



Carol Stream Fire Protection District Board of Trustees

**William Natick, President
Richard Fisher, Secretary
Karl Langhammer, Treasurer
James Panopoulos, Trustee
Brian Jordan, Trustee**

CAROL STREAM FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES June 7, 2021

President William Natick called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll call was taken. Present: Trustee Brian Jordan, Trustee James Panopoulos, Trustee Karl Langhammer, President William Natick, Chief Robert Schultz, Deputy Chief Tom Nash, Battalion Chief Dave Reid and Attorney Joe Miller. Trustee Richard Fisher was absent.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Trustee Langhammer motioned to approve the open meeting minutes from May 10, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Panopoulos, four ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Approval of Travel Expenses

N/A

Approval of Payment of Bills

Trustee Langhammer motioned to approve the payment of bills from May 24, 2021, in the amount of \$519,440.55. Seconded by Trustee Panopoulos, four ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Trustee Jordan motioned to approve the payment of bills from May 29, 2021, in the amount of \$48,812.42. Seconded by Trustee Panopoulos, four ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Reports

Brad O'Sullivan presented the Board with the Treasurer's Report for month ending April 2021.

Trustee Langhammer motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month ending April 2021. Seconded by Trustee Jordan, four ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Advance Notice of Intent to Purchase

Image Trend Fire Reporting Software

The reporting system, FIREHOUSE is being bought out by a new company and will transition over in December 2021 and will only run-on Silverlight/Internet Explorer which Microsoft 10 will not support. Chief Schultz is asking that the District switch to a new software system, Image Trend. This is an easy platform to complete all fire reports and inspection reports. The staff is familiar with this software as it as the same software that is used for EMS reports.

Trustee Jordan motioned to approve the advance purchase of Image Trend Fire Reporting Software, not to exceed the amount of \$13,605.00. Seconded by Trustee Panopoulos, four ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Old Business

N/A

New Business

2021 Insurance Renewal

The Districts health renewal is due August 1, 2021. Gary Kosnoff from One Digital reached out to healthcare providers to provide us with renewal rates from Blue Cross Blue Shield, our current provider, and United Healthcare. Chief Schultz noted that we have seen higher premium costs the last few years and this year is the same. The renewal offer from BCBS came in at a 15.70% increase which was negotiated down by Gary. The District is currently budgeted in 2021/22 for a 15% increase. The increase was directly related to some significant claims this past year. The United Healthcare offer is a -3.5% decrease and they would offer us a lock of 8.9% in 2022. The total cost for the District annually for BCBS would be \$101,769.08 and for United Healthcare it would be \$84,389.11.

Chief Schultz noted that Gary has had some clients go back to BCBS after being on United Healthcare which then the District would be considered a new customer and would lose the grandfathered plans. The good thing is that both plans are pretty comparable. The bad is what happens if we switch to United Healthcare and then go back to BCBS – is normal to hop plans. I know that we are talking about a lot of money here.

Chief Schultz mentioned that he believes most of these existing claims are going to go away but he knows that we still have no idea what next years renewal will bring. Trustee Jordan noted that if the District decides to with United Healthcare and then go back to BCBS it will be for a rate reason, not a service reason.

Trustee Panopoulos noted that overall United Healthcare is cheaper with premiums, this is a no brainer to switch plans.

Ben stated that the Local recognizes that insurance costs are increasing. We have been really blessed with BCBS. We know the ins and outs of it and recognize the benefits. He is comfortable speaking on behalf of everyone, that they would like to stay with BCBS. They have heard good and bad regarding United Healthcare, the ease of use is a negative as well as some prescriptions not being covered.

Battalion Chief Reid stated that with changing insurance companies in years past, we typically lose certain benefits. We know that it's a cost, but we know our plan. We have done this before – left and then came back. We get great service, and everything works very well. If we leave this plan, the plan is gone.

Chief Schultz stated that historically we have had increased each year and we greatly appreciate you giving it to us each year. We are comparing a reputable company and comparable plans.

Trustee Jordan stated that he doesn't feel like we are downgrading. He really feels like United Healthcare is going to provide and take care of us. He noted that he believes the District should switch. Trustee Panopoulos noted that we don't plan to keep switching plans but, in this case, we are going to a comparable plan.

Trustee Langhammer noted that he knows this is personal, but it is a lot of money for the District and stakeholders in the village. Tremendous amount of savings may give us great opportunity to reset. At this point, he believes that we take this leap of faith and that if it is not working – to let us know. The next year will tell us a lot.

Trustee Jordan motioned to authorize the 2021/2021 insurance renewal with United Healthcare. Seconded by Trustee Panopoulos, four ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Reports of Trustees, Chiefs, and Attorneys

Chief Schultz informed the Board that the BC written test will be tomorrow. List will be posted in July.

Chief Schultz updated the Board regarding the ISO audit, they have requested additional information from the District which DC Nash has provided to them. We should know more in July.

Chief Schultz noted that they received a verbal offer on the tower truck of \$40,000.00. The District would make \$36,000.00 and the other 10% would go to the listing service that it is listed through. They would need a written offer and then they would figure out transportation – the District would take care of taking off the markings in house. The Board is comfortable with that offer.

Deputy Chief Nash started that he met with a company regarding the concrete work, should have everything laid out in written from the architect by the 17th and then they will present to the Board.

Public Comments

N/A

There being no further reports or business to conduct at 8:11 p.m. Trustee Jordan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Trustee Langhammer, four ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Note: The next regular Carol Stream Fire Protection District Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Richard Kammes Fire Protection District Station 28, located on Kuhn Road in Carol Stream.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Fisher", written over a horizontal line.

Richard Fisher, Board Secretary