

**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 May 20, 2026.

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:

Attorney Joe Nichele, Momkus LLP; Fire Commissioner Ed Cryer; Fire Commissioner Dominic Marsiglio; Sam Matranga, Governmental Accounting (virtually); Tony Evans, Marsh McClennan Agency; Debbie Szyszka, Marsh McClennan Agency 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 absent. It was determined that a quorum was present.

Reading of Minutes:

Regular Meeting held April 15, 2026

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the April 15, 2026 regular meeting and approve and release them as written. Trustee Waz so moved. Trustee Brownson seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, abstain; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye. 3 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstain. Approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Sam Matranga, Governmental Accounting, Inc. read the Treasurer's Financial Report for the 11 Month(s) Ended April 30, 2026 – 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. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve disbursements for a total of \$684,624.93. Trustee Waz so moved. Trustee Brownson seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Attorney Report:

Attorney Joe Nichele was present and advised he will be undertaking the defense pertaining to recent FOIA litigation. Several other municipalities and government agencies were included in the pending litigation.

He further advised correspondence pertaining to the budget/levy deadlines as well as elections will be sent next week.

Chief Administrator's Report:

Chief Lahanis provided an overview of department activities.

Village of Woodridge TIF District Update:

- An update was provided on the planned Village of Woodridge TIF district. The Intergovernmental Agreement is scheduled for Village of Woodridge approval on Thursday, May 21st. The Village of Woodridge is also considering entering into a memorandum of agreement (MOU) with a potential developer for redevelopment of the Zigfield Troy Golf Course. Prior to submitting the Pension IGA, the District will review and approve the proposed language.

Draft Budget Review:

- A draft seven-month transition budget will be presented for review. The District will transition to a calendar year budget beginning January 1, 2027.

Surplus Equipment:

- The Foreign Fire Insurance Board (FFIB) approved the purchase of battery-operated hydraulic equipment. To make room for the new equipment, staff is requesting to surplus and donate the existing equipment to a department in need.

Insurance Renewal Presentation:

- The annual insurance proposals will be presented by Tony Evans, Marsh McLennan Agency. Alternative workman compensation deductible options will be discussed.

Additional Activities:

- The status of on duty/off duty employee leaves was provided.
- The current probationary member continues to excel.

Deputy Chief's Report:

Deputy Chief Tunk provided an overview of department activities.

- A review of emergency calls as of April 30th are 1,209, this represents a 59-call decrease from the same time the previous year.

Old Business:

No old business for discussion.

New Business:

Recognition of Successful Probationary Period Completion

- Fire Chief Lahanis recognized firefighter/paramedic Kyle Walsh for successfully completing the one-year probationary period as a Darien-Woodridge Fire District member.

Presentation by Tony Evans regarding insurance renewal, and possible action by Board to approve an election to have a deductible on the worker's compensation policy

- Tony Evans and Debbie Szyszka, Marsh McClennan Agency, were present at the meeting to review the insurance renewal documents. Tony Evans presented a Workman's Compensation renewal option which included deductibles resulting in a decreased annual premium. Discussion followed pertaining to the presented options. After discussion, President Palatine requested additional time to review documents prior to taking formal action. Direction was given to schedule a Special Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, May 27th at 9:00 a.m.

Draft 2026 Budget Review

- Chief Lahanis provided a draft 2026 Budget for review. He said several line items were intentionally higher to account for unforeseen needs during the shortened fiscal year. The documented surplus is mainly related to the shortened fiscal year. The calendar year budget cycle will begin on January 1, 2027.

Consideration and approval of Employment Agreement between the District and Chief Administrator for the term June 1, 2026 and May 31, 2029

- Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve the Employment Agreement between the District and Chief Administrator for the term June 1, 2026 and May 31, 2029. Trustee Trapp so moved. Trustee Brownson seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Consideration and approval of Employment Agreement between the District and Deputy Chief Administrator for the term June 1, 2026 and May 31, 2029

- Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve the Employment Agreement between the District and Deputy Chief Administrator for the term June 1, 2026 and May 31, 2029. Trustee Waz so moved. Trustee Brownson seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Presentation of Resolution 26-R-02 Authorizing the Disposition of Property Owned by the Darien Woodridge Fire Protection District and No Longer Needed for the District's Purpose

- Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve Resolution 26-R-02 Authorizing the Disposition of Property Owned by the Darien Woodridge Fire Protection District and No Longer Needed for the District's Purpose. Trustee Brownson so moved. Trustee Trapp seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Consideration of a draft Intergovernmental Agreement between Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District, Lisle Woodridge Fire Protection District and the Village of Woodridge, and possible action to approve the draft to send to the Village for its consideration

- Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve Intergovernmental Agreement between Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District, Lisle Woodridge Fire Protection District and the Village of Woodridge. Trustee Waz so moved. Trustee Trapp seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Correspondence:

Chief Lahanis shared a thank you letter from Chief Maggos, LaGrange Park Fire Department expressing appreciation for the potential water rescue/recovery on April 22nd. A thank you card was received from Du-Comm in appreciation for providing meals in recognition of National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Board of Fire Commissioners Report:

Commissioner Cryer advised the Board of Fire Commissioners would be meeting on Thursday, May 21st at 2:00 p.m.

President Palatine said Commissioner Marsiglio indicated he would not be seeking another term as Fire Commissioner after it expires on June 30, 2026. The Board thanked Commissioner Marsiglio for his hard work and dedication to the district. President Palatine said any new commissioner suggestions should be forwarded for consideration.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2026

Closed Session:

No closed session was held.

Adjourn:

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Palatine requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Waz so moved. Trustee Brownson seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Mary Elizabeth Brownson
Mary Elizabeth Brownson, Secretary