

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

DATE: January 4, 2021

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 January 4, 2021 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 (via ZOOM), Trustee Diana Cornelissen

ABSENT: None

Minutes of the Trustee meeting held on December 7, 2020 were reviewed. Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes as written. Treasurer Speyers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Closed Session minutes from the November 2, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Treasurer Speyers made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes as written. Secretary Bohlman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report at the end of November 2020 showed a balance of \$8,029,410.70, the balance minus the December bills was \$7,446,332.07. There were accounts payable payments made of checks 16608-16692 and payroll checks 12362-12406. A motion was made by Trustee Cornelissen to accept the Treasurer's Report. Secretary Bohlman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the current bills. Secretary Bohlman made a motion to ratify the December 16, 2020 bills (#2) in the amount of \$222,753.30, and approve the January 4, 2020 bills in the amount of \$198,330.26. Trustee Cornelissen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS –

Paul Duffy was promoted to Lieutenant after being sworn in by President Van Winkle. The board congratulated Lieutenant Duffy. A celebration will be held for Lieutenant Duffy as soon as safely possible.

Cory Nickels was sworn in by President Van Winkle as a Full Time Firefighter for the South Elgin & Countryside Fire Protection District. The board congratulated FF/PM Nickels.

Chief Wascher recognized a few employees for certificates that they have earned this month. Lieutenant Luchsinger obtained his Fire Department Safety Officer certificate, and Lieutenant Truax & FF/PM Payne obtained their OSFM Fire Service Instructor II Certificate. Great work guys!

Chief Wascher recognized Gold Shift for their exemplary work on a fire in our District off Route 31. This was Captain Cox's first fire as an Acting Battalion Chief, he and his shift did an outstanding job. Great job to all that were on the call!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – No report this month.

CHIEF'S REPORT –

Chief reported that the District started our new staffing model incorporating our Captains as Acting Battalion Chiefs at Station 21.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT– Attorney Flaherty reported that the General Assembly will have a lame duck session next week. Shawn feels like we may have a very slow start to new legislature this year in the new General Assembly. He reported to the Board that Closed Session will be needed at this meeting for a Labor related issue.

OLD BUSINESS –

A/C Rothecker discussed the budget with the trustees. A/C Rothecker reported to the board that our ambulance transfer revenue has picked up; our income for transfers has been grossly down due to COVID.

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. The local hospitals are reporting a lower number of new cases. The number of positive COVID cases in South Elgin is starting to decline, this month's number is 336 new cases compared to 840 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 is still rising. Chief Wascher reported that we had a small COVID breakout at the fire stations in December. DKI came and cleaned and sanitized all three stations.

Care Act Update- After our initial submission, the County asked us to modify the information/reports that we gave them to back up our application. The additional information sufficed and we picked up a check for \$191,760.00.

Tax Levy Update- Chief Wascher reported that the Tax Levy that was approved at last month's meeting was turned into both Kane and DuPage Counties before the deadline.

19/20 Treasurer's Statement- Treasurer Speyers made a motion to accept the 19/20 Treasurer's Statement. Trustee Cornelissen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Cornelissen asked about registering for the NIAFPD conference. The trustees were asked to contact Britta if interested in attending the virtual training; Britta will take care of the registration.

NEW BUSINESS –

Chief Wascher reported that our employees have started receiving their COVID vaccines today. All employees interested will be able to get their first dose of the vaccine in the next week or two.

FF/PM Hickey has decided to take a Full Time FF position in Sycamore and will be leaving South Elgin Fire District. Sycamore Fire District is his hometown department, we wish him well! To fill his position the District will begin the hiring process for the next person on the list.

GOOD OF THE DISTRICT – Captain Cox reiterated that his crew did an outstanding job on the Route 31 fire. He also noted that we received excellent help from Fox River and Countryside Fire Rescue's A/C Bert Lancaster, Elgin's Fire Chief Cagann, and Bartlett's Fire Chief Gabrenya. He raved about his crew and his Lieutenant Peters' and Lieutenant Stumbaugh's performances.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Nothing at this time

CLOSED SESSION - Trustee Cornelissen moved to suspend the regular meeting and enter into Closed Session at 19:39 for reason of (5 ILCS 120/2.1) Appointment. Employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Speyers and was approved by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Speyers made a motion to reconvene the meeting @ 20:13. Trustee Cornelissen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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 20:14 hours after the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary Bohlman