

Rockland Fire Protection District  
Board of Trustees

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Monday, August 13 2018  
Knollwood Fire Department, Meeting Room  
14 Skokie Highway, Lake Bluff, IL. 60044

1. Call to Order and Roll Call. President Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following attendance noted:

Trustee/President Dan Rogers	Chief Jon Harlow
Trustee/Secretary Robert Grum	Deputy Chief Mike Issel
Trustee Karl Snoblin	Attorney Brian O'Connor
District Treasurer Tami Bryan	

Quorum acknowledged.  
Others present – members of the Fire Department and Public.
2. Pledge of Allegiance. Recitation led by President Rogers.
3. Consideration of Minutes. Motion by Trustee Snoblin, seconded by Trustee Grum, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 9, 2018. Trustees had reviewed the minutes. No further discussion. Voice vote: 3 Aye (Grum, Rogers, Snoblin), 0 Nay. The motion passed.
4. Chiefs' Report. Chief Harlow reported on several items.
  - a. Inquired of the Board regarding his email to the Board from late last night addressing concerns about the revised Libertyville-Lake Forest service proposal.
    - i. President Rogers stated that the revised Libertyville-Lake Forest service proposal would be the topic for a contemplated special Board meeting at 6:30pm on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 to be held in the Stuart Room of the Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, IL.
    - ii. Addressing one of Chief Harlow's concerns, President Rogers said he sought consensus of the Board for Treasurer Bryan to a fiscal analysis of the revised Libertyville-Lake Forest service proposal with a cost estimate/projection. General consensus that such an analysis was needed, and the Treasurer Bryan should be entitled to some amount of compensation to be determined and approved by the Board at the next meeting. Treasurer Bryan was to individually work with the Trustees and Chiefs in preparing the analysis.
    - iii. Chief Harlow addressed the proposed cost structure of the agreement, noting his assessment was that it was too expensive and "would bankrupt the District in five years."
    - iv. Chief Harlow stated the proposal contained no commitment by providers as to the levels of service to be provided. Chief Harlow stated providers need to be accountable and suggested a services standard might be "provision of services to the District on par with the level of services by the providers" to the provider's communities.

- v. Chief Harlow had questions about indemnification language. Attorney O'Connor said he had reviewed the original language and thought it proper, but that he would review the proposed indemnification language.
  - vi. Chief Harlow had questions about the term of the proposal, and the District's opt-or termination options.
  - vii. President Rogers stated these were all good points, and suggested Chief Harlow share then with Chief Carani (Libertyville FD) and Chief Siebert (Lake Forest FD) in order to more fully address the questions at the 8/21 special Board meeting.
- b. Chief Harlow provided the Board and briefly discussed an Auto-Aid Analysis he prepared for the period beginning in 2017 for the District, Lake Bluff, Libertyville and Lake Forest. Brief discussion ensued.
  - c. Chief Harlow asked the Board if the Board had a response to the revised proposal from Lake Bluff.
    - i. Chief Harlow noted Village acknowledgement of the District services to the Village, and in light of them, the revised proposal included a provision for cost sharing by Lake Bluff of some costs for District staffing.
    - ii. President Rogers stated he had on several occasions raised the issue of compensation with the Village Administrator, Drew Irvin, but never receiving a response.
    - iii. Trustee Grum stated he had similarly raised the issue of compensation with Chief Graf (Lake Bluff FD) and similarly never received a response.
    - iv. Chief Harlow noted the Board now had a written proposal offering compensation and asked what the Board's intentions were concerning the Lake Bluff proposal.
    - v. After general discussion, Trustee Snoblin agree to represent the District and meeting with Lake Bluff representatives concerning their revised proposal.
  - d. Chief Harlow asked a budget-related question. Chief noted the budget included a line item for \$10,000 for the purchase of replacement turn-out gear, and was seeking Board approval to proceed with the purchase. General discussion ensued. Consensus of the Board was no objection to Chief Harlow acting on the procurement of turn-out gear as approved in the District's budget.

Deputy Chief Issel had no report.

5. Public Comment. President Rogers opened Public Comment. Please note that all names are spelled phonetically.
  - a. James Rinsing, a Knollwood resident and 14-year firefighter. Addressed the issue of perceived conflict of interest regarding the revised proposal by Trustee Grum, who is a retired Lake Forest employee receiving payments from the firefighter pension fund, and asked that Trustee Grum recuse himself from consideration of the matter of the revised Libertyville-Lake Forest service proposal.
  - b. Bruce Mack. Stated he had consulted IDOT in regards to the Route 41/IL-176 intersection rework that officials told him the project is not a current plan, and IDOT policy would be for procurement and relocation of an operational fire station prior to the project moving forward.

