

**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 October 15, 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 Nichele
Mr. Timothy Waz, Trustee	Christine Hardy, Recording Secretary
Ms. Krystal Roberts, Trustee	

**Visitors:**

Fire Commissioner Ed Cryer; 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 Timothy Waz present and Trustee Krystal Roberts present. It was determined that a quorum was present.

**Reading of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting held September 17, 2025

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the September 17, 2025 regular meeting and approve and release them as written. Trustee Brownson so moved. Trustee Waz seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye; Trustee Roberts, abstain. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstain. Approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Mr. James Howard, Governmental Accounting, Inc. read the Treasurer's Financial Report for the 4 Month(s) Ended September 30, 2025 – Fiscal Year 26 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 Trapp seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye; Trustee Roberts, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve disbursements for a total of \$1,416,949.12. Trustee Brownson so moved. Trustee Trapp seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye; Trustee Roberts, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

**Attorney Report:**

Attorney Nichele advised he had nothing to report.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Approval of Third Party Custodian Agreement (Collateralized Municipal Deposits) BMO Bank N.A. and The Bank of New York Mellon.

- Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve the Third Party Custodian Agreement (Collateralized Municipal Deposits) BMO Bank N.A. and The Bank of New York Mellon. Trustee Brownson so moved. Trustee Trapp seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye; Trustee Roberts, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.
- Attorney Nichele advised the agreement is required per Illinois State Statue due to FDIC threshold of \$250,000. The Bank of New York Mellon will provide additional protection and hold securities and bonds.

**Correspondence:**

Trustee Waz shared an event flyer hosted by the Conservation Foundation on Friday, October 17, 2025 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

**Chief Administrator's Report:**

Chief Lahanis provided an overview of department activities.

- The October 11<sup>th</sup> annual Fire Prevention Week Open House was a great success with many in attendance. Thanks to FF/PM LaFemina and staff for organizing, preparing for and hosting a great event. Free hot dogs, popcorn and sweets were included in this year's event and were a huge hit with all attendees.
- Overtime hours have increased as one member is out on work comp, two members are out with off duty injuries, and one member is currently on light duty due to a pregnancy.
- Health insurance renewal meeting with One Digital is scheduled for October 21<sup>st</sup>. Staff has heard through other agencies that 2026 premiums are substantially higher than prior years. Additional information will be provided as available.
- As discussion follow up, the 2020 \$8.0 million bond issue had an anticipated completion date of 2023 but included fluid dates due to circumstances out of the district's control. Most of the funds have been expended with the remaining funds to be expended by FY 25/26 end.

**Deputy Chief's Report:**

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

- A grant was awarded in the amount of \$66,482 towards the \$75,000 Station 89 and Station 90 exhaust system replacements. The existing systems are approximately 20 years old. Staff will present additional information at the November meeting.

**Board of Fire Commissioners Report:**

Commissioner Cryer advised the Board of Fire Commissioners are interviewing four candidates next week. The interview process consists of new questions, and a one-hour interview time slot will be scheduled for each candidate. The initial list included 15 candidates, four candidates have been removed due to accepting other opportunities or lack of response. Additional updates will be provided at the November meeting.

**Public Comment:**

No Public Comment.

**Closed Session:**

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to recess to Closed Session to discuss pending litigation. Trustee Brownson so moved. Trustee Roberts seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye; Trustee Roberts, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

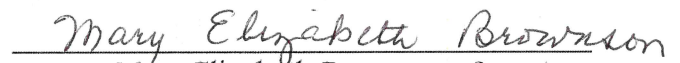
The regular meeting recessed at 6:58 p.m.

The regular meeting was reconvened at 7:11 p.m. Roll call: Trustee Palatine present, Trustee Trapp present, Trustee Brownson present, Trustee Waz present, Trustee Roberts present. It was determined that a quorum was present.

**Adjourn:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

  
Mary Elizabeth Brownson, Secretary