

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

DATE: March 4, 2019

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 March 4, 2019 at the South Elgin Fire District, Station #22, 2055 McDonald Rd. South Elgin, Kane County, IL at 19:00 hours.

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 February 4, 2019 were reviewed. Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Secretary Rick Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with Trustee Theriault abstaining.

The Treasurer's Report at the end of January 2019 showed a balance of \$16,397,898.32 the balance minus the January bills was \$16,118,888.52. There were accounts payable payments made of checks 15057-15144, and payroll checks 11854 thru 11880. A motion was made by Secretary Bohlman to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. President Van Winkle seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the current bills. Trustee Theriault made a motion to pay the March bills (#1) as presented in the amount of \$241,795.84 and to ratify the February (#2) bills in the amount of \$103,002.16. Trustee Cornelissen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS –

Chief Wascher recognized FF/PM Robert Rimgale for obtaining his OSFM FAE Certification. Great job Rob!

The EMS Coordinator at Delnor Hospital commended and thanked the crew of Phillip Swider, Jon Pollock, and Ben Graff for their outstanding care on a serious call that dealt with a patient with sepsis. Thanks for your great service guys!

Lt. Peters sent Chief Wascher an email recognizing Walter Antos, Mick Krasowski, Kevin Henryson and A/C Lancaster for their speedy and exemplary care on a call for a baby in severe respiratory distress. Great job on a tough call!

Lt. Freiberg sent Chief Wascher an email recognizing the hard work his crew put in at a fire in Hampshire. The shift included Scott Diehl and Colin Rothecker on the scene, Mick Krasowski and Walter Antos back at Station 22 with the clean-up after the call. Thanks to all for the great work!

Chief Wascher informed the Board that Liz Loss has done an excellent job collecting the fees/fines for the Fire Prevention Bureau. Thanks for all your hard work Liz!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – President Van Winkle informed the board of a fundraiser that is in the process of being planned for Jeff and Vickie Speyers. The District and the Union will help with this fundraiser on April 5th, from 6-10pm at the Moose in Elgin, IL; volunteers are needed with more details to come in the near future.

CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Wascher thanked everyone who attended the Appreciation Dinner on March 2, 2019. Lt. Jason Peters was awarded the Kenny Cornelissen Firefighter of the Year Award. Years of Service Awards went to the following employees: Rick Bohlman 40 years of service; Neal Lippold -15 years of service; Scott Diehl, Mike R. Rothecker, and Shane Hamilton- 10 years of service; Ryan Payne, Shannon Harms, Liz Loss and Rocco Giardino- 5 years of service. Chief Wascher presented Captain Matt Starr with his pin for 25 years of service to SECFPD. Thanks to all for their service and commitment to South Elgin Fire District.

Chief Wascher informed to Board that the District will be sponsoring three Part Time Firefighters to attend Paramedic School; Jack Theriault, Samantha Heugh and Dustin Differding will start classes in the fall pending passing the written entrance exam.

Retired Lt. Arnie Zabran's retirement party is scheduled for March 23, from 3-7 at Stanley's Ale House in South Elgin.

Chief Wascher has completed his Assistant Chief evaluations; he will discuss the assessments with the Board after reviewing them with A/C Lancaster and A/C Rothecker.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT–

Attorney Shawn Flaherty reported to the Board that Governor Pritzker has just recently formed a Pension Consolidation Committee. He reported that he will be following this new committee, their interest and actions.

OLD BUSINESS –

Chief Wascher reported that we still have not heard from the Kane County Board regarding Rick Bohlman and Jeff Speyers board position reappointments. President Van Winkle will follow up with the County about the reappointments.

New Stations - Trustee Cornelissen, President Van Winkle, Chief Wascher, A/C Lancaster, and A/C Rothecker met with Lamp and 222 Architects to choose the new station paint colors, flooring, tile, etc. Lamp is hoping to break ground in April; a groundbreaking ceremony is planned. The Civil Plans are coming along with final details being worked out between the Village and the engineers. A letter was submitted to FRWRD to obtain a variance for the size of the grease traps for the stations. We have received many calls and inquiries on phone systems, furniture, etc. We have also received a few FOIAs regarding the construction processes. We will be reporting our construction spending to the government.

Chief Wascher reported to the board that the Stryker Cot that was approved as Surplus Equipment at the last meeting was put on an auction site specifically for government items this past month. The cot ended up selling on GovDeals for the amount of \$16,825.00. Thanks to FF/PM Matt Turnquist for working on this sale.

NEW BUSINESS –

Chief Wascher asked the Village of South Elgin to release the Impact Fees that were owed to the District that they have been holding; the Village issued us a check in the amount of \$73,621.35.

The District currently has two FF/PMs off on Workman Comp; to help keep overtime down Chief Wascher asked the board to approve starting the hiring process for the next person on the current Fulltime Firefighter List. Trustee Theriault made a motion to start the hiring process for the next candidate on the current Fulltime Firefighter List. Treasurer Speyers seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Wascher and the board discussed an ambulance bill reduction request that we have received. The trustees discussed about how to fairly entertain the notion of ambulance bill reductions. In the end the Trustees decided there is not a fair way to reduce the charges. The board stated that while they understand and sympathize with the requester's experience, we are the keepers of tax payer's money, and reducing/waiving the fees may open the door for many other types of requests. The Board directs Britta to contact Andres Medical Billing to work out a payment plan that would work for the family. Trustee

Cornelissen made a motion to deny the request for reduction of payment for the noted ambulance bill. Secretary Bohlman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

A/C Rothecker discussed a deal he has found to purchase 10 sets of fire gear; we will be able to save the District approximately \$20,000 with this transaction.

GOOD OF THE DISTRICT- Captain Starr thanked the Board for the gift cards and dinner that was provided to the shifts on the night of the Appreciation Dinner since they were unable to attend.

PUBLIC COMMENT- Nothing at this time.

Treasurer Speyers made the motion to move to Closed Session for the semi-annual review of the Closed Session minutes of meetings that were lawfully closed under the OMA at 19:36. Trustee Cornelissen seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Secretary Bohlman motioned to reopen the meeting @ 19:44, Treasurer Speyers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to release the Closed Session minutes for October 1, 2018 and November 5, 2018, and also to destroy the Closed Session tapes prior to August 1st, 2017. 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 Trustee Cornelissen, the meeting was adjourned at 19:46 hours after the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary Bohlman