

**August 20, 2026, Regular Meeting
West Sand Lake Board of Fire Commissioners**

The regular meeting of the West Sand Lake Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:11 pm by Commissioner Bell. Those present were Commissioner Bell, Commissioner Deutsch, Commissioner Ellis, Commissioner Hogle and Commissioner Hull. Chief Crosier, as well as Secretary Poirier & Treasurer Deutsch.

Treasurer's Report:

Building Account	\$1,308,033.91	General Checking Acct	\$ 90,529.66
Equipment Account	\$ 728,984.40	General Savings Acct	\$ 613,069.93
Total All Accounts:	<u>\$2,740,617.90</u>		

The balance of the LOSAP Schwab One Brokerage account as of 6/30/26 was \$1,214,101.50. Down a bit from the beginning of July because there was market correction in July. There were \$7,600.00 taken out for the entitlements of the retired firefighters.

Budget report: Treasurer distributed the current budget for 2026-2027 with the board. At this point we are \$115,000.00 over the statutory allotment. There will be no discussion of the budget at this time. There is a meeting scheduled for 09/14/26. There is a lot of work to do to complete the budget to see where we can cut back. Budget discussions will take place at that time.

There is an unemployment overpayment of \$105.62, which will lower our contribution going forward.

Planet Fitness there are 6 people on the list and only 2 people on the list that are going. The same with the YMCA. There are people on the list that are not going. There was a discussion and it was decided that the people who have signed up for Planet Fitness and the YMCA that are not going are to be notified by the Chief's that they have to start using these facilities or they will be taken off the list and will not be able to use the facilities.

Outstanding Purchase Order Report. Treasurer reviewed with board and chief.

Emergency Purchase Orders issued between meetings: Quest Plumbing & Heating NTE \$2,000.00, Stephen Bakerian Water Well Contracting NTE \$7,000.00, Warren Tire NTE \$1,000.00 & Edelman's NTE \$2,000.00.

Commissioner Hogle made a motion for approval of the Emergency POs for Quest Plumbing & Heating NTE \$2,000.00, Stephen Bakerian Water Well Contracting NTE \$7,000.00, Warren Tire NTE \$1,000.00 & Edelman's NTE \$2,000.00 Seconded by Commissioner Hull.

Permissive referendum for the used Chief's vehicle for \$50,000.00, funds will be available on 08/22/26. Further discussion under old business.

Commissioner Hogle made a motion to accept the Treasurer report, seconded by Commissioner Hull. Motion carried.

Secretary's report:

The secretary provided the minutes for the regular meeting June 16, 2026.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Hogle. Motion carried.

Calendar: Discussion was held for removal and additions of meetings to the calendar. A revised calendar will be sent with this month's report.

BBQ's will be held on 08/27/29 & 09/24/26.

Commissioner Hull made a motion to approve the Secretary report, seconded by Commissioner Hogle. Motion carried.

Administrative Assistant Report:

- Internet and Kiosk were not working. Purchased a new UPS and installed without having to request assistance from White Wolf.
- Received notification that our **EMS Certification had expired 02/2015**. Apparently, this has happened to many fire departments. The state states that they never received copies of the documents sent in to recertify the EMS certification. New documentation will be completed and sent to the state in order to get the recertification up to date. The doctor has to sign documentation. There may be more steps that we have to do that will cost us money. This may require a Glucose

certification and members of the fire department may have to take classes in order to complete that portion of the recertification. When this is determined Ed will let the board know.

- Chiefs are requesting access to Neris & Alpine software. Neris is all set. Still waiting for Alpine software to be installed. Waiting for Alpine software to respond to the request.
- All reports are up to date.
- LOSAP up to date.

There was a discussion pertaining to two people having admin access to all of the admin systems and computers so that in case of an emergency the systems can be utilized.

Commissioner Hull made a motion to accept the Administrative Assistant report, seconded by Commissioner Deutsch. Motion carried.

Chief Report:

1. Station & Facilities

- **Fire Alarm System Installation:** Installation has successfully begun on the new Fire Alarm system at the main station. The project is moving forward smoothly with an expected finish date of tomorrow, ensuring completion well ahead of the Friday deadline.

