

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE WHEELING BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS
JULY 16, 2025 @ 1:00 PM
WHEELING VILLAGE HALL
ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE ROOM
2 COMMUNITY BOULEVARD, WHEELING, ILLINOIS

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Palicki convened the meeting of the Wheeling Board of Fire and Police Commissioners at 1:02 PM.

Deputy Clerk Henneberry called the Roll:

Present: Chairperson Al Palicki, Commissioner Michael Murphy.

Absent: Jon Kolssak

Commissioner Kolssak was absent with prior notice.

Police Chief Bill Murphy, Police Commander Joseph Kopecky, Police Sergeant Michael Bieschke, HR Director Marisol Leyva, and HR Administrator Vicky Kalogris were also present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Special Minutes of June 10, 2025

Motion by Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Chairperson Palicki, to approve the minutes as presented.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Ayes: Chairperson Palicki, Commissioner Murphy

Absent: Jon Kolssak

3. CITIZEN CONCERNS & COMMENTS - None

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Approval of FF Eligibility Roster Effective September 7, 2025, up to and including September 6, 2027.

Motion by Chairperson Palicki, seconded by Commissioner Murphy, to approve the list as presented.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Ayes: Chairperson Palicki, Commissioner Murphy

Absent: Jon Kolssak

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Chairperson Palicki, seconded by Commissioner Murphy, to recess to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing:

- a) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.
- b) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee(s) of the Village of Wheeling. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). [PD Interviews]

Final Resolution: Motion approved; the open meeting recessed at 1:04 PM.

Ayes: Chairperson Palicki, Commissioner Murphy

Absent: Jon Kolssak

[Reconvene from Executive Session]

Motion by Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Chairperson Palicki, to reconvene into open session. Motion carried by roll call vote, two ayes, one absent; the open meeting reconvened at 2:32 PM.

6. ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Chairperson Palicki, to approve the executive session minutes of June 10, 2025, as presented.

Final Resolution: Motion approved

Ayes: Chairperson Palicki, Commissioner Murphy

Absent: Jon Kolssak

INTERVIEW & CANDIDATE FINDINGS

Motion by Chairperson Palicki, seconded by Commissioner Murphy, to proceed as follows:

1. Strike from consideration from the FF Eligibility Roster the following candidates: Derek Ball, Antonio Miguel Gonzalez, Bretton Schnoor, Gabriel Jimenez, Matthew Stangel, Kevin Alvarado, Jack Conway, Raymond Larson III, Natalie Spencer, Michael Guzzarde, and Luis Banda Frey, as they have withdrawn from consideration.
2. Extend a conditional offer of employment to Stephanie Diaz.
3. Remove Enrique Urunuela Sotelo from the Pool based on interview findings.

Final Resolution: Motion approved

Ayes: Chairperson Palicki, Commissioner Murphy

Absent: Jon Kolssak

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chief Murphy suggested adding a ride-along requirement to the candidate process. After completing it, the Officer in Charge conducts an assessment, which is then included in the final candidate packet. In his experience, this has proven to be a valuable insight into a candidate's personality.

Chairperson Palicki spoke about the value of the Police Department's annual report, reviewed the request for a memorial brick in honor of Commander Borchardt, and noted that Manager Sfondilis had contacted Public Works staff regarding the availability of the bricks. Mr. Palicki stated that he also enjoyed the Police Facebook postings.

Deputy Clerk Henneberry relayed Commissioner Kolssak's request for a photo of all current Police personnel.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Chairperson Palicki. The motion was carried by voice vote, with two ayes and one absent. The meeting adjourned at 2:39 PM.

Jon Kolssak, Secretary
Wheeling Board of Fire and Police Commissioners

Approved August 19, 2025