

GODFREY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

On April 23, 2018, the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Godfrey Fire Protection District was held at Fire Station No. 2, 1712 West Delmar, Godfrey, Illinois pursuant to the meeting schedule of the Board.

In attendance were Commissioners Sherman, Clemons, and Cox. District Trustees Ford, Rynders, and Hand were also present. The Fire Chief was present. Members of the public, members of the Fire Department, and legal counsel for the District were also present.

The Chair first called for public comments. There were no public comments.

The minutes of the meeting held on January 22, 2018 were presented and upon motion of Mr. Clemons, seconded by Mr. Sherman, and unanimously approved, the minutes were approved as presented.

The Chair next inquired of the Chief regarding the existence of any personnel matters. The Chief advised there were no personnel matters to be presented to the Board of Fire Commissioners at this time.

The Board next took up discussion regarding eligibility testing and scheduling. The Chief advised that he had circulated draft eligibility testing material for the summer months of 2018 based upon the expiration of the current eligibility list. There was a discussion regarding an amendment of the rules of the Board of Fire Commissioners regarding preference points to include a possible preference for residency. There was discussion regarding the requirement of paramedic licensure at the time of testing and/or hire by candidates. There followed discussion regarding the provision of ALS non-transport EMS by the District. The Chief noted that the District is currently operating under a wavier granted by the Illinois Department of Public Health based upon four personnel of the District having paramedic status. He noted that there is a possibility of retirements which would diminish this number of personnel and could require a return of the District to a basic life support operational level. There followed extensive discussion regarding this issue. Views were exchanged regarding the requirement to obtain paramedic status and the extension of a candidate's probationary

period for that purpose. Mr. Hand expressed the view that adding this requirement would not solve the personnel shortfall that is likely to exist with regard to paramedic personnel. Mr. Clemons suggested that the requirement should be a hiring requirement. Mr. Ford indicated that when the ALS upgrade was approved by the Board, it was with the understanding that there were additional members of the Fire Department who desired to attain paramedic status, however, that did not occur, apparently, due to a class which the District had intended to sponsor not going forward. He noted there had been no subsequent request for a class. Future retirements were discussed. There was discussion regarding the interest in current Fire Department members attaining paramedic status. There was a discussion regarding the cost of the paramedic training and the manner of payment for same. After additional discussion, it was agreed that the matter would be tabled and would be taken up at the time of the May 2018 Board of Trustees meeting with the Commissioners' meeting to be recessed to that time and date.

The Chief advised that a proposal had been received from former Chief Sowders to develop and proctor the testing for eligibility purposes at a fee of \$350.00. Upon motion of Mr. Clemons, seconded by Mr. Cox, and unanimously approved, the proposal was accepted.

The Board next took up discussion on promotional testing and scheduling and the Chief advised that there were no matters to be considered at this time by the Board in that area.

The Board next discussed possible amendment of the Rules of the Board of Fire Commissioners and it was noted that there may be a need for an amendment if residency is added as a preference point item.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Mr. Clemons, seconded by Mr. Cox, and unanimously approved to recess the meeting until 7 p.m. on May 29, 2018 to be held in conjunction with the regular Board of Trustees.

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Delbert Clemons, Secretary