

**SUGAR GROVE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
TRUSTEE'S MEETING  
OPEN MINUTES**

**DATE:** July 21, 2014  
**TIME:** 7:00 pm  
**PLACE:** Sugar Grove Fire Station  
**Board of Trustees:** Christopher Ruchaj, President  
David Linden, Treasurer  
Mike Fagel, Trustee  
Cheryl Wojciechowski, Trustee  
**GUESTS:** Attorney Shawn Flaherty

Budget and Appropriation Hearing – at 7:14 it was noted that there was a quorum present so the floor was open on the FY 2014-2015 Budget and Appropriation Hearing.

No comments were heard. At 7:15 the hearing was closed.

It was motioned by Linden and seconded by Wojciechowski to:  
'Adjourn'

Motion carried

At 7:16 the regular Board of Trustees meeting was called to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call** – Ruchaj absent.

It was motioned by Wojciechowski and seconded by Linden to:  
'Nominate Fagel as President Pro-tem'

Motion carried

It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Linden to:  
'Nominate Wojciechowski as Secretary Pro-tem'

Motion carried

**Approval of Minutes-**

It was motioned by Linden and seconded by Wojciechowski to:  
'Approve the open session meeting minutes of June 23, 2014'

Motion carried

It was motioned by Wojciechowski and seconded by Fagel to:  
'Amend the June 23, 2014 closed meeting minutes by removing John Lehman as a trustee, and then approve and open them up'

Motion carried

**Treasurers Report –**

Operations Account – \$2,612,678.54, Construction Account - \$545,207.42, Total \$3,157,885.96  
Budget Percentage Report – following the approval of the budget, the budget amounts will then be listed and a percentage will be calculate next month for the board. Balloon payment on the engine was made this month.

It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Wojciechowski to:  
'Accept the June 2014 Budget Percentage Report and Balance Sheet'

Roll call vote – Motion carried

**Expenditures –**

Chase Checking - \$252,794.50, Chase HRA - \$4,954.02, Total expenditures \$257,748.52

It was motioned by Linden and seconded by Wojciechowski to:  
'Approve the Expenditures for June 2014 in the amount of \$257,748.52'

Roll call vote – Motion carried

**Consent Agenda –**

Turnout Rental - \$4,890.00 – This is for rental of gear.

**Foreign Fire Fund –**

Rakuten.com – 68.74 – this is for blades. Daily Herald – \$189.80 – subscription to the paper.

Darley – \$19.95 – this is for shipping on Carabineer's that were previously approved.

It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Linden to:

‘Approve the Consent Agenda dated July 2014’

Motion carried

**Trustees report –**

Fagel stated that he has been to several active shooter training classes across the country. Fagel questioned when the last time our Firefighters attended a mass casualty drill. Perkins said about 18 months ago; Lopez just attended a pre-active shooter drill training session in Elgin. Lopez wants to take the lead in developing something here. Fagel said Elgin and Aurora do things differently because of their size, and a lot of things has changed. Fagel said he wants to be involved in the discussions at the ground floor level.

**Report from Chief and Command –**

Call summary report – June calls are down slightly – but are forecasting 150 more calls for the year over last.

Fagel stated that looking at the national call average almost 80% are EMS.

Perkins stated that he believes the national average would consider any motor vehicle call an EMS call, and we don't add those in, we separate those out, so there is a better feel as to what they really are.

Fagel would like to see how the national average counts their calls, and to check the surrounding departments to see how they count them.

**Attorney's report –**

IL Supreme Court rendered pension decision – Case in State of Illinois – State Law basically kept pension benefits intact, but removed health insurance. It made its way up to the highest court in the state. Six of the seven Justices found retiree health insurance benefits are on par with pension benefits as items that shall not be bridged. This means the Senate bill is dead. IL Pension reform back to square one.

**Old Business –**

2014-2015 Budget – Discussion was held on the budget. Fagel has concerns about continually passing a budget in the RED. Chief Perkins explained the process of the budget and just because it is in the red does not mean that we will spend the whole budget amount. Marty Kunkel, in the public seats, also reiterated the fact that the budget is a working document, prior years we have never spent all the money in those line items, you can pass a budget in RED, or you can spend money at the end and have to do an amendment. Fagel questioned Flaherty if it is a normal to 'fudge' the amounts. Flaherty stated the budget is the plan, you put in what you think you are going to spend, the appropriation is the legal authority, and he suggests that the appropriation should be a bit higher so you don't go through the expense of having to amend it.

It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Linden to:

‘Approve Ordinance 2014-02 Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance, Sugar Grove Fire Protection District, Kane County, Illinois’

Roll call vote – Motion carried

**New Business –**

11a) Ordinance 2014-03 – Permitting Trustees to Attend Board Meetings through Remote Participation

Discussion was held on the remote participation. Linden stated we went down this road before, he believes the trustee should be here. Fagel stated he does not share the same views with Linden. Fagel stated that the Forest Preserve District, 911-Board, Township Board, and Drainage Districts 1&2 Board have this in place. Linden stated that he took this job and knew he was going to be missing a lot, Fagel stated it is legal and he would like to see it move forward. Flaherty stated Illinois is an opt-in state, you cannot do it by speaker phone unless you opt-in. After much discussion a vote took place.

It was motioned by Fagel and Wojciechowski to:

‘Approve the Adoption of Ordinance of 2014-03 Permitting Trustees to Attend Board Meetings through Remote Participation’

Discussion – Wojciechowski stated that even though she seconded the motion, she does not want to see Fagel take advantage of this. She would like to see that it is limited to 2 times a year. Flaherty stated the board can decide to approve a more narrow scope. Linden stated that he would personally like to see it changed. Fagel is comfortable with the way it is written.

Roll call vote – Fagel – Yes, Wojciechowski – Yes, Linden – NO. Motion Failed

**Resolution 2014-03 Amendment to the Cafeteria Plan –**

This is a resolution amending the cafeteria plan by terminating the grace period and allowing a carryover consistent with the terms of IRS Notice 2014-71.

It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Wojciechowski to:  
'Approve Resolution 2014-03 Amend Cafeteria Plan'

Roll call vote – Motion carried

**Intergovernmental Agreement with N. Aurora -**

Fagel wanted to include garage keeper's liability in the agreement, Perkins stated that N. Aurora would have to carry it, and they are not going to include it in the agreement. Perkins stated that he talked to our insurance company and they said we don't have to worry about garage keeper's liability, if anything happens to our vehicle it will be covered under our insurance policy. Fagel would like a side letter from the insurance carrier, or our agent, on the conversation Perkins had. Perkins stated that he can have him come to the August board meeting. Flaherty stated that he has done this agreement before and that the district is protected.

It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Linden to:  
'Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with N. Aurora'

Roll call vote – Motion carried

Discussion was held on the appointment of the Fire Commissioners – it was noted that Scimeca was reappointed during his term, while Pilkington was not reappointed when he should have been.

It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Wojciechowski to:  
'Reappoint John Pilkington as Fire Commissioner for a three year term ending June of 2017'

Roll call vote – Motion carried

It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Linden to:  
'Go into closed session at 8:22 pm'

Roll call vote – Motion carried

It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Wojciechowski to:  
'Go back in open session at 9:27pm'

Roll call vote – Motion carried

No action was taken in closed session.

**ANY OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY LAWFULLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD**

**None Heard**


**Public to Address the Board**

**None Heard**

It was motioned by Linden and seconded by Wojciechowski to:  
"Adjourn at 9:28pm"

Roll call vote – Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

  
Cheryl Wojciechowski, Secretary Pro-Tem

  
Paula Lacey, Recording Secretary