



WINNETKA FOREIGN FIRE INSURANCE BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes from Monday, January 19th, 2026

This was a regular meeting held on Monday, January 19th, 2026, at the Winnetka Fire Department Station in the conference room. The meeting was called to order at 07:39.

| Members Present: | Members Absent: | Attendees: |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Katie Bublitz (KB)- President Christian Kroeger (CK)- Secretary John Ripka (JR)- Fire Chief Erik Thornton (ET)- Board Member Chris Moreno (CM)- Board Member Zach Fudalej (ZF)- Board Member | Jack Poplawski (JP)- Board Member | Matthew Hanisian |

The minutes from September’s meeting were approved, and October’s Special Meeting minutes are tabled for the next meeting: Motioned by JR, seconded by CK

Election results are reviewed and accepted. KB and ZF maintain their positions while ET is elected on to the board. Treasurers position to be determined at next meeting. The terms are as follows:

- Christian Kroeger, Jack Poplawski, Chris Moreno- terms expire 12/31/2026.
- Erik Thornton, Zach Fudalej, Katie Bublitz- terms expire 12/31/2027.

Review and acceptance of Treasure’s report- tabled for the next meeting.

Yearly Recurring Charges:

1. Coffee/Tea/Creamer- **\$4000**. Motioned by CK, seconded by ZF.
2. Miscellaneous Kitchen Fund- **\$1,000** (\$500 to be managed by FM Hadfield for replacement of kitchen equipment as needed, remainder to pay for the knife sharpening service). Motioned by CK, seconded by JR.
3. Training Water Fund/Costco Membership- **\$1,500**- Motioned by CM, seconded by KB.

4. Xfinity- **\$2,500** allocated for cable/streaming services- Motioned by KB, seconded by CK.
5. Fitness Clothing- **\$4,950** (\$200 allocated for 23 members, \$350 allocated for new hire). Motioned by CK, seconded by ET.
6. Workout Shoes- Tabled for next meeting.
7. Fire Boat- **\$5,000** (allocated for miscellaneous boat expenses). Motioned by KB, seconded by ET.

New Purchase Approvals:

1. RagTop Fire Duty Mitts- **\$1,000** (ordering one set of every size for members to try on). Motioned by CK, seconded by JR. Approved unanimously
 2. Hartford Hook- removed from agenda
 3. Treadmill Pad- **\$200**. Motioned by CK, seconded by KB. Approved unanimously.
 4. Cressi Gorilla Dive Equipment Bag- **\$150**. Motioned by JR, seconded by KB. Approved unanimously.
 5. Dive Equipment Replacement Items- **\$500**. Motioned by CK, seconded by KB. Approved unanimously.
 6. Promotional Exam Textbooks- removed from agenda
 7. EMS Equipment- **\$15,000** (replacing outdated equipment and creating uniformity among EMS bags). Motioned by CK, seconded by ET. Approved unanimously.
 8. Office Furniture- **\$1,000** (replacing furniture in front foyer). Motioned by JR, seconded by CM. Passed unanimously.
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Open Discussion:

- None

KB motioned to adjourn the meeting at 08:17, seconded by CK. All members in favor.