

**ORCHARD PARK BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Orchard Park Fire District was held on February 10, 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 Thielemann

Fire Company Officers Present:

Orchard Park Chief: Rob Germano
Windom Chief: Jacob Leckel
Hillcrest Assist Chief: Dave Stromecki

Others Present:

Shari Hanrahan	Jacqueline LaBelle
Robert Baun	Karl Blombeck
Eric Knavel	Chris Cheek

Approval of Minutes of the Meeting:

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

Comments from the floor (Public):

None

Communications and Action on Same:

1. Letter from Windom Fire Company re: transfer of Firefighter from Hillcrest to Windom. See new memberships and removals.
2. Letter from Hillcrest Fire Company re: new member. See memberships and removals.
3. Letter from Windom Fire Company re: use of Windom 02/27/2026. Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Jensen regarding same. All in favor; motion carried.
4. Letter from Windom Fire Company re: use of Windom 6/4/2026. Motion made by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Benning regarding same. All in favor; motion carried.
5. 7. Letter from Hillcrest Fire Company re: moving from Jr. FF to full Firefighter Zenon Zern-Hehir.
6. Letter from Windom Fire Company re: resignation of member. See new memberships and removals.

Treasurer's Report: External Yearly audit wrapped up, 4.3 million in the LOSAP.

Transfer \$10,000 from Salaries to Capital Apparatus, Motion made by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Benning regarding same. All in favor; motion carried.

District Chief Jay Knavel:

Drill the 16th at Central and elevator drill the 23rd at Hillcrest. Turnout gear will be handed out tonight. Chief meeting after the Board meeting tonight.

Central has a car seat check coming up. Motion made for OPPD the use of Central for the car seat check, Motion made by Commissioner Benning, seconded by Commissioner Hanrahan regarding same. All in favor; motion carried.

Duty shift meeting 2/24/2026 at 1830 to go SOG's, P & P's, equipment, etc.

EMS – Waiting on approval from the AG's office. After it has been received with complete paperwork for CON transfer.

Training

Nothing to report

Orchard Park Chief, Rob Germano:

Nothing to report

Windom Chief, Jacob Leckel:

Nothing to report

Hillcrest Chief, Ron Hendershot:

Not present: Dave Stromecki, Asst. Chief present, Nothing to report

NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND REMOVALS:

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

NONE

*****Hillcrest*****

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to accept Christopher Cheek to the District rolls as a Firefighter. All in favor, motion carried.

*****Windom*****

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to accept the transfer of Quinn Hanlon

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Commissioner Hanrahan:

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan to hire Paul Held to clean Windom Fire Company, seconded by Commissioner Jensen.

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan to remove the following members: Shane Stewart, Ava Savarino, Kevin Galas, Joe Jensen, Jeffery McMullen, Phil Hawver, Ryan, Bieler, Scott Courteau, seconded by Commissioner Jensen.

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan to accept the resignation of Miranda Krantz effective February 2, 2026 from the Windom Fire Company, seconded by Commissioner Jensen.

Commissioner Benning:

Motion made by Commissioner Benning to replace PT Trailer at Hillcrest, NTE \$10,000, seconded by Commissioner Jensen.

Motion made by Commissioner Benning to pass a referendum and resolution for the 2003 American LaFrance Fire Truck, seconded by Commissioner Jensen.

Commissioner Jensen:

No Report

Commissioner Szczepanik:

No Report

Commissioner Wierzbowski:

No Report

Attorney Chelus:

Everything is up to date

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

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 \$ All in favor; motion carried.

Motions Made:

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 1913 PM

Respectfully submitted, Monica Thielemann, Deputy District Secretary