**Fulton Fire Protection District**

**Trustee Meeting Minutes**

**June 11, 2025**

On June 11, 2025, the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fulton Fire Protection District was held at 6:00 P.M., pursuant to the notice at the Fire Station in Fulton, Illinois.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by President Boyd VanDellen.
2. Roll Call

Trustees Present: Boyd VanDellen, Kent Nicolaysen, Art Kilburg,

Trustees Absent: Nick Neblung

Office Manager: Brandy Haring

Members: Jon Butz, Rachel Bielema, Dave Rogis, Emma Kuehl, Cade Hansen, Eric Burden, Justin Haring, RJ Sikkema

Public: Dave Carter – Rock River Service

1. Approval of Minutes – May 14, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes: Roll Call #1 approved the motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 14, 2025, as presented.
2. Approval of Bills – Regular and Upcoming: Roll Call #2 approved the motion to approve the check register for May 2025, and the additional due before the next meeting, as presented.
3. Approval of Treasurer’s Report: Roll Call #3 approved the motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report for May 2025, as presented.
4. Public Forum: Dave Carter with Rock River Service provided information on new radios. The newer radios are APX Next XE, they are designed for fire service, they use LTE as a backup, they have WIFI Capabilities, there is no frequency limit, they are voice activated. He doesn’t advise replacing all radios at one time, he recommends them for command staff. He is happy to come and do a demo for us. He works with Whiteside County Sherriff’s Office. He explained Starcom and explained the contract for portables/mobiles. Primary radios are $29 and up per month, if not dispatching on the radio, it would be $50-$53 per month per radio if dispatching. Secondary radios are $25-$27 per radio, per month. The cost of each portable radio would be around $11k. The radios come with a 3-year warranty; however, you can purchase additional device management services for around $60/year per device. You can also pay for the smart service, which includes a map of where the radio is for accountability purposes. Mr. Carter recommends we look into small equipment grants. There was a discussion on whether there would be a requirement to move to Starcom and that it would be dependent on the sheriff’s department.
5. Old Business and Action Items (if necessary)
   1. Fire Chief: No new updates.
   2. Carpet/Floors: No new updates.
   3. Awnings: No new updates.
   4. Apron/Blacktop: Boyd will look into getting quotes this month.
   5. Fire Alarm Panel/Phone Lines: Boyd will be contacting Frontier/Surf regarding the phone/fax line. The cellular antenna has been updated.
   6. Cordova Dragway EMS: Fulton will be assisting and covering Cordova Dragway. We have confirmed that we have a crew to cover both Cordova Dragway and Fulton’s district.
6. New Business and Action Items (if necessary)
   1. Hear Fire Chief Report
      1. Engine 1: Roll Call #4 approved the motion to approve up to $15,000 in repairs to engine 1. The oil leaks, tie rods/ball joints need replaced, the passenger side window crank needs repaired, hoses/belts should be replaced while it’s all taken a part.
      2. Training Container: Fire is interested in obtaining 1 or 2 containers, this project will be grant driven. Boyd VanDellen advised them to reach out to Buck Manley with OSFM. Burden will look into this.
      3. Concealed Carry Class: The department was asked to hold a concealed carry class at the station. The board was undecided on whether we should host this or not. This will be tabled for July.
      4. Radios: This was addressed in public forum.
   2. Hear EMS Coordinator Report
      1. Lara Bielema Probation Status: Lara’s probationary period will be extended by 3 Months. The new date will be September 10, 2025, to allow for more time/licensure.
      2. Chad Brown EMS Course: Chad Brown completed the EMT Course with Albany Fire Protection District and is requesting that the Department pay $850 for the course. A review of the EMT/EMR Class requirements was discussed. Boyd would like to see that there be a 24-month service clause added to the requirement. This will be reviewed again in July.
   3. Hear Office Manager Report
      1. Assignment of Account – Collections: Roll Call #5 approved the motion to approve signing the assignment of accounts for RRCA Management for debt collection.
      2. Radio Room – Battery Backup: Roll Call #6 approved the motion to approve purchasing battery backups for the radio room to ensure the computers are protected from power outages and the weekly generator test.
   4. Trustees
      1. Appointment of Vacant Trustee position: No applications were received. The notice of vacancy will be posted on the Department Facebook page to try and get applications.
7. Action following and related to closed session
8. Additional business, information, and announcements
   1. Charting system/Image Trend: Rachel provided an update, that she and Dave met with a representative from Image Trend, they are going to do some additional training/updating to make sure we have what we want/need. Image Trend confirmed all their forms are compliant with all national regulations.
9. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:28 P.M.