

SOUTH ELGIN AND COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICIAL RECORD

DATE: September 9, 2025

The regular monthly meeting for the South Elgin and Countryside Fire Protection District was called to order on September 9, 2025 at 19:00. The meeting was conducted at Station 22, 2055 McDonald Road, South Elgin, IL, 60177.

PRESENT: President Diana Cornelissen, Secretary Rick Bohlman, Treasurer Jeffrey Speyers, Trustee Jeff Theriault, and Trustee Kathy Hazelwood

ABSENT: None

TREASURER'S REPORT–

James Howard was present via ZOOM to review the District's financial report as provided for August 2025 with the Board. James discussed the District's financial position eight months (67%) into 2025. James feels the District is well positioned with our investment income heading into the interest rate decline. A large tax payment is expected this month. Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services has sent notice that the 3rd Quarter GEMT payments will be due October 31, 2025. The GEMT invoice that we received from the State does not match what our billing company, EMS-MC, shows in their reports. Chief Luchsinger reached out to the State for a detailed report and sent the report he received on to EMS-MC to reconcile and hopefully find the discrepancy.

- I. Acceptance and Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Side Letter 25-01 SEFD and I.A.F.F. Local 4833, recognition of Illinois Department of Public Health Pre-Hospital Registered Nurse License
 - b. Approval of August 12, 2025, meeting minutes, regular and Closed Session
 - c. Approval of Treasurer's Report for August 2025
 - d. Approval September 9, 2025 bills in the amount of \$32,465.93
Ratify August 13-September 8, 2025 bills in the amount of \$1,063,862.56

Secretary Bohlman made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Treasurer Speyers seconded, and the motion passed by a voice vote of 5-0.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT-

Last month House Bill 2336 that allows Fire Districts to charge a fee for lift assists after 6 lifts (per facility) in a year passed in legislation. Attorney Flaherty informed the Board that his firm is currently working on a lift assist fee ordinance for the Board's review and possible approval next month. In anticipation of receiving fee payments from the new Fire Prevention Bureau Ordinance 25-001 - An Ordinance Amending Fees for Site Plan Review, Construction Inspections, and Outdoor Festival Inspections, the District is setting up an Illinois ePay account to be able to accept payments via credit card. Shawn is also creating an *acceptance of credit card resolution* for the Board's review and possible approval at next month's meeting.

CHIEF'S REPORT–

- Chief Luchsinger reviewed with the Board the collaborative process of the implementing the side letter approved in the Consent Agenda. Chief thanked the full-time staff for allowing the District to expand our ability to attract additional people for our full-time firefighter testing and potential employment.
- The District will be receiving a large tax payment on September 10th. Chief Luchsinger discussed a plan to invest some of the money into laddered investment plans. The intention is to make the most interest off our money while still having access to the funds necessary to maintain payroll, accounts payables, and operations.

- Chief Luchsinger informed the Board that he contacted a person from the Illinois Treasurer's Office regarding their ePay program. This program would allow the District to accept credit card payments for our Fire Prevention Bureau fees. Payments will be deposited into a (District) designated bank account, fees will be passed on to the user. We can also use this program for CPR class payments or other fees owed to the District.
- Chief Luchsinger reminded the Board that he will be out of the country on vacation for a week starting September 10th, 2025. Assistant Chief Cox will be handling all administration and operations for the District in his absence.
- Part-Time Staffing Model Cost Summary Presentation Assistant Chief Cox (A/C Cox)- provided a presentation of the stability and feasibility continuing the part-time employment model at its current level. A/C Cox discussed the positives and negatives, and the liability(s) of this type of employment. He reported the timelines of BOF sponsorship, boot camp and orientation costs, and the District's part time employment retention rate from 2022 to the current date. Chief Luchsinger added that he and AC Cox will continue to monitor our part-time staffing and present the Board with any changes they think necessary.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT- President Cornelissen and the Board members wished Treasurer Speyers a happy birthday. President Cornelissen reminded the Board of upcoming training offered through NIAFPD in October. Two options are offered; let Britta know if you need help registering.

OLD BUSINESS-

Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS-

South Elgin Firefighters Pension Fund Tax Request \$1,479,780-Municipal Compliance Report – The Pension Fund provided the District with the Municipal Compliance Report. The District will revisit the report in a few months at the time of the tax levy.

Discussion and possible approval of Ordinance 25-001 An Ordinance Amending Fees for Site Plan Review, Construction Inspections, and Outdoor Festival Inspections.- Battalion Chief Eckles was present at the meeting to discuss the necessity and specifics of the new Fire Prevention Bureau fee ordinance. Chief Luchsinger, BC Eckles, Inspector Zabran, and Attorney Shawn Flaherty have spent a great deal of time and effort researching other departments to complete a fee schedule that they feel is fair for the contractors and covers the Fire Prevention Bureau's efforts and time. Chief Luchsinger, BC Eckles, and Inspector Zabran have met with Community Development from the Village of South Elgin to make sure our changes are coordinated and supported by the Village. This Ordinance is regarding new construction, not annual inspections. Trustee Hazelwood made a motion to approve Ordinance 25-001 -An Ordinance Amending Fees for Site Plan Review, Construction Inspections, and Outdoor Festival Inspections as presented. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed by a voice vote of 5-0. Ordinance 2025-001 will need to be published at least 10 days before it can be put into place.

Discussion and possible approval to purchase firefighting nozzles from Air One Inc. in the amount of \$18,550.00 and fire suppression hose from Air One Inc. in the amount of \$31,875.00- FF/PM Andrew Wright and FF/PM Tyler Hite spearheaded this project, putting in many hours of extensive research, also testing out many types of hose and nozzles to find the best options for the District. Both Andrew and Tyler were present at the meeting to discuss the necessity of new hoses and nozzles, and to answer any questions the Board may have had. A motion was made by Trustee Theriault to approve the purchase of firefighting nozzles and fire suppression hoses from Air One Equipment in the amount not to exceed \$50,425.00. Treasurer Speyers seconded and the motion passed by a voice vote of 5-0.

ANY OTHER NEW BUSINESS-

Nothing at this time.

GOOD OF THE DISTRICT-

Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT–
Nothing at this time.

ADJOURNMENT-

There being no further business to come before the Board on a motion duly made by Treasurer Speyers and seconded by Secretary Bohlman, the meeting was adjourned at 19:52 hours; the motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary Bohlman