

ORCHARD PARK BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE MAY 13, 2025 WORK SESSION

The work session of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Orchard Park Fire District was held on May at 5:00 PM in the boardroom of the District Offices, 4222 S. Taylor Road.

Those Present:

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

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Wierzbowski to go to Executive Session. All in favor; motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Hanrahan, seconded by Commissioner Wierzbowski to go to regular work session. Executive Session ended at 5:06PM with no action taken by the Board.

Motion made by Commissioner Szczepanik, seconded by Commissioner Jensen that the minutes of the April 8, 2025 work session be approved. All in favor; motion carried.

Membership/Personnel

Monica: There are four (4) firefighters who still need the on-line classes.
There are six (6) firefighters who still need physicals.

Bob: There are on-going problems with WellNow. Perhaps we finish contract and re-bid for next year.

Discussion followed.

Equipment

Justin: Still waiting on a back-ordered part for OP3

Facilities

Chris (Given by Bill): On-going problems with the elevator at Hillcrest.

Discussion followed.

The battery has been replaced in the generator at Hillcrest.
Windom is still quite dirty. Current custodian is looking to retire. Will have a backup plan in case of a quick retirement.
Have accepted the bid from DJM to do the concrete work in the back of Taylor Road. Not the lowest but will do the job correctly so it will last for years to come.

Bill: Surveys for Windom and Taylor Road are done but can't find. Will have digital copies sent.
The final proposals for Windom have been sent to Wendel.

Bob: Would like to look at the availability of garages on North Benzing to put Windom Apparatus while renovating Windom thus saving money so renovations can move forward a little bit quicker.
Will check out the available spaces.

Discussion followed.

Bill: Have spoken to Mark Butler re: bringing EMS under the District. He will send the proposal he has drawn up to Attorney Chelus.
Going through all five (5) stations for hazardous materials.
OP has requested FOB's for dayroom. Request has been denied. If Jr. FF are caught drinking then they are removed from the district. Zero tolerance.
Reserve Fire Company would like to look at the renovations at Central.
Would like to take some of the burden off District Chief Knavel by having a charge person for Fire Police and Safety Officer.
Fire Chief Position was discussed.

District Chief

Jay: Communion Breakfast with inspections following: Windom, Hillcrest, Central and North last.
Have ordered Fire Prevention stuff and hopefully will be here before July when it will be needed.
Hose testing will be July 7-10th
First flow test with SCBA's will be June 18-20th.
Prom Demo will be May 30th, which is a week earlier from last year.
Put an extra RIT pack on Hillcrest 2
Saia has a couple of things to finish up then the new repeaters will be placed.
Have radio quotes.
Have ordered some of the new pants. Will be ordering more.
Incident with Social Media regarding the fire on California Road. Have repeated to company firefighters that NO ONE is to respond to any social media no matter if it is negative or positive.
Two (2) have signed up for the boot camp.

Attorney

Mike: There was a question on who can serve on the Ethics Board.
Discussion followed.

There being no further business the Work Session ended at 6:30PM
Respectfully submitted
Roberta Buczkowski, Secretary