

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

DATE: December 7, 2020

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 December 7, 2020 at 19:04 via Zoom. At this time the Board finds it practical and prudent due to the COVID emergency to meet via Zoom.

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

ABSENT: None

Minutes of the Trustee meeting held on November 2, 2020 were reviewed. Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes with a minor spelling correction. Secretary Bohlman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Closed Session minutes from the November 2, 2020 meeting was pushed to the January 2021 meeting.

The Treasurer's Report at the end of October 2020 showed a balance of \$9,111,204.84, the balance minus the November bills was \$8,361,470.02. There were accounts payable payments made of checks 16541-16607 and payroll checks 12330-12361. P/R checks #12356, #12357 & #12358 need to be voided; all were printed with the wrong name on them. A motion was made by President Van Winkle to accept the Treasurer's Report. Trustee Cornelissen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the current bills. Secretary Bohlman made a motion to ratify the November 16, 2020 bills (#2) in the amount of \$555,374.05, and approve the December 7, 2020 bills in the amount of \$360,325.33. Trustee Cornelissen seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Secretary Bohlman inquired to the amount we still owe to Lamp for the new stations; A/C Rothecker responded that all bills have now been paid.

PRESENTATIONS – Chief Wascher informed the board that if we were able to have had a live meeting this month the following FF/PMs would have been recognized for coming off probation: Robert Bartosiewicz, Matt Dalbke, Chris Elliott, Connor Hickey, Tyler Hite, and Anthony Rodgers. This accomplishment will be celebrated when it is possible to meet safely together. Congratulations to all!

Chief Wascher recognized a few employees for certificates that they have earned this month. Rob Rimgale and Matt Dalbke obtained their OSFM Hazardous Materials Technician certificate, Neal Lippold obtained his OSFM Structural Collapse certificate, and Mike R Rothecker obtained his Fire Service Instructor I certificate. Great work guys!

Chief Wascher recognized Steve Diehl, Scott Diehl, and Rob Rimgale for their service in helping out Hampshire Fire District looking for a missing person in a pond in their district.

Chief Wascher recognized Captain Starr for arranging and putting up holiday lights (with help from a few shift guys) at all three stations. The stations all look festive and beautiful, thank you Matt for your hard work!

A/C Rothecker reported to the Board some details from the November 9, 2020 structure fire at 400 Collins Street in our District. Captain Starr immediately upgraded the call to a working fire; Elgin FD, Bartlett FPD, Fox River and Countryside Fire Rescue and Pingree Grove FPD responded for Mutual Aid. A bedridden

woman was found to be trapped in the house. The firefighters had the woman out of the house within 13 minutes from the initial time of the call. The firefighters had to cut a doorway out of the bedroom window to get the patient out. A/C Rothecker recognized the following firefighters for their quick actions and outstanding service on this call: A/C Lancaster, A/C Rothecker, Captain Starr, Lt. Stumbaugh, Lt. Krasowski, Steve Diehl, Neal Lippold, Jon Pollock, Robert Rimgale, Jason Ames, Matt Dalbke, Chris Elliott, Brian Sloan, Kevin Henryson, and Dustin Differding. When time allows us to have an open meeting those individuals will be recognized with a Lifesaving Award. A/C Rothecker added that this is why the District trains for situations exactly like this. Great job to all that were on the call!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – No report this month.

CHIEF'S REPORT –

COVID 19 – Chief Wascher reported that the District continues to work hard to follow protocols and take proper precautions while on calls; social distancing is being practiced and masks are being worn at the stations. Chief reported that approximately 70% of our current calls are persons having difficulty breathing or other COVID symptoms. The number of positive COVID cases in South Elgin are still rising, this month's number is 1730 cases compared to 890 cases last month. Normal call volume is starting to climb back up. Chief Wascher reported that the number of COVID cases at the extended healthcare facilities in South Elgin are also rising.

Chief Wascher thanked everyone who participated in A/C Lancaster's last day/walk out ceremony. Chief noted that the District will miss A/C Lancaster's dedication, knowledge, and commitment to the job.

The District has received notice that we will receive \$12,309.00 from a IPRF Grant in 2021. IPRF also gave us a little over 4,000.00 as a stimulus grant.

Chief reported that he met with the Kane County Health Department regarding COVID vaccine distribution. He noted that we should have the vaccine by February 2021. We may also be provided with COVID quick tests that can be administered at the stations.

The District received a thank you note and thanks via Facebook from the family of Tom Foster regarding our help and attention for the service for Tom. The family was very appreciative of A/C Rothecker's help and of everyone who attended the service.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT– Attorney Flaherty updated the Board on some remote training opportunities coming up in the next couple months. A/C Rothecker added that we can make safe accommodations for the Board members to come to the station for the training offered.

Attorney Morton added that two fire district candidates running for the State Conciliation Pension Board were unfortunately not elected.

OLD BUSINESS –

A/C Rothecker discussed the budget with the trustees.

Station Update – A/C Rothecker reported that he will meet with Lamp and the company that installed the garage doors to rectify some issues. Most unfinished items for the new stations have been checked off, with just minor details left to be completed. Chief Wascher added that we will be reimbursed for half the cost of the Stonington Place road project from the Village of South Elgin.

2021 Insurance Renewal- Dave Broz joined the meeting to discuss and answer any questions that the Board may have had regarding the District's upcoming insurance renewals for our Accident, Employee Benefits (group life), and Fiduciary policies. Chief Wascher and Dave Broz from Railside Citrus updated the Board on how COVID has affected our coverage and policy cost. Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to approve the purchase of the VFIS policy with the \$5,000.00 deductible for the upcoming year (2021). Treasurer Speyers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS –

19/20 District Audit Approval – Trustee Theriault made a motion to accept the Annual Financial Report provided by Tighe, Kress and Orr. The motion was seconded by Secretary Bohlman and passed unanimously.

The 19-20 Treasurer's report will be ready for approval at next month's meeting in January. Due to COVID making everything take a bit longer, Tighe, Kress, and Orr needed to file an extension through Kane and DuPage County on the District's behalf. The AFR and the Treasurer's report need to be turned in to the counties (Kane and DuPage) before the end of January.

2021 Fiscal Year Actuary Pension Fund Contribution Approval – Trustee Theriault made a motion to approve the Pension funding as presented in the letter from Pension Board President Mike Rothecker. Trustee Cornelissen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 20-0193 2020 Tax Levy approval – Treasurer Speyers made a motion to approve Ordinance 20-0193, the District's 2020 Tax Levy. Secretary Bohlman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

GOOD OF THE DISTRICT – Nothing at this time

PUBLIC COMMENT – Nothing at this time

CLOSED SESSION – Nothing at this time

There being no further business to come before the Board on a motion duly made by Secretary Bohlman and seconded by Treasurer Speyers, the meeting was adjourned at 19:51 hours after the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Secretary Bohlman