

Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District  
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2025

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
DARIEN-WOODRIDGE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District was held at the Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District Station 89, 7550 Lyman Ave., Darien, Illinois on April 16, 2025.

Board Members:

Mr. James Palatine, President	Fire Chief Jimmy Lahanis
Ms. Kathy Trapp, Treasurer	Deputy Fire Chief Jamie Tunk
Ms. Mary Elizabeth Brownson, Secretary	Attorney Joe Nichelle
Mr. Brian Chaplin, Trustee	Christine Hardy, Recording Secretary
Mr. Timothy Waz, Trustee	

Visitors:

Fire Commissioner Ed Cryer, Fire Commissioner Dominic Marsiglio, James Howard, Governmental Accounting and Recording Secretary Christine Hardy.

At 6:30 p.m. Trustee Palatine called the regular meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Roll call: Trustee James Palatine present, Trustee Kathy Trapp present, Trustee Mary Brownson present, Trustee Brian Chaplin present and Trustee Timothy Waz present. It was determined that a quorum was present.

**Reading of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting held March 19, 2025

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the March 19, 2025 regular meeting and approve and release them as written. Trustee Waz so moved. Trustee Brownson seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Chaplain, aye; Trustee Waz, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Mr. James Howard, Governmental Accounting, Inc. read the Treasurer's Financial Report for the 10 Month(s) Ended March 31, 2025 – Fiscal Year 25 which included vendors paid report and payroll. Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as written. Trustee Brownson so moved. Trustee Chaplin seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Chaplin, aye; Trustee Waz, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve disbursements for a total of \$562,813.36. Trustee Brownson so moved. Trustee Chaplin seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Chaplin, aye; Trustee Waz, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

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Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2025

**Attorney Report:**

Attorney Nichele advised the budget/levy ordinance schedule will be provided via email. The budget/levy approval process has been moved up one month to allow for adequate approval time.

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

- a) Probationary New Hire Swear In
  - Fire Commissioner Ed Cryer swore in Kyle Walsh as probationary firefighter/paramedic.
- b) Recognition of Successful Probationary Period Completion.
  - Fire Chief Lahanis recognized firefighter/paramedic Collin Childs for successfully completing the one year probationary period as a Darien-Woodridge Fire District member.

**Correspondence:**

Fire Chief Lahanis advised the following correspondence was received.

- Thank you note received from Boy Scout Troop Pack 3036 expressing appreciation for a recent station tour.
- Thank you received from residents the family of Barbara Bertensahaw expressing appreciation for emergency response services provided on March 7, 2025.

**Chief Administrator's Report:**

Overview provided by Chief/Administrator Lahanis.

- Chief Lahanis and Deputy Chief Tunk will be attending the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA) conference in Peoria, May 13-15.
- The Village of Woodridge and City of Darien are exploring a tax increment financing (TIF) district in the Chestnut Court shopping center at 75<sup>th</sup> and Lemont roads.
- District insurance renewals have been received and indicate an approximate 21% premium increase. Tony Evans, Horton Group, will provide an overview at the May meeting.
- The Strategic Planning Committee met for two days with ESCI facilitators. They will compile goals and objectives and prepare a final draft for review.
- Budget preparation is now underway. A draft budget presentation is planned for May.

**Deputy Chief's Report:**

Deputy Chief Tunk provided an overview of department responses and activities.

- Staff submitted and is awaiting grant funding request determinations.

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**Board of Fire Commissioners Report:**

Commissioner Cryer advised the Battalion Chief testing process is currently underway. Results will be shared upon completion. BC Tunk added that ascertained merit and seniority points have been posted. The Chiefs points will be posted by the end of April.

**Public Comment:**

No Public Comment.

**Closed Session:**

No Closed Session.

**Adjourn:**

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Palatine requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Waz so moved. Trustee Chaplin seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Chaplin, aye; Trustee Waz, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

*Mary Elizabeth Brownson*  
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Mary Elizabeth Brownson, Secretary