Board of Fire Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes

Held on July 8, 2026
at Inverness Fire Station 35 Ela Road, Inverness, IL

Minutes:

Call to Order The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Commissioner Tiedje.

Roll Call Present: Chairperson Tim Tiedje, Commissioner William Murray, Commissioner Russell Toms.
Others Present: Fire Chief Richard Kurka, Executive Assistant Marjean Diercks.

Pledge of Allegiance Commissioner Tiedje led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment – None

Oath of Office The Board of Trustees has reappointed Tim Tiedje to the Board of Fire Commissioners for a three-year term ending May 1, 2029. The Oath of Office was read and signed by Commissioner Tiedje.

Election of Officers Motion by Commissioner Murray, seconded by Commissioner Toms, to nominate Tim Tiedje as Chairperson. A voice vote showed unanimous approval.

Motion by Commissioner Murray, seconded by Commissioner Tiedje, to nominate Russ Toms as Secretary. A voice vote showed unanimous approval.

Approval of Minutes Motion by Commissioner Toms, seconded by Commissioner Murray, to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2026 Regular Meeting as presented. A voice vote showed unanimous approval.

Motion by Commissioner Toms, seconded by Commissioner Tiedje, to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2026 Closed Session Meeting as presented. A voice vote showed unanimous approval.

Communications - None

Fire Chief's Report Chief Kurka updated the Board of Fire Commissioners on District activities and call volume from the second quarter of 2026.

- Chief reviewed a few calls of interest from the past quarter as well as a few staff updates.
- Grace Wolf accepted a position with Lake Forest Fire Dept.

Unfinished Business

Lieutenant Promotional Process:

Reading List

- The current Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) allows us to use three to five outside resources. The language is vague on whether the Hospital SOPs or RPM FOG manual are 'outside resources'. The Chief will present updated language for Commissioners approval in October.

New Business

Interview Questions: The Commissioners reviewed the list of interview questions. Commissioners are invited to submit additional questions for consideration.

Review Current Eligibility List: The remaining candidates on the list that have recently finished paramedic class will be contacted with offers of employment.

Closed Session

Motion by Commissioner Murray, Seconded by Commissioner Toms, to go into closed session at 7:10 p.m. for the purpose of Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Employees of the public body. Roll Call vote: 3 Yes (Tiedje, Murray, Toms), 0 No, 0 Absent/Abstain.

From the Closed Session

Motion by Commissioner Murray, Seconded by Commissioner Toms, to leave closed session and return to open session at 7:35 p.m. Roll Call vote: 3 Yes (Tiedje, Murray, Toms), 0 No, 0 Absent/Abstain.

Return to Open Session No action was taken during the closed session.

Chief Kurka was directed to extend offers of employment to Gerard Bertog and Kinga Zieba. If either of these candidates pass, then extend an offer to Jacob Saiger.

Applications for the next eligibility list will close on July 24, 2026. Interviews for these candidates will be scheduled for Saturday, August 15,2026, starting at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment There being no further business, motion by Commissioner Toms, seconded by Commissioner Murray, to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. A voice vote showed unanimous approval.

Next Meeting – October 14, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

Date Approved: October 14, 2026

Commissioner _____

Commissioner _____

Commissioner _____