

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE WHEELING BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 29, 2026 @ 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 1:00 PM.

Deputy Clerk Henneberry called the Roll:

Present: Chairperson Al Palicki and Commissioner Jon Kolssak

Absent: Commissioner Dave Schlaak

Commissioner Schlaak was absent with prior notice.

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Fire Chief Scott Salela, Deputy Fire Chief Steve Mella, and HR Administrator Alyssa Arenson were also present.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a) Special minutes of February 26, 2026

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

Final Resolution: Motion approved.

Ayes: Chairperson Palicki, Commissioner Kolssak

Absent: Commissioner Schlaak

**3. CITIZEN CONCERNS & COMMENTS - None**

**4. NEW BUSINESS - None**

**5. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

- a) Review of Executive Session Minutes of February 26, 2026 (vote to approve will be taken in open session)
- 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). [FF Interviews]

Final Resolution: Motion approved; the open meeting recessed at 1:03 PM.

Ayes: Chairperson Palicki, Commissioner Kolssak

Absent: Commissioner Schlaak

**[Reconvene from Executive Session]**

Motion by Commissioner Kolssak, seconded by Chairperson Palicki, to reconvene into open session. Motion carried by roll call vote, two ayes, one absent; the open meeting was reconvened at 3:49 PM.

## 6. ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Motion by Chairperson Palicki, seconded by Commissioner Kolssak, to approve the executive session minutes of February 26, 2026, as presented.

Final Resolution: Motion approved.

Ayes: Chairperson Palicki, Commissioner Kolssak

Absent: Commissioner Schlaak

### ADDITIONAL ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Chairperson Palicki, seconded by Commissioner Kolssak, to strike from the Firefighter Eligibility Roster: John Carlson, Andrew Long, Joseph Dickert, Jacob Knowles, Danielle Brown, Zachary Merrihew, Matthew Salomonson, Oscar Garcia Bello, Jeffrey Duke, Daniel Maurici, and Max Chung, as they have withdrawn, failed to respond to our correspondence about next steps in the hiring process, or for findings from the vetting process.

Final Resolution: Motion approved.

Ayes: Chairperson Palicki, Commissioner Kolssak

Absent: Commissioner Schlaak

Motion by Chairperson Palicki, seconded by Commissioner Kolssak, to strike Adam Canedy and Joshua Ramirez, and to extend a conditional offer of employment to Mike Swaitly and Jason Perkins.

Final Resolution: Motion approved.

Ayes: Chairperson Palicki, Commissioner Kolssak

Absent: Commissioner Schlaak

### OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chairperson Palicki stated that he will attend the Illinois Fire & Police Commissioners Association seminar on May 2, expressed appreciation for the support in attending the seminar, and commented on Harper College's new Emergency Services Training Center. Chief Salela stated that he is pleased to have another Academy to fall back on.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Kolssak, seconded by Chairperson Palicki. The motion was carried by voice vote, two ayes, one absent. The meeting adjourned at 3:54 PM.

Approved June 1, 2026

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Jon Kolssak, Secretary  
Wheeling Board of Fire and Police Commissioners