

BYRON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 24, 2026

1) OPENING OF MEETING

President Chris Logston called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm

2) ROLL CALL

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Sandy Beitel, Randy Snider, Chris Higgins and Chris Logston

After the quorum was established, Trustee Beitel motioned to allow Trustee Mathew Kuss to join the meeting electronically. Second by Trustee Snider. Roll Call: Beitel – Yes, Snider – Yes, Logston – Yes, Higgins – Yes. Motion passed.

TRUSTEES ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Chief Andrew Politsch and B/C Tim Free

3) GUESTS PRESENT

John Falduto, Karl Ottosen, FF Tim King, and Michele Trzcinski-Ramos, Recording Secretary
6:03 pm FF Tyler Schlaf and 6:05 pm Lt. Ryan Bruce

4) PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5) BID OPENING: Three (3) Bids were received; President Logston opened them as follows: Dyck Farms: \$300 per acre; Bryce Hagemann: \$399.99 per acre; and Eric Swanson: \$386.00 per acre. Bidder Hagemann requested consideration for a multi-year lease. Attorney Ottosen stated a multi-year lease could be entertained if it was advertised that way. Trustee Beitel motioned to award the 2026-2027 Tillable Farmland Lease to Bryce Hagemann in the amount of \$399.99 per acre. Additionally, the 2027-2028 is to be advertised as a Multi-Year Lease for a term of three (3) years. Second by Trustee Higgins. Roll Call: Kuss (Electronically) – Yes, Beitel – Yes, Snider – Yes, Logston – Yes and Higgins – Yes. Motion passed.

6) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 27, 2026 General Meeting Minutes - Trustee Beitel motioned to approve the January 27, 2026 General Meeting Minutes as submitted and studied. Second by Trustee Kuss

(Electronically). Roll Call: Kuss (Electronically), Snider – Yes, Higgins – Yes, Beitel – Yes, and Logston - Yes. Motion passed.

January 27, 2026 Closed Session General Meeting Minutes – Trustee Higgins motioned to approve the January 27, 2026 Closed Session General Meeting Minutes and submitted and studied with the provision they remain closed. Second by Trustee Snider. Roll Call: Snider – Yes, Kuss (Electronically) – Yes, Beitel – Yes, Higgins – Yes and Logston – Yes. Motion passed.

7) APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT AND BILLS

Trustee Beitel motioned to approve the Financial Report and Bills for January 2026 in the amount of \$313,018.54 as submitted and studied. Second by Trustee Snider. Roll Call: Snider – Yes, Higgins – Yes, Beitel - Yes, Kuss (Electronically) – Yes, and Logston – Yes. Motion passed.

8) ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – *Trustee Higgins motioned to approve the Agenda as printed. Second by Trustee Snider. Roll Call: Kuss (Electronically) – Yes, Beitel – Yes, Higgins – Yes, Snider – Yes, and Logston – Yes. Motion passed.*

9) CORRESPONDENCE and ANNOUNCEMENTS – *Chief Politsch report the Hanlin Family gave the District a donation to purchase an “EMS” related item in honor of their late mother, Joan. Joan was one of the founding EMS members of the District and served on the Board for many years. Chief stated he purchased a “Joan Hanlin EMS Memorial Room” sign and hung it in the EMS Room, which is in the apparatus bay, dedicating the EMS Room in her honor.*

10) OLD BUSINESS

A) Quarterly Report Presentation by Sawyer & Falduto – John Falduto presented/reviewed the quarterly report. No action was taken.

B) Review of Ordinances & Resolutions Passed and Approved in February of Previous Years – The following were discussed: Ordinance #2018 – 02 Repeated Calls for Non-Emergency Services; Resolution 2020-01 Drug and Alcohol Policy; and Resolution #2023-01 Sexual Harassment Policy. Chief reported there is no need to change/update any of the Ordinances or Resolutions. Attorney Ottosen stated, Ordinance #2018-02 can be updated to add charging Nursing Homes for lift assists, if it becomes an issue in the future. No action taken.

11) NEW BUSINESS

A) Chief's Report – Chief reported there is a new program for “call” reports; call report should be available next month.

B) *Attorney's Report – Attorney Ottosen reported he is on the IL Fire Chief's Research Board and there are scholarships available for those pursuing higher education. He encouraged all who are interested to apply. He also discussed the Tier II Pension and the potential changes / challenges that could come along with said changes.*

C) *Discussion and possible action on Upgrading Rig Radios – Chief reported the bid was obtained through Source Well Government Bidding; Mobile Communications America bid on 11 new radios, hardware; and installation in the amount of \$54,249.07. He stated some of our current radios do not comply with "P25 Digital" and if they "go bad" there are no parts to fix them. Trustee Higgins motioned to approve the bid received from Mobile Communications America for 11 new rig radios, hardware and installation not to exceed \$60,000.00. Second by Trustee Kuss (Electronically). Roll Call: Kuss (Electronically), Higgins – Yes, Snider – Yes, Beitel – Yes and Logston – Yes. Motion passed.*

12) EXECUTIVE SESSION – *Trustee Beitel motioned to go into Closed Session under 2 (c) (2) Collective Negotiating Matters between the Public Body and its Employees or their Representatives, or Deliberations concerning Salary Schedules for one or more Classes of Employees at 6:27 pm. Everyone was excused from the Board Room except for the Board, Chief Politsch and Attorney Karl Ottosen. Second by Trustee Snider. Roll Call: Kuss (Electronically) – Yes, Beitel – Yes, Higgins – Yes, Snider – Yes, and Logston – Yes. Motion passed.*

13) BUSINESS to DISCUSS after CLOSED SESSION

A) *Discussion and possible action on any Closed Session Item – No action taken.*

14) ADJOURN

With no further business to discuss, Trustee Beitel motioned to adjourn the meeting. Second by Trustee Higgins. Roll Call: Kuss (Electronically) – Yes, Higgins – Yes, Snider – Yes, Beitel – Yes, and Logston – Yes. The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



*Mathew Kuss
Secretary*