

**Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Protection District Board of Trustees**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**  
**November 13, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Protection District Board of Trustees was held on November 13, 2025, at Fire Station #20, located at 500 Waukegan Road, Deerfield, Illinois.

***Call to Order***

Trustee Bettiker called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Trustee Phil Bettiker, President; Trustee Sheila Elston, Secretary; Trustee Jeff Hansen, Treasurer; Fire Chief Ray Larson; Deputy Fire Chief Micah Montondo; Administrative Services Manager Coleen Wattleworth; Attorney Joe Miller.

***Others Present***

Members of the public: Dr. Ben Feinzimer, Cheri Smirles, Raeann Fuller, Kathrina Montondo.

Members of the department: Tom Duax, Bob Dooley, Chris Johnson, Mike Long, Clint Ludden, Pat Pollin, Joe Porter, Jon Vaccarello, Joe Zachar.

***Public Comment***

Presentation by Dr. Ben Feinzimer, Cheri Smirles, and Raeann Fuller, representing the Endeavor Health - Highland Park EMS System, honoring Deputy Fire Chief Micah Montondo with the Illinois Department of Public Health Emergency Medical Service Pediatric Education Award and the Illinois Department of Public Health Emergency Medical Service Public Education Award.

***Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes***

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2025, regular meeting was made by Trustee Hansen, seconded by Trustee Elston. Roll call vote: the motion passed unanimously.

***Treasurer's Report***

A motion to approve the treasurer's report for the month ending October 31, 2025, was made by Trustee Elston, seconded by Trustee Hansen. Roll call vote: the motion passed unanimously.

***Accounts Payable Report***

A motion to approve the bills & disbursements paid for the month ending October 31, 2025, for \$372,525.57 was made by Trustee Elston, seconded by Trustee Hansen. Roll call vote: the motion passed unanimously.

***Attorney's Report***

Attorney Miller reminded the Board that the Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts Annual Conference is February 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and discussed possible Lift Assist Ordinance Updates.

***Chief's Report***

Chief Larson provided a monthly update on the operations of the District.

***Old Business - None***

***New Business***

A motion to pass ordinance 2025-O-03 levying and assessing taxes of Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Protection District for 2025 was made by Trustee Elston, seconded by Trustee Hansen. Roll call vote: the motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve resolution 2025-R-04 rescinding resolution 2025-R-03 declaring a 2014 Ford Explorer as surplus was made by Trustee Hansen, seconded by Trustee Elston. Roll call vote: the motion passed unanimously.

A motion to award Station 20 Landscape Design and Build Services to North Shore Turf for \$31,008 plus 10% of the total for possible changes was made by Trustee Hansen, seconded by Trustee Elston. Roll call vote: the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made to approve payment to any District employee who voluntarily declines, in writing, the health insurance coverage offered by the District ("opt-out"). The opt-out payment shall be equal to the amount the District would have contributed to the employee's Health Savings Account (HSA) under declined coverage. If the employee later elects District health insurance coverage for any qualifying reason during the same plan year, the following shall apply: If the District's HSA contribution for the newly elected coverage exceeds the opt-out payment already received, the employee shall be entitled only to the difference between the full HSA contribution and the opt-out amount previously paid. If the District's HSA contribution for the newly elected coverage is less than the opt-out payment already received, the employee shall reimburse the District for the difference between the opt-out payment and the applicable HSA contribution. In no case shall any District employee receive more than the value of one annual HSA contribution per plan year, whether through an HSA deposit, an opt-out payment, or any combination thereof, was made by Trustee Hansen, seconded by Trustee Elston. Roll call vote: the motion passed unanimously.

#### ***Closed Session***

A motion to go into closed session at 7:38 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body was made by Trustee Elston, seconded by Trustee Hansen. Roll call vote: the motion passed unanimously.

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:53 p.m.

#### ***Action Taken After Closed Session***

The Board of Trustees authorizes Chief Larson to develop a health insurance side letter agreement.

#### ***Adjournment***

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. was made by Trustee Hansen, seconded by Trustee Elston. Roll call vote: the motion passed unanimously.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on December 4, 2025.



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Phil Bettiker  
President, Board of Trustees  
Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Protection District

ATTEST:



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Sheila Elston  
Secretary, Board of Trustees  
Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Protection District