- c. Britany Davis, a Knollwood resident. Stated that ambulance billing rates varied for services provided by Libertyville from those of Lake Forest, notwithstanding the fact that Libertyville responses provide greater staff.
  - d. Penny Graw, a Knollwood resident. Addressed the service proposal costs being reduced in various editions of the service proposal.
  - e. Tina Karen Dale. Stated costs for Lake Forest services were too high particularly with the slower response time from Lake Forest. She noted a suspected increased risk to Libertyville – Lake Forest first responders from dilution of assets by the need to cover additional District territory.
  - f. David Brown, a Knollwood resident of the Sanctuary subdivision. Commented about Trustee duties and obligations, and suggesting that County economic and political concerns were not a proper basis for the Trustees fiduciary duties to the District and its residents.
  - g. Mark Semonowski, a Knollwood resident and firefighter. Addressed the negative impact on service levels and responses that the loss of District firefighters and equipment would present.
  - h. Christine Wear. Addressed concerns about ambulance billing and service levels, stating her belief that the District’s goal should be the fastest response time possible as being the best interests for the community.
  - i. Brittany Davis. Offered that she had had to contact 911 last week and District personnel responded in 1½ minutes, questioning whether that same level of response could be maintained under the revised service proposal.
6. Consideration and Approval of District’s Annual Financial Report. Treasurer Bryan stated the report was to be filed in October and was not yet finalized. Consensus of the Board to table this item to the next meeting.
7. Attorney’s Report. Attorney O’Connor had no significant updates to report.
8. Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Bryan reviewed the District’s financial position as of July 31, 2018 is as follows:

LF Bank and Trust – Capital	\$ 36,403.66
LF Bank and Trust – Checking	\$270,437.97
LF Bank and Trust – Reserve	\$274,132.88
Petty Cash	<u>\$ 29.05</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$581,003.66</b>

Treasurer Bryan reviewed the profit & loss/budget tracking report now that the Board had approved the BY2018-2019 Budget and Appropriations Ordinance.

No further discussion. Trustee Grum made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Trustee Snoblin seconded the motion which passed on a roll call vote: 3 Aye (Grum, Rogers, Snoblin), 0 Nay. The motion passed.

9. Approval of Outstanding Invoices. Treasurer Bryan reviewed the list of outstanding invoices for the Trustees, with limited discussion.

Motion by Trustee Snoblin, second by Trustee Grum to approve payment of outstanding invoices in the amount of \$31,028.18. No further discussion was requested. The Motion passed on a roll call vote: 3 Aye (Grum, Rogers, Snoblin), 0 Nay. The motion passed.

10. Libertyville-Lake Forest Revised Proposals.

- a. Discussed during the Chiefs' Report [preceding item #4].
- b. President Rogers reviewed highlights for the intended Special Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 to be held in the Stuart Room of the Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, IL. Consensus of the Board to hold the Special meeting as announced.
- c. President Rogers invited all present to attend the special meeting, and to ask the same questions and share the same observations with the Libertyville – Lake Forest representatives who will be present. President Rogers suggested attendees email the questions for Libertyville – Lake Forest to the District's Chiefs, who in turn could forward the questions to Libertyville – Lake Forest to enable time to research a response.
- d. Trustee Snoblin expressed concern about independent analysis of the service proposals.
  - i. Trustee Snoblin noted the external review and written assessment of the initial service proposals by the Attorneys.
  - ii. Trustee Snoblin suggested that an independent review of the service proposals was essential prior to District action on commitment on any variation of service proposal plan [retained status quo, engage Libertyville-Lake Forest, engage Lake Bluff] in light of the fact that public safety and District legal obligations were involved.
  - iii. General discussion ensued.

11. Consider Special Board Meeting for August 21, 2018. Included as part of discussion of item #10 preceding.

12. Non-Agenda Items. Chief Harlow suggested he could research independent fire service consultants to perform a service response comparison analysis.

13. Nominations/Resignations/Terminations of Members of the Knollwood Fire Department. Nothing to report.

14. Adjournment. Trustee Grum made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. which was seconded by Trustee Snoblin. The Motion was approved by a voice vote: 3 Aye (Grum, Rogers, Snoblin), 0 Nay. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian J. O'Connor  
District Attorney

Approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2018

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Dan Rogers, Board President

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Robert Grum, Board Secretary