2. Equipment & Procurement

- **Turnout Gear Consultations:** Command staff have been actively meeting with turnout gear representatives

to address critical personal protective equipment (PPE) shortages. Two vendor meetings have been completed so far, with a third scheduled for next week. The focus is to order much-needed gear for members who currently lack properly fitting equipment or have sizing gaps.

3. Maintenance & Repairs Needed

- **Portable Pump Overhaul:** One portable pump requires an immediate and complete overhaul. During heavy operations in the recent monsoon flooding, the unit suffered a severe failure where oil was pouring out of it.

Commissioner Bell made a motion for PO to True Value – Repair two portable pumps NTE \$ 1,000.00, seconded by Commissioner Hogle. Motion carried.

- **C-1 Fire Extinguisher:** The fire extinguisher on apparatus C-1 is currently out of service and needs to be recharged following deployment at a recent fire call on Briegel Lane.

There was a discussion whether or not this required a PO. Commissioner Bell pointed out that this should be under preventative maintenance and recharged as soon as possible. This is something that should not wait.

UTV 43 is out for repairs it was found that the batteries are fine, but the Brake Pressure switch is bad. A belt needs to be replaced. Repairs continuing it should be a couple more days.

4. Capital Purchases Requested

The following purchase is requested for approval to complete outfitting field hardware:

Mounting brackets for the final four strut tips 4 \$89.20 \$356.80

Note: Total listed does not include shipping fees. Items to be sourced via Polytech America using the Pioneer Card.

Commissioner Hull made a motion for PO to Pioneer Visa – Polytech America - Mounting Brackets for final four struts NTE \$ 500.00, seconded by Commissioner Hogle. Motion carried.

5. Personnel & Training Updates

- **Drivers List Addition:** Dan Hogle has successfully completed all required training and practical evaluations

for trailer operations and has been added to the active Drivers List for the Trailer. Gordie Hull has been added for the Pickups & 43-6.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to accept the new driver positions, seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried.

Car 3 Report

Training Course for additional training on Paratech Struts and airbags. November 3-6, 2026. Approximate total cost for 4 firefighters is +/- \$8000.00 in Savannah Georgia. A discussion was held on where in the current budget the funds could be located to send firefighter(s) to the course. This was tabled for further discussion at the September Meeting.

Request for 3" hose from MES under state contract 50 ft in length. Quoted cost is \$4,066.70 with free freight.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion for PO to MES – 3" 50 ft hose NTE \$ 4,066.70, seconded by Commissioner Hull. Motion carried.

Request to replace 2 calibration kits and replacement of sensors for the gas meters from MES under state contract in the amount of \$408.40.

Commissioner Deutsch made a motion to PO to MES – two calibration kits and replacement NTE \$ 408.40, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried.

Request to put two hydrant convertors in Westfall Village. We have one, I need a second one. Although I could probably do this on the Pioneer card, MES has this cheaper under state contract \$340.23.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion for PO to MES –one hydrant convertor NTE \$ 350.00, seconded by Commissioner Hull. Motion carried.

Request to purchase of additional batteries for portable radios. Bearcom has them listed for \$61.00 each. 10 batteries \$610.00

Commissioner Hull made a motion for PO to Bearcom –10 batteries NTE \$610.00, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried.

Request for two bottles of Coldfire to be purchased from Bayou Field and Outdoors NTE \$82.88.

Commissioner Deutsch made a motion for PO to Bayou Field and Outdoors –2 bottles of Coldfire NTE \$82.88, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried.

Commissioner Hull made a motion to accept the Chief's reports, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried.

A discussion was held in reference to paying injury claims directly vs filing a workers' compensation claim vs filing a claim against the accident and sickness policy. After the discussion, it was decided that the treasurer was going to contact the insurance company to find out exactly what is covered under the accident and sickness insurance policy to see if in the future the small claims that the board is paying for and could be submitted to this insurance policy and not be paid out of pocket or a claim be made to workers compensation. This was tabled until the next meeting.

