

BRAIDWOOD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Minutes of Meeting

January 16, 2024

A meeting of the Trustees of the Braidwood Fire Protection District was held on January 16, 2024, at the Braidwood Fire Station located at 275 W. Main St. in the city of Braidwood, Illinois at 9:00 A.M.

Trustee Mike Dillon, acting as Chairman, called the meeting to order. Trustee Charlie Boyd, acted as Secretary of the meeting and reported that a quorum was present.

The following Trustees were present:

Charlie Boyd

Bill Ritze

Mike Dillon

Also, present were Deputy Chief Mike Pemble, Attorney John Motylinski, Captain Mike Tenerelli, Administrative Assistant Teri Post and Executive Assistant Kristin Wexell.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the District Board Meeting minutes from the meeting held December 19, 2023, as distributed. Charlie Boyd made a motion that the minutes be approved as is, the motion was seconded by Bill Ritze. The Chairman conducted a vote and announced that the motion unanimously passed.

The Treasurer's Report shows an account beginning balance of \$1,252,002.39, ten deposit(s) totaling \$68,421.03 and Sixty-two withdrawals totaling \$311,419.98, the ending account balance on November 30, 2023, is \$1,065,857.91.39. Mike Dillon moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Charlie Boyd seconded the motion. The Chairman conducted a vote and announced that the motion unanimously passed.

Charlie Boyd presented the bills to be paid for a total of \$311,419.98 (see attached list of bills presented payment). Charlie Boyd moved that the bills be paid, as presented. Bill Ritze seconded the motion. The Chairman conducted a vote and announced that the motion unanimously passed.

Public Comment:

None

Communications:

- IAFFPD – Thank you letter for the donation
- NiGas – newsletter
- VFIS – newsletter
- NIFSAB – newsletter
- IPPFA – newsletter for Pension Board
- Will County Certificate of Exempt Property
- Braceville FPD – Thank you letter for assistance on MVA's on I-55
- Shabbona – Notice for membership dues

Chief's Report:

Chief Jude will distribute his report upon his return from the Chief Conference. Deputy Chief Mike Pemble gave a verbal report, the items discussed are as follows:

- The call volume for 2023 was 1901. October had the highest number of calls at 184. The lowest call volume was in March, at 139. Crews responded to an average of 5 calls per day. 62% of all calls were EMS and 38% of the calls were fire related.
- There were a few calls of significance, one was a cardiac arrest, which was a save. We responded to 3 structure fires (in Channahon, Wilmington, and Dwight). Lastly, there were several accidents on I-55 in Braceville's fire district, which Braidwood was called and responded to with an engine, ambulance, and Command Officer.
- Wilmington FPD has informed DC Pemble that the current river conditions are threatening flooding and evacuation despite the subzero temperatures. Braidwood anticipates being called upon to assist Wilmington if a flood event occurs.
- The residents of Custer Park FPD were successful in submitting appropriate documentation for the dissolution of Custer Park FPD and annexing into Braidwood FPD's district.

Old Business

- A. Faircom – (energy legislation, Exelon Agreement) – No update
- B. Future Training Opportunities –
 - IAFFPD will host virtual CTE training on January 20, 2024, and two in-person CTE trainings; March 23, 2024, at IFSI in Champaign and April 20, 2024, in Cherry Valley
 - IAFFPD will host a Winter Conference February 16 & 17 in O'Fallon
 - IAFFPD and IFCA will co-host the Illinois Fire Service Conference in Peoria on September 15 – 18, 2024
 - VCOC conference is scheduled for January 19 & 20th at the Paradise in East Peoria
Charlie Boyd moved to approve the District to cover the travel expenses, lodging and registrations for Bill Ritze and Charlie Boyd to attend the IAFFPD CTE training in Champaign on March 23, 2024. Mike Dillon seconded the motion. The Chairman conducted a voice vote and announced that the motion unanimously passed.
- C. ATT Antennae Tower Project update and lease management update – No update at this time.
- D. 2412 Tanker/Engine Committee Update – Mike Tenerelli reported that the Engine Committee met on January 12, 2024, to review the bids that have been received. The Committee recommends accepting the bid received by Alexis, as their bid met the most specification requirements of three bids that were submitted.
- E. Review Annual Calendar and Checklist Items –
 - Charlie Boyd reported that the Certificate of Property Exemption is due before January 31, 2024.
 - The OSHA 300A for 2023 is required to be posted no later than February 1st, 2024.
 - Board is current on Fire District annual requirements.

Closed Meeting: 5 ICLS 120/2 Section 2 © (11) Discussion of anticipated litigation.

Mike Dillon moved to go into closed session for the discussion of anticipated litigation. Charlie Boyd seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and Chairman declared that the motion passed with

3 ayes (Boyd, Dillon & Ritze), 0 nays and 0 absent. The Secretary stated the time of 9:38 a.m. at the start of closed session. After the Board finished closed session discussion, Bill Ritze moved to return to the Open Meeting, seconded by Mike Dillon. The Chairman conducted a vote and announced that the motion unanimously passed, and the Board re-opened the meeting at 9:51 a.m.

