

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE ROCHESTER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

On the eleventh day of January, 2023, the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Rochester Fire Protection District was held at 7:00 p.m., pursuant to notice, 700 East Main Street, Rochester, Illinois. In attendance were the Trustees of the District: Trustee Fairchild, Trustee McBride, Trustee Spurgeon and Trustee Johnson. The Chief, John Archer, was also present as were four members of the Department and nine members of the Public.

The first order of business was the taking of the roll call. All Trustees present and a quorum was established.

The next item of business was Review and Approval of Minutes from December 14, 2022, and Special Meeting from December 28, 2022. A motion to approve and accept the December 14, 2022, the minutes by Trustee Spurgeon and seconded by Trustee Johnson. Polled the Board and all in favor. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to combine both the open and closed portions of the December 28, 2022, special meeting minutes for approval and acceptance at a later date.

The next item of business was the Treasurer's Report. As per direction from the last meeting, two CD's, totaling \$100,000.00. The two CD's were deposited in the American Bank of Missouri for a term of two years at an interest rate of 3.51%. Motion to accept the treasurer's report by Trustee Spurgeon and seconded by Trustee Johnson. Polled the Board and all in favor.

The next item of business was the Chief's Report.

December 15 — RFPD assisted Rochester PD ELF shopping for families and kids for Christmas holiday.

December 17 - RFPD assisted with Make a Wish Foundation Parade in Auburn for June Peden.

December 19 — Annual RFPD Training Schedule was published and made available to all mutual aid departments and local agencies.

December 24 — RFPD assisted Rochester Schools with fire sprinkler system breaks at two schools due to frozen piping.

December 24 — RFPD disposed of three out of service generators to Andrew Polley in lieu of going to the dumpster or scrap. A donation will be forthcoming.

December 31 — RFPD responded to 598 incidents in 2022.

January 6 — New outdoor warning siren project was completed and in service.

January 9 — RFPD annual awards dinner was held.

December Calls:

- 36 EMS
- 15 Fire
- 4 Training
- 3 Special Duty

Trustee Fairchild asked the Chief if he could better describe the three generators that had been disposed of. Chief Archer stated that they were Honda generators but was not sure of the model numbers or wattages. He also stated that they were out of service and in a non running condition. Trustee Johnson commended the Chief and members for their diligence in responding to almost two calls per day average last year. Motion to accept the Chief's report by Trustee Spurgeon and seconded by Trustee Johnson. Polled the Board and all in favor.

The next item of business was Old Business.

1. Discussion/Action regarding the appointment of either David L. Taft or Richard B. Churchill to the vacant RFPD Trustee position, in accordance with 70 ILCS 705/5, occasioned by the resignation of Karen Ritterbusch. After a review of the Fire Protection District Act that pertains to appointments to an elected Fire Protection District Board, President McBride afforded an opportunity for each Trustee to state their opinions and discuss their differences. President McBride made a motion to appoint Richard B. Churchill to the vacant Trustee position and seconded by Trustee Johnson. Polled the Board: Trustee Johnson...YES; Trustee Spurgeon...NO; Trustee McBride...YES; Trustee Fairchild...NO. Motioned failed. Motion by Trustee Johnson to appoint David L. Taft to the vacant Trustee position and seconded by Trustee McBride. Polled the Board: Trustee Johnson...YES; Trustee Spurgeon...NO; Trustee McBride...YES; Trustee Fairchild...NO. Motion failed.

The next item of business was New Business.

1. Approval/Authorization of Purchases. Motion to approve by Trustee Spurgeon and seconded by Trustee Johnson. Polled the Board and all in favor.

2. Discussion/Approval of 2021—2022 Treasurer's Report. Motion to approve by Trustee Johnson and seconded by Trustee Spurgeon. Polled the Board and all in favor.

The next item of business was Member or Public Comment. Mrs. Fairchild stated/demanded for an apology from President McBride for the head butting incident involving her and her iPad at the December 14, 2022, regular Board meeting. President McBride stated that he had not touched Mrs.

Fairchild. Mrs. Fairchild then stated "her iPad". President McBride stated "if it will make you feel any better, I apologize". The member of the public then stated "thank you". President McBride then stated that if everyone were more polite, it would be beneficial. Another member of the public asked about the Robert's Rules of Order being on a four member Board, the President only votes to break a tie. Trustee Johnson stated that is not State Law. Darin Whitten, another member of the public, asked why he was not considered for the appointment tonight. President McBride stated that at the closed meeting when you were considered, that the Board was deadlocked on the decision and that is why you were no longer considered. Mr. Whitten went on to state that it is not for one or two people on the Board to make the decisions, it should be the whole Board and that "you guys need to put any personal feelings aside and just do right by the taxpayers". Mr. Whitten went on to disparage the Board's leadership whereupon a heated exchange between several individuals occurred and after order was restored, the public/member comments resumed. Another public member, Bob Chiles, in his opinion, addressed the Board in regards to Trustee Spurgeon and Trustee Fairchild, a thank you to them for standing up for the Constitution. "Thank you gentlemen". Another member of the public asked about obtaining meeting minutes. President McBride and Trustee Fairchild both informed her that they could help her with her request.

The next item of business was Announcements. The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. A motion for adjournment by Trustee Spurgeon and seconded by Trustee Johnson. Polled the Board and all in favor.

There being no further, or other, business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION:

A Public member stated that "she expects/demands an apology from Trustee McBride for 'head butting' her iPad at the December 14, 2022, regular meeting. Trustee McBride stated "I did not 'head butt' you". The member then responds "I said the iPad". Trustee McBride then stated "I may have touched the iPad". Then Trustee McBride stated "I want an apology for sticking it in my face". Then the member stated "that's not what happened". Then Trustee McBride stated "I believe it did". Then Trustee McBride went on to say "If it will make you feel better, I'm sorry". The member then stated "Thank you".

Secretary

APPROVED:

Being all of the Trustees of the
Rochester Fire Protection District