Commissioner Deutsch made a motion to contact insurance broker for a detailed breakdown of the accident and sickness coverage, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried.

Communications:

CAFDA Bulletins, JP McHale taking over Family Pest Solutions, NYS Homeland Security & Emergency Services, ISR (Identified Sites Registry), The Pinsky Law group – Training Executive Officers for Emergency Services Leaders & BST & CO merging with Gallagher Flynn so they are now BST Gallagher Flynn.

Company Report:

The following issues were discussed at the regular meeting of 6 August 2026:

1. We agreed to attend a dinner cruise on 25 August with Averill Park; the Fire Co. agreed to allocate \$800.00 as our share of the admission cost.
2. The Company Picnic was held as scheduled on 26 July. Was generally regarded as a success. We have scheduled next year's picnic for the same location on 17 July 2027.
3. The retention/recruitment survey has gone out and got good returns; further meetings will likely be scheduled for the Fall.
4. The Ladies' Auxiliary completed the job of painting the kitchen. The shutters that were previously in the service windows have been removed; we are looking for a suitable replacement.
5. The Fire Company's APHS Senior Award went to Zoe Smith.
6. Gall's is temporarily unable to supply uniforms at this time. However, a measurement session will be scheduled for members who would like a new uniform once they get uniforms back in stock.
7. The Fire Company agreed to provide station uniforms to associate members at Fire Company expense.

8. Evan Tavella was approved as an Associate Member.
9. The ice machine has been repaired.
10. The details of the Fire/Injury Prevention program for this year were discussed. The Fire Company has authorized \$3,000 to be spent on this, in addition to the Fire District's \$1,500.
11. We will send up to two people to the upcoming Board of Directors/Fire Co. Executive course at Turning Stone on 6-7 November.
12. The Fire Company agreed to purchase a pop-up canopy for the Fire Department's logo for recruitment drives and other events.

Building & Grounds:

- Update on Fire Hall ramp repair - Completed
- Update on Fire Hall East side roof repair – Completed
- Update on installation of Station Fire Alarm System Station – Scheduled to be completed 08/21/26
- Update on Fire Hall Water/Well – Completed
- Fallen Tree on property will be cut up cut up by 2nd Assistant Chief Hogle and put in woods.
- Split rail fence around fire hall parking lot is in need of repair. It was decided to remove the fence instead of making repairs.
- Briegel Lake Garage. 2 garage doors and side door needs to be replaced. 1st Assistant Chief Gazeley will rig from the inside a way so that the garage doors cannot be opened. This was tabled until the next meeting so that replacement quotes can be obtained.
- Two Club Cadet mowers do not work. After some discussion it was decided to surplus these.
- Interior Crash bar does not work in the main entrance of the Fire Hall once the door is in the locked position. This may be the sensor is not working. Joseph Mangione will be contacted to assess and perform the necessary repairs.

Commissioner Deutsch made a motion Surplus the two Cub Cadet mowers and sell them, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Matzen Construction Services have been working on the new firehouse facility to replace the current fire station and then demolishing the current fire station. Submitted their formal proposal for partial design and this was presented to the board. The permissive referendum was \$125,000.00. The current breakdown in the contract adds up to \$130,900.00 that is \$5,900.00 over the amount of the permissive referendum. All the money does not have to be paid at once. When an item on the contract is completed at that time the Board will be invoiced for that line item. A discussion was held where Sue reported that there is a "\$5,000,000.00" cap for the entire project. After some discussion it was decided that the current formal proposal would be accepted.

Commissioner Hull made a motion to accept the Matzen Construction Services proposal, seconded by Commissioner Hogle. Motion carried.

In July there was a discussion on replacing command vehicle "Car 3" with a used command vehicle from another department. A permissive referendum was published for the amount of \$50,000.00 for the purchase of a used command vehicle. The vehicle that the department was interested in was from Poestenkill. This vehicle was evaluated by Quinns Motor Care and was noted to have the same if not more issues as the current command vehicle. After some discussion, the board requested that prices be obtained for a new vehicle. 2nd Assistant Chief Hogle did his due diligence and presented three vehicle options to purchase a new command vehicle to the board.

