

Approved: August 11, 2026