

ORCHARD PARK BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF THE JULY MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Orchard Park Fire District was held on July 14, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the meeting room of the District Offices, 4222 S. Taylor Road. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wierzbowski and began with the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call:

Chairman:	Frank Wierzbowski	Dist. Chief:	Jay Knavel
Commissioner:	William Hanrahan	Treasurer:	Nick Enser
Commissioner:	Robert Benning	Attorney:	Michael Chelus
Commissioner:	Edmund Jensen Jr.	Secretary:	Roberta Buczkowski
Commissioner:	Mark Szczepanik	Administrator:	Monica Theilmann

Fire Company Officers Present:

Orchard Park Chief: Rob Germano
Windom Chief: Jacob Leckle
Hillcrest Chief: Ron Hendershot

Others Present:

Sherri Hanrahan, Windom	Bob Baun, Windom
Tom Held, Windom	Sam Rotino, Windom
Bob Eiskant, Windom	Quinn Hanlon, Windom
Eric Knavel, EMS	

Approval of Minutes of the Meeting:

Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Szczepanik that the minutes of the June meeting be approved. All in favor; motion carried.

Comments from the floor (Public):

Tom Held, Windom: In favor of purchasing the Kettles building and acreage

David Jensen, Hillcrest: is the District going to increase the Fire Police? Per the Board that is a question for the District Chief.

David Jensen, Hillcrest: What is happening with the \$20.00 incentive program (LOSAP)? Per the Board paperwork was just signed.

Sam Rotino, Windom: purchasing the Kettles area is the most logical move.

Chris Guenther, Windom: is the budget for the Windom renovation being cut due to work to be done at Taylor Road. Per the Board no.

Communications and Action on Same:

1. Doctor report Windom Firefighter, Aaron Jarka, Filed.
2. Orchard Park Fire Company: two (2) applications. See new memberships and removals.
3. Letter from Firefighter Paul Scolese to transfer to the Duty Shift. Motion made by Commissioner Szczepanik, seconded by Commissioner Hanrahan regarding the same. All in favor; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Nothing to report

District Chief Jay Knavel: (Given by Chairman Wierzbowski)

1. Monthly reports read. Attached to file copy.

EMS Eric Knavel:

1. Monthly reports read, attached to file copy

Orchard Park Chief, Rob Germano:

1. "Touch a Truck" will be July 19th
2. Pierce photoshoot for the new arial truck will be July 20-22nd.
3. Open house will be July 24th
4. Taste of Orchard Park will be July 22nd
5. The Tri-Company picnic will be July 18th.

Windom Chief, Jacob Leckle:

Nothing to report

Hillcrest Chief, Ron Hendershot:

Nothing to report

NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND REMOVALS:

*****Orchard Park*****

Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Szczepanik to accept Shane Stewart to the District Roles for Duty Shift. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to accept Niklas John Henricson to the District Rolls. All in favor; motion carried.

*****Hillcrest*****

None

*****Windom*****

None

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Commissioner Hanrahan:

1. Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Benning to accept the records retention resolution. All in favor; motion carried.
2. Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to appoint provisionally Rob Germano as Deputy District Chief. All in favor; motion carried.
3. The Safety Committee is up and running with appointments of a Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Secretary.

Commissioner Benning:

1. Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Szczepanik to replace the ceiling tiles in the Hillcrest Bay for an amount not to exceed \$19,000.00. All in favor; motion carried.

Commissioner Jensen:

Nothing to report

Commissioner Szczepanik:

1. Motion made by Commissioner Szczepanik, seconded by Commissioner Hanrahan to purchase a one UTV Skid for EMS Special Operations from M Tech Inc. for \$5120.00. All in favor; motion carried.

Commissioner Wierzbowski:

Nothing to report

Attorney Chelus:

Nothing to report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

PRESENTATION OF BILLS AND ACTION ON THE SAME:

Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Jensen that the bills be paid as presented for a total of \$155,348.79. All in favor; motion carried.

Motions Made:

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Benning to accept the records retention resolution. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to appoint provisionally Rob Germano as Deputy District Chief. All in favor; motion carried

Motion made by Commissioner Szczepanik, seconded by Commissioner Hanrahan to purchase a one UTV Skid for EMS Special Operations from M Tech Inc. for \$5120.00. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Szczepanik to replace the ceiling tiles in the Hillcrest Bay for an amount not to exceed \$19,000.00. All in favor; motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business to come before this Board, motion made by Commissioner Benning seconded by Commissioner Jensen that the meeting be adjourned. All in favor; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 7:13PM

Respectfully submitted, Roberta Buczkowski, Secretary