1. Dodge: Sawyer Motors in Saugerties quoted \$59,394 for a V6 and \$64,126 for a V8. These prices did not include outfitting the vehicle.
2. Ford: Metro Ford in Schenectady quoted \$44,893.22 for an Explorer and \$53,571.20. These prices did not include outfitting the vehicle.
3. Chevrolet – DeNooyer Chevrolet in Albany quoted \$58,832 for a PPV (not outfitted) and \$84,126 (outfitted with most of the required equipment). For a SSV they quoted \$60,077 (not outfitted) and \$85,371 (outfitted)

After some discussion was held it was decided to accept the bid for the Chevy Tahoe SSV at Denooyer Chevrolet as this bid was the only bid that included the vehicle to be outfitted.

Commissioner Deutsch made a motion for a Permissive Referendum to allocate funds from the Apparatus & Equipment Capital Reserve account NTE \$100,000.00 for purchase of a new command vehicle and incidentals to put the vehicle into service. This vehicle will replace Car 3 2017 Tahoe, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Ellis.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the West Sand Lake Fire District; that

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners have entered into a contract to purchase a new fully equipped 2026 Chevrolet Tahoe Command Vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners have heretofore established a Capital Reserve Fund to be used for Equipment & Apparatus purchases and repairs currently owned by the West Sand Lake Fire District; and

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost for the new Command Vehicle is One Hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) Dollars; and

WHEREAS, there is currently in the aforementioned Capital Reserve Fund a sum of money in excess of One Hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00);

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Board of Fire Commissioners at its scheduled meeting on August 20, 2026, to transfer from its Capital Reserve Fund the sum One Hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) for the purposes of paying for the new Command Vehicle; said Resolution being adopted subject to a Permissive Referendum pursuant to Section 6-g of the General Municipal Law.

**Commissioner Bell; Aye
Commissioner Ellis; Aye
Commissioner Deutsch; Aye
Commissioner Hogle; Aye
Commissioner Hull; Aye**

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: None

Purchase Orders:

1. Purchase Order to True Value – Repair two portable pumps NTE \$ 1000.00.
2. Purchase Order to - MES under state contract for 3" hose 50 ft in length NTE \$4066.70 with free freight.
3. Purchase Order to Pioneer Visa – Polytech America Mounting Brackets for final four struts NTE \$ 500.00.
4. Purchase Order kit - MES under state contract for replacement of 2 calibration kits and replacement of sensors NTE \$408.40.
5. Purchase Order to MES –one hydrant convertor NTE \$ 350.00.
6. Purchase Order to Bearcom –10 batteries for portable radios NTE \$610.00
7. Purchase Order to Bayou Field and Outdoors –2 bottles of Coldfire NTE \$82.88.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Succession Planning workshop –Scheduled for 09/10/26 7 pm

Budget Meeting – 09/14/26 7 pm

Next Regular Board meeting - 09/17/2026 @ 7pm

AUDIT BILLS: Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve all bills, seconded by Commissioner Deutsch. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

8:51 PM - Commissioner Deutsch made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss two personnel matters requested by Chief Croiser, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried.

9:14 PM – Out of Executive Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hogle to come out of executive session, second by Commissioner Bell.

Several personnel matters were discussed. It was determined that the chiefs will be handling the personnel matters. If additional assistance is required, the board will be contacted.

Commissioner Bell stated to let the record show that one of the matters of personnel discussed is the matter of Chris Monaco with request for repayment for the cost of the EMT course that he was unable to complete due to an infraction that occurred while taking the exam. Chris Monaco was offered several options to repay the cost of the EMT class but to date he has ignored any of the options. After discussion Commissioner Bell recommended immediate suspension. The board has determined that Chris Monaco

will be suspended immediately and will not be reinstated until payment for the course has been received. Chief Crosier will be sending the suspension notification.

Commissioner Bell made a motion that Chris Monaco receive formal notification in writing of his suspension, seconded by Commissioner Ellis.

Commissioner Hogle made a motion to adjourn at 9:17 pm, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Joanne Poirier
Fire District Secretary*