

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

DATE: May 2, 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 May 2, 2022, at 19:01.

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

ABSENT: None

PRESENTATIONS – Chief Wascher and Trustee Diane Cornelissen presented Lt. Mike R. Rothecker with the 2021 Kenny Cornelissen Firefighter of the Year Award. Trustee Cornelissen briefly spoke about her late husband, the award's namesake and reason for this annual award. The Board congratulated Mike as the 2021 recipient of this distinctive award; Mike's name will be added to the plaque at Station 22. Robert Rimgale was chosen as the Firefighter of the Year for 2019, he was unable to attend the meeting and will be presented his award at a later date.

The following employees received EMS Certificate Award from IDPH for their service:

Rob Bartosiewicz, 5 years
Anthony Rodgers, 5 years
Dan Cooper, 10 years
Brian Sloan, 10 years
William Eckles, 25 years

Due to Covid shutting down our Recognition Dinner for the past couple years, Service Pins for 2019, 2020, and 2021 were awarded at this year's dinner. The following employees received pins but were not able to attend the dinner:

Kevin Henryson, 5 years
Trustee Jeff Theriault, 5 years
Phillip Swider, 20 years
Rich Stumbaugh, 20 years
William Eckles, 20 years
John Freiberg, 25 years
Walter Antos, 25 years

Chief Wascher informed the Board that FF/PM Tyler Hite received his OSFM Advanced Technician Firefighter Certificate, and FF/PM Samantha Heugh received her OSFM Fire Service Instructor Certificate.

The Board congratulated and thanked all for their dedicated service!

Acceptance and Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of April 4, 2022, meeting minutes, regular, and closed
- b. Approval of Treasurer's Report for March 2022
- c. Approval May 2, 2022 bills in the amount of \$ 192,904.76, ratify an EFT payment to Lively (HSA) in the amount of 79.65, and ratify April 18th, 2022 bills in the amount of \$56,266.01

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT Nothing at this time.

CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Wascher informed the board that the District is still moving forward through the Full Time List to fill the vacant FF/PM position. We received news that the amount of our annual grant from IPRF is \$14,160.00; we will need to apply to receive this money. Chief Wascher reported that the Appreciation Dinner held on April 16th was a fun night for everyone who attended. Chief thanked all involved in planning the event. Chief reported that the Station 21 Open House was a great success with a great community turnout. Chief thanked Lt. Rich Stumbaugh and FPB Assistant Liz Loss for all the hard work they put into planning this event, as well as everyone who worked that day. Great job by all!

ATTORNEY'S REPORT– Attorney Flaherty was not able to attend the meeting, Jim Wargo from Ottosen Dinolfo filled in for him. Jim noted that the Economic Interest Statements were due today and added that the new changes for completing the statement had been an issue for many. All the applicable employees in our District had completed their statements.

OLD BUSINESS –

2021/2022 Budget Update- Chief reported that our District's overtime was average for this time of year and bills were on the lower side since unnecessary spending was shut down in early April. A/C Luchsinger and Britta met with an Andres Medical Billing representative to discuss our ambulance billing details. During the meeting A/C Luchsinger requested (as directed by the Board at the previous meeting) a lower billing rate. A/C Luchsinger heard back from Andres today before the meeting, they agreed to lower our rate a half of a percent.

The new Car 200 is getting closer to completion and is thought to be on the road by the end of the week (May 5th or 6th). A/C Luchsinger reported that the Vehicle Maintenance Committee will meet to discuss options for completing Car 201.

Any other Old Business- Nothing at this time

NEW BUSINESS –

2022/2023 Budget- Chief Wascher and A/C Luchsinger have been discussing our upcoming fiscal year's budget, A/C Luchsinger has started developing our 22/23 District Budget. A/C Luchsinger brought some new ideas to the table, we are separating the overall budget into 3 sections: a Capital Budget, an Operating Budget, and an Economic Savings Budget. Separating the budget into these categories will make it easier to utilize and understand.

Chief Wascher informed the Board of the Illinois Fire Service Home Day scheduled in Alsip on June 2, 2022; all are welcome to attend.

Our Workers Comp Insurance Broker Dave Broz from Railside Citrus was in attendance to go over our renewal information and answer any questions the board may have had. The Board discussed the renewal options for 22/23, our policy renews on July 1st, 2022.

Healthcare Renewal 2022/2023 Renewal –At our last meeting Chief Wascher reported to the Board that we had received good news for our health insurance renewal; One Digital negotiated our BCBS increase down to 3.3% with Dental and Vision costs remaining the same. Trustee Theriault made a motion to approve the Healthcare Renewal Plan as presented for the 2022/2023 fiscal year. Trustee Cornelissen seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of non-Union Employee Raises – This will be discussed in Closed Session.

Approval to open a Vehicle Replacement Money Market Account- A/C Luchsinger proposed that our District open a Money Market Bank Account to fund each year for new vehicles. Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to approve opening a Money Market account earmarked as a Vehicle Replacement Fund. Treasurer Speyers seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Auditing Services RFP- Due to our current auditing firm dropping all Fire Service-related clients, we were pressed to quickly find a new auditing firm. A/C Luchsinger completed an RFP containing our requirements and sent it to a list of recommended auditing firms. A/C Luchsinger will bring all responses received to the board meeting next month.

Any other New Business- Nothing at this time.

GOOD OF THE DISTRICT – Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Nothing at this time.

Treasurer Speyers made a motion to move to Closed Session for the reason of ILCS 120/2.1, Employee Compensation / Performance at 19:35. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Secretary Bohlman made a motion to return to the regular meeting @ 20:51. Trustee Theriault seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Theriault made a motion to approve the Non-Union salaries as presented in the 22/23 schedule for the following personnel:

- Arnie Zabran
- Britta Eggebrecht
- Liz Loss
- All Part-time Firefighters
- All three Battalion Chief Contracts

Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board on a motion duly made by Trustee Theriault and seconded by Treasurer Speyers the meeting was adjourned at 20:54 hours after the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary Bohlman