

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
The Board of Trustees
Of the Beecher Fire Protection District**

On 24 October 2024, the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Beecher Fire Protection District was held at 7:00PM pursuant to the notice at Fire Station in Beecher, Illinois.

**October 24, 2024
Order of Business**

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Roll Call: **Members Present:** B. Becker, M. Cook, L. Siefker and M. Waterman.

Members Absent: D. Kolosh

Also, Present: Chief Falaschetti, Assistant Chief McGannon and James Howard (via zoom).

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Trustee L. Siefker, seconded by Trustee B. Becker to approve the minutes from the September 26, 2024 regular meeting. Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, four ayes, one absent.

Treasurers Report: Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual report, Bank Reconciliation for checking account and Investment Reports for the month of September were distributed to trustees. A motion was made by Trustee M. Waterman, seconded by Trustee B. Becker to approve Treasurers report. Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, four ayes, one absent.

Approval of Bills: The bills for the month of October were reviewed and a motion was made to pay bills by Trustee M. Waterman, seconded by Trustee L. Siefker. Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, four ayes, one absent.

NON-Discussion Agenda

Chief's Report: Working with the solar farms to assistance the district with brush truck project (TPE Development, LLC has

agreed to donate \$100,000.00 and \$10,000.00 from [Indiana Ave and Western Ave] remaining \$20,000.00 will be received in 2025). Open House was well attended; hot dogs were donated by Peoria Packing in Grant Park. Lt Welsh lead crews during Fire Prevention Week and visited all grade levels, along with the Co-op Center, Learning Center and library. FEMA SAFER grant was denied officially. Grant updates, met with Biesterfeld farms to discuss district needs for agricultural rescue equipment (waiting to hear back), fuel system upgrade was completed, we now have access. Working with Air Methods, who manages Life Star and UCAN medical helicopters. Beecher Blessing distribution date is December 14. 2025 Board Up Service applications have been posted. MABAS 27 IFERN antenna was installed, working on updating bylaws and policies. Deployment to Florida. WILCO Fire Radio Group.

Deputy Chief's Report: Update on vehicle and equipment maintenance, total training firefighter training hours 7268, Budimir completed Structural Collapse Tech is now certified, DuBois completed Company Fire Officer Task book as now certified, Pochinskas completed Hazmat Tech and is certified and four candidates in the Fire Academy, two have passed their Mod.

Assistant Fire Chief: Update on mental health program. Chief and AC attended Senior Breakfast.

General Public: N/A

Discussion Agenda:

Committee Reports:

- A. Personnel** – Contract filled with seven members. Gold shift LT last day will be November 1st, and then we will go back to six contract employees.
- B. Public Relations** – Chief would like to start hosting coffee and conversation at the station in 2025.
- C. Communications** – Chief gave update.
- D. Village Liaison** – Chief is still working with village staff on the adoption of a more current fire code. Chief reviewed the list of recommended amendments to the 2021 International Fire Code that were submitted to the village.
Any townhome greater than three units, to have a 13d sprinkler system.

New construction commercial buildings with sprinkler system, a fire hydrant located within 100ft of fire department connection.

Consider including the verbiage of the fire district alarm-monitoring ordinance.

Consider the verbiage of the fire district Knox box ordinance.

Based on previous conversations, it was agreed upon that the Fire Protection District be named as the fire code official.

Stop work orders should be issued by the Village of Beecher

Section 903.2 Strike - add 5,000 square foot sprinkler requirement or otherwise required by code.

Section 907.2 All new commercial occupancies are required to have a fire alarm system

Adopt the following NFPA codes as reference material to help clarify requirements (the IFC and IBC often refer to them)

NFPA 13 installation of sprinkler systems

NFPA 14 standpipe and hose systems

NFPA 17 dry chemical extinguishing systems

NFPA 17A wet chemical extinguishing systems

NFPA 20 fire pump systems

NFPA 25 maintenance of water-based fire protection systems

NFPA 70 National Electrical Code

NFPA 72 national fire alarm code

NFPA 75 fire protection of information technology

NFPA 96 ventilation control and fire protection of commercial cooking systems

NFPA 855 stationary energy storage systems (battery facilities and solar facilities)

Consider adoption of 2021 International Existing Building Code - this will help with remodels and enforcement.

- E. Legal Update** – No report.
F. Pension Board – No report.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

A motion was made by Trustee B. Becker, seconded by Trustee L. Siefker to approve the purchase of a banner for light pole on Penfield Street for \$40 plus tax. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote, four ayes, one absent.

A motion was made by Trustee M. Waterman, seconded by Trustee B. Becker to approve the 2024 tax levy determination (4.99%). Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote, four ayes, one absent.

Scheduled Meetings/ Seminars: Chief, Assistant Chief McGannon and LT Welsh will attend Community Risk Reduction in Champaign November 1. December meeting will be on Wednesday, December 18, also schedule that day, pension board and Decennial Committee.

Trustee Comments: Brunch with Santa at the station will be on December 7.

Next Meeting Date/Time: November 21, 2024 at 7:00pm

Adjournment – A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06pm was made by Trustee B. Becker, seconded by Trustee L. Siefker, motion carried.

Recorded by
Angie Koehne