

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

DATE: November 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 November 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 October 7, 2019 were reviewed. Trustee Theriault made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes as written. Trustee Cornelissen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting held on October 7, 2019 were reviewed. Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to approve the Closed Session minutes as written. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report at the end of September 2019 showed a balance of \$16,753,131.43, the balance minus the October bills was \$14,853,728.80. There were accounts payable payments made of checks 15604-15677 and payroll checks 12027-12042. A motion was made by Secretary Bohlman to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Trustee Theriault seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the current bills. Trustee Theriault made a motion to pay the November 4, 2019 bills (#1) as presented in the amount of \$262,550.82 and to ratify the October 2019 #2 bills in the amount of \$544,750.68. Secretary Bohlman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS – Part time Firefighter/Paramedic Ben Graff completed his probation in August of 2019. President Van Winkle swore in Ben Graff as a Part time Firefighter / Paramedic for South Elgin & Countryside Fire Protection District; Ben's family was in attendance.

The District recognized Jeremy Montgomery for his 21 years of service to South Elgin & Countryside Fire Protection District. On behalf of the District, Chief Wascher presented Jeremy with a plaque.

FF/PM Neal Lippold and FF/PM Mike R. Rothecker received their OSFM Trench Technician certificates; congratulations to both.

Probationary Fulltime FF/PM Chris Elliott has completed his EMS check off for both the District and Sherman Hospital (system entry). Good job Chris!

FF/PM Walter Antos and FF/PM Dalbke were complimented on their excellent EMS service to a resident in our District.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – No report.

CHIEF'S REPORT – The District will be hosting a class through IFSI with a program dealing with stress in the fire service. The police will also attend this event.

The District has sponsored 10 candidates in the current ECC Fire Academy. Chief Wascher informed the board that the class is doing well and scheduled to graduate in mid-December.

Our six new firefighters started on September 30, 2019 for a two week orientation. Firefighters Bartosiewicz, Dalbke, Elliott, Hickey, Hite, and Rodgers started on their regular shifts on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**– Attorney Shawn Flaherty updated the Board on the recent changes in the House and Senate in Springfield. Shawn reported that the Pension Consolidation Bill 7616 was filed on 10/29/19. If the bill passes local Pension Boards will have a 30 month period to turn over their pension funds to the Unified Firefighter investment fund; no money will trade hands until 2022. Although the money will be invested together, accounts will remain separate.

Attorney Flaherty reminds the board that he and the Chiefs will be working on preparing the 2019 tax levy in the next month.

#### **OLD BUSINESS -**

**New Stations** – Chief Wascher continues to send the Board weekly updates regarding the construction of the new stations. Chief Rothecker met with Laura Parks to start choosing/purchasing the new station(s) furniture. This purchase will be through a State Bid (RFP).

**District Policy Update**- A few months ago Attorney Shawn Flaherty had recommended that we update our Policy Manual; Attorney Ryan Morton has prepared an updated first chapter. The Board decided to wait until the next meeting scheduled for December 2, 2019 to review the proposed changes (due to the large size of the first chapter). This will ensure they have the time they need to review the proposed changes.

The Apparatus Committee has been busy getting the new brush truck's operational equipment installed; i.e. - skid pump, rails, running boards, winch, bumpers, etc. The committee has also been looking into smaller more economical and efficient fire engines for our next engine purchase. We will use a purchasing agreement through Houston Galveston for this next new engine that will allow us to not have to go out for bid. The new engine will take approximately 12 months to build.

Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to accept and file the 2018-2019 Annual Financial Report prepared by Tighe, Kress & Orr. Secretary Bohlman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS –**

Trustee Theriault made a motion to approve the increase the hourly rate for 7g Vehicle Maintenance for Part-time Firefighters to \$20.00 per hour. Treasurer Speyers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

FF/PM Walter Madsen has left our employment to take a fulltime position closer to home. The Chiefs and Commissioners have contacted the next applicant on the Fulltime Hiring List and will start the hiring process to replace Walter.

Jeremy Montgomery has petitioned the District for insurance benefits. Jeremy and his attorney Bob Seltzer were present at the meeting; they presented their case to the board on why Jeremy should receive continued healthcare insurance benefits (PSEBA) at the District's cost. The Board and Attorney Flaherty discussed Jeremy's application.

Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to accept and file the Treasurer's report from the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year. Treasurer Speyers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**GOOD OF THE DISTRICT** – Chief Wascher invited the Board to attend the Village of South Elgin's *Almost Winters Day* event on November 16, 2019. The Fire District will deliver Santa to the event via fire engine. Secretary Bohlman shared with the Board many positive comments regarding his visit to the ECC Fire Academy with Chief Wascher.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Nothing at this time

Trustee Theriault made the motion to move to Closed Session @ 20:05 for the reason of 5ILCS 120/2.5- Evidence or testimony presented in an open hearing and 5ILCS 120/2.6 – Setting of a price for property owned by the District. Treasurer Speyers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to reconvene the meeting @ 21:02. Secretary Bohlman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board asked some questions regarding Jeremy Montgomery's medical treatment and noise exposure(s).

Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to find that Jeremy Montgomery qualified for PSEBA Benefits providing he turns over all necessary information regarding his health insurance back to October 12, 2018. Treasurer Speyers seconded and the motion passed 4-1; President Van Winkle –yes, Secretary Bohlman – yes, Treasurer Speyers –yes, Trustee Theriault –no, Trustee Cornelissen – yes.

There being no further business to come before the Board on a motion duly made by Secretary Bohlman and seconded by Trustee Cornelissen , the meeting was adjourned at 21:18 hours after the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Secretary Bohlman