New Business

1. Purchases requiring Board approval:
 - a. Alert-All – Pub Ed supplies quote for \$1,499.50. Deputy Chief Pemble explained that these items are to replenish some of the Pub Ed supplies that are running low and that this expense is within the Pub Ed budget.
 - b. BBSA Sponsorship – 1 boy team, and 1 girl team at \$350.00 each (total \$700.00)
Bill Ritze moved to approve the purchases as presented. Charlie Boyd seconded the motion. The Chairman conducted a voice vote and announced that the motion unanimously passed.
2. Discuss and possibly approve Tanker/Engine Committee recommendations for purchase – Mike Dillon moved to accept the Alexis bid for the replacement of Engine 2412, as recommended by the Engine Committee, with a purchase price not to exceed \$1,073,175.00. Bill Ritze seconded the motion. The Chairman conducted a voice vote and announced that the motion unanimously passed.
3. Discuss and possibly approve Salina/Custer Auto-Aid Agreement – Deputy Chief Pemble explained that Custer Park FPD had the same agreement in place prior to the start of Braidwood FPD providing emergency service to their District. This agreement ensures that Salina FPD will be dispatched and enroute to the scene on the far East side of the Custer Park Fire District with a BLS Engine, when they are available, as their station that is within 5 miles of properties in this area. The Board reviewed the IGA, and discussed, there were a few minor wording changes that the attorney will make and reissue for signature.
Mike Dillon moved to approve the Salina/Custer Auto-Aide Agreement – IGA # 2024-92, with the minor wording corrections suggested by Attorney Motylinski. Charlie seconded the motion. The Chairman conducted a voice vote and announced that the motion unanimously passed.
4. Discuss and possibly surplus miscellaneous portable and mobile radios that are no longer in use – Deputy Chief Pemble explained that there are a number of VHF portable and mobile radios that are not in use, and no longer compatible for BFPD operation. He is requesting the Board to consider surplusing those items.
Bill Ritze moved to surplus the portable and mobile radios that are no longer being used. Mike Dillon seconded the motion. The Chairman conducted a voice vote and announced that the motion unanimously passed.
5. Discuss and possibly approve policy amendments for full-time staffing – Deputy Chief Pemble reported that both Chief's had a discussion with the Full-time Firefighter/Paramedics at the time that they were notified that they have completed their probationary period. The Chief's had dialog with them about the holiday pay, days considered holidays for full-timers on shift, stipend pay and vacation roll over, as well as an oversight on their PPE allowance. DC Pemble is asking for the Board to consider the following recommendations and changes to the current Policy 5A.07A:
 - Extend the ACO stipend into the 2nd year for the current Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedics, to be prorated should they promote into a Lieutenant position within the year.
 - To allow Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedics to roll over one vacation day (24 hours) into the next year.

- Change/increase the holidays for the Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedics to match the current holiday schedule for the Part-Time employees.
- Increase the Full-Timer Firefighter/Paramedics paid holiday pay to 96 hours, from 84 hours of holiday pay.
- Raise the PPE annual allowance for Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedics to \$300.00, to meet the PPE allowance that part-time employees receive.

Bill Ritze moved to accept the recommended changes to the Full-Time Firefighter Paramedic Policy, as suggested by Deputy Chief Pemble. Charlie Boyd seconded the motion. The Chairman conducted a voice vote and announced that the motion unanimously passed.

6. Discuss a possible IGA with Braceville FPD for ALS transport and sharing of billing revenue – Deputy Chief Pemble reported that Braceville FPD was notified that Morris FPD is no longer providing ALS intercepts for Braceville. Braceville FPD reached out to Braidwood FPD for assistance. Braidwood FPD is not agreeable to providing ALS intercepts, however Deputy Chief Pemble is requesting permission from the Board to allow him to continue discussions with Braceville FPD on working out a possible agreement to provide response to ALS ambulance calls to their District, what those response parameters would be and what the terms of the transport billing collections would look like. The Board gave DC Pemble approval to continue discussions to find agreeable terms, to assist them with their need.
7. The Chairman announced the District Board has no action on discussion items from the Closed Meeting.
8. The District Board discussed the next steps in preparation, should the residents of Custer Park FPD pass the vote to dissolve the Custer Fire District, which will appear on the election ballot on March 19, 2024.
9. Deputy Chief Pemble reported that a resident made an inquiry via social media related to the November 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes, which referenced the Braidwood Chamber of Commerce hosting a Christmas Event. That was a misstatement, as Braidwood Fire Protection District is aware that the Chamber does not exist and that the City of Braidwood now hosts said event.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned. The next regular scheduled Fire District Board Meeting will be Tuesday, February 20, 2024.