

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

DATE: November 7, 2022

The regular meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The regular monthly meeting for the South Elgin and Countryside Fire Protection District was called to order on November 7, 2022, at 19:00.

PRESENT: President Mary Van Winkle, Secretary Rick Bohlman, Trustee Jeff Theriault, and Trustee Diana Cornelissen

ABSENT: Treasurer Jeffrey Speyers

PRESENTATIONS – No presentations

Acceptance and Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of October 3, 2022 meeting minutes, and October 11, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes
 - b. Approval of Treasurer's Report for September 2022
 - c. Approval of November 7, 2022 bills in the amount of \$ 264,438.09
- Ratify bills for October 18, 2022 in the amount of \$76,410.15

Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to accept and approve items A through C on the consent agenda. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT Nothing at this time.

CHIEF'S REPORT –

GEMT - Chief Luchsinger informed the Board that in 2021 the State of Illinois mistakenly billed ambulance transfer patients as Medicaid where Medicare was primary. The District received GEMT payments for claims that should have been billed as Medicare and will need to pay back \$317,000 dollars to rectify this issue. It has not been decided how the repayment will be handled at this time.

District Finances – Chief Luchsinger further discussed with the Board the notion of forming an Advisory Financial Committee. No decision was made at this time, the Board will revisit this topic.

IPRF- Chief Luchsinger received notification from our Workers Compensation insurance company (IPRF) that the amount that their company is giving us for the annual Grant is \$33,674.00. this grant can be used on purchasing safety items or equipment to reduce the risk of safety issues.

Property/Casualty Insurance Renewals- Chief Luchsinger reminded the Board that our Property/Casualty Insurance renews in January. Dave Broz will go over our options at the December meeting.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT–

Attorney Shawn Flaherty informed the Board of three properties that lie outside of our District, and that are not assigned to any Fire Protection District/Department. Chief Luchsinger has presented options to the owners to see if the business owners have interest in switching services to our District as this will save them a substantial amount of money. The Board discussed the feasibility of these businesses either joining our District contractually or annexing into our District. Chief and Shawn will stay on top of this and report any changes next month.

Attorney Flaherty informed the Board of some changes regarding our Foreign Fire bylaws. The Board will need to adopt a resolution to appoint the Municipal League as the official entity to collect the 2% from out of state insurance companies and distribute the monies for a fee.

State Legislators will be working for a few weeks and then taking a break for the holidays. The new session will start back up in January 2023.

OLD BUSINESS – No Old Business

Any other Old Business – None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS –

Discussion and possible approval of tax levy request for 2022 – Last month accountant James Howard went over the tax levy possibilities for the District. Chief Luchsinger recommended to the Board that we try to capture the opportunity given this year for tax levy growth. Attorney Flaherty explained the process of levying above the 4.99 percent. The Tax Levy is due to the counties by December 22, 2022.

Discussion and possible approval to schedule a Truth in Taxation hearing for purpose of tax levy request for 2022 - Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to approve going forward with the Truth in Taxation for the upcoming Tax Levy. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously

Discussion and possible approval of MABAS Master Agreement- Attorney Flaherty discussed the proposed MABAS Master Agreement. The District has time to preview the agreement, it needs to be approved by 2024.

South Elgin Firefighters Pension Fund Tax Levy Request recommendation- The Board discussed the Pension Fund levy recommendation. The Pension Board agreed to keep the same amount as the current year.

Discussion of Pension Board Resignation-Retired Fire Chief Steve Wascher – Retired Chief Steve Washer sent Chief Luchsinger an email informing him of the resignation of his position on the Pension Board. His departure from the Board leaves a vacancy to be filled.

Discussion and possible approval of appointment to Pension Board – This item was previously discussed. President Van Winkle made a motion to appoint Fire Chief Luchsinger as an appointed Pension Board member. Trustee Cornelissen seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible approval of 2023 District meeting schedule- The Board decided at last month's meeting to move the District Trustee Meetings to the second Tuesday of each month. A schedule of proposed meeting dates was provided in the packet. President Van Winkle made a motion to approve the District meeting schedule for 2023. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

James Howard joined the meeting and reviewed the September 2022 Financial Report with the Board.

Bi-annual review of Closed Session Minutes- The Board went into Closed Session to discuss this item.

Any other New Business

Any other New Business- Nothing at this time.

GOOD OF THE DISTRICT – Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Nothing at this time.

Secretary Bohlman made a motion to enter into Closed Session @19:51 for reason of 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c)(21) Semi-annual review of the closed session minutes/tapes of meetings that were lawfully closed under OMA

A motion was made by Trustee Cornelissen to resume the regular meeting at 19:57. Trustee Theriault seconded; the motion passed unanimously

Discussion and possible approval to destroy closed session audio tapes prior to May 6, 2021 - Secretary Bohlman made a motion to destroy all Closed Session tapes older than 7/31/20. President Van Winkle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to keep all the current Closed Session Minutes closed. President Van Winkle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board on a motion duly made by Trustee Cornelissen and seconded by Secretary Bohlman the meeting was adjourned at 19:57 hours after the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Secretary Bohlman