



## Fox River & Countryside Fire/Rescue District

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### MINUTES

Monthly Board Meeting

Monday, April 19, 2021 @ 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order – President Handley called the monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fox River & Countryside Fire Rescue District to order at 7:05 PM. Public access was provided by Gotomeeting Video Conferencing.
  - a. Roll Call  
Present: 5 Trustees – Handley, Dunham, Karr, LeBlanc, Wegman  
Also Present: Fire Chief John Nixon, Assist Fire Chief Bert Lancaster, Attorney Kenneth Shepro, Brad O’Sullivan with Gov. Accounting LLC, Tracy Dunklau Administrative Assistant, members of the public.
  - b. Pledge of Allegiance: President Handley led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
  - c. President Handley reviewed rules/etiquette of participating via video conferencing. Fire Chief John Nixon is present at Station 1 pursuant to Governor Pritzker’s Emergency Order.
2. Public Comment: None
3. Reports:
  - a. Financial Report – Brad O’Sullivan with Gov. Accounting, LLC provided the Financial Report ending March 31, 2021.
  - b. Chief’s Report – Chief Nixon presented the March 2021 detail report. Overlapping calls were up to 22%, staffing continues to be the biggest concern.
  - c. Assistant Chief’s Report – Assistant Chief Bert Lancaster reported TRAKSTAR training has begun, MABAS Box cards have been sent to participating fire departments for review and should begin implementation May 1<sup>st</sup>. Fire training will begin at the Little Home Church and Horse Management training was held with Elburn, Pingree Grove and Hampshire
  - d. Attorney’s Report – Attorney Shepro reported on the Consolidated Election. Certificates of Election will be issued this week and the newly elected trustees will take office at the May meeting. Shepro continues working with the counties regarding the new grant money as it becomes available and monitoring legislation.
  - e. President’s Report – President Handley confirmed there will be no live fire training at the Little Home Church.
  - f. Trustee Reports – Trustee LeBlanc coordinating the New Trustee training program for the incoming Trustees.
4. Consent Agenda  
A motion was made by Trustee Wegman and seconded by Trustee Dunham to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.  
On roll call the vote was:  
Yes: 5 Handley, Dunham, Karr, LeBlanc, Wegman  
**The Motion Carried**

5. Old Business (for discussion and/or action)

- a. Consideration of hiring a consultant for comprehensive District overview – The Chief reported that at the direction of the Board, he has requested the consultants provide additional information and he will have the information at the May meeting. Attorney Shepro pointed out that while the consultants would be considered as “professional services” and therefore exempt from competitive bidding, there still needed to be a more formal competitive selection process before a final decision is made. Trustee Wegman asked to have the full cost of the consultant fees be corrected and included in the FY 2022 budget.
- b. Approval of CARES Act funds disbursement designated for personnel payroll – Trustee Wegman noted that disbursement is not tied to CARES Act funds and will be listed as Personnel Bonus.

A Motion was made by Trustee Karr and seconded by Trustee Wegman to approve the personnel bonus disbursement.

On roll call the vote was:

Yes: 5 Handley, Karr, LeBlanc, Wegman      Abstain: 1 Dunham      No: 0

**The Motion Carried**

- c. Purchase of Radios – KaneComm Communications Project. The Chief updated the Board the radios should be functional in 45 days.
- d. Update on District Debt Restructure – Moved to the May meeting
- e. Update on District Personnel Review procedure and policy – Chief Nixon will present the draft review prior to the May meeting.

6. New Business (for discussion and/or action)

- a. FY 2022 Budget – Discussion ensued
- b. Trustee Stipends –

A motion was made by Trustee Dunham and seconded by Trustee Wegman to approve Trustee Stipends to be paid in May for the FY 2021

On roll call the vote was:

Yes: 5 Handley, Dunham, Karr, LeBlanc, Wegman      No: 0      Absent: 0

**The Motion Carried**

- c. Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes – Attorney Shepro recommended there was no need to adjourn to closed session for approval of the 11/05/2020 closed session minutes or semi-annual review of closed session minutes.

The closed session minutes up for semi-annual review are as follows: 4/16/07, 3/26/12, 3/18/19, 5/20/19, 6/17/20, 1/21/2020, 2/17/2020, 4/20/20, 5/18/20, 6/15/20, 6/22/20, 7/27/20, 8/17/20, 10/6/20, 7/20/20, 10/19/20, 11/5/20. Trustee Karr confirmed to the Board he and Attorney Shepro reviewed the listed closed session minutes and recommended to approve the 11/5/20 closed session minutes and all listed closed session minutes should remain closed as a need for confidentiality existed.

A motion was made by Trustee LeBlanc and seconded by Trustee Dunham to approve Trustee Karr’s recommendation.

On roll call the vote was:

Yes: 5 Handley, Dunham, Karr, LeBlanc, Wegman      No: 0      Absent: 0

**The Motion Carried**

7. Closed Session – None

8. Adjournment: A motion was made by Trustee Dunham and seconded by Trustee Wegman to adjourn the Monthly Board Meeting at 8:31 PM.  
On voice vote: All AYES were heard. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Tracy Dunklau, Administration Assistant

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John Karr, Secretary