

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

**DATE:** January 17, 2022  
**TIME:** 6:00 pm  
**PLACE:** Sugar Grove Fire Station

**Board of Trustees:** Mike Fagel – President  
Tim Cicero – Secretary  
Nicole Lamela – Treasurer  
David Blankenship – Trustee  
John Guddendorf, Jr. – Trustee

**GUESTS:** Chief Perkins, Attorney Flaherty

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call** – Trustee Guddendorf absent

**Public to Address the Board** – Nothing heard

**Approval of Minutes** –  
December 20, 2021, open –

It was motioned by Cicero and seconded by Lamela to:  
'Approve the Open Meeting Minutes from December 20, 2021'

Roll call vote – 3/1 – Blankenship abstain – Motion carried

December 20, 2021, closed –

It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Lamela to:  
'Approve December 20, 2021, Closed Session Minutes and Keep Closed'

Roll call vote – 3/1 – Blankenship abstain – Motion carried

**Correspondence** –  
Trustee Cicero – The Union did research for the 2<sup>nd</sup> ambulance; this is included in the packet.

**Treasurers Report**  
**Approval of Cash Balances and Budget vs Actual Reports**  
Operating Fund – \$4,687,538.18, Capital Account – \$1,251,209.00, Total cash on hand – \$5,938,747.18

**Discussion** –

- Building Construction New – this was for training facility
- How the transfers in and out throw the current % out of balance.
- BNY Mellon – this will be at 0 after January.

It was motioned by Cicero and seconded by Lamela to:  
'Approve the Cash Balances and Budget vs Actual Reports for December 2021.'

Roll call vote – All in favor - Motion carried

**Approval of Expenditures**  
Chase Checking – \$347,440.61, Chase HRA – \$1,616.89, Total Expenditures – \$349,057.50

**Discussion** –

- How often is GEMT paid out – three times this year - quarterly
- Cardmember Services – purchases on credit card

It was motioned by Cicero and seconded by Lamela to:  
'Approve the Expenditures for December 2021'

Roll call vote – All in favor - Motion carried

**Consent Agenda –**

**Fire District**

- **Sam Carbis – Replacement Ladders - \$1,743.00**
- **Sam Carbis – Shipping - \$1,045.78**
- **Total - \$2,788.78**

**Discussion –**

- Age of ladders – old and repaired multiple times

**It was motioned by Fagel and seconded by Cicero to:  
'Approve'**

**Roll call vote – All in favor - Motion carried**

**Trustees Report – None**

**Report of the Fire Chief**

Trustees have report – 140 Calls in December – 1373 for the year.

**Discussion –**

- Is COVID playing a part in the # of calls
- Nixel – who sends this out – usually the Police Chief or Public Works Director
- Update road closures if not already done

**Attorney's report –**

**Trustee training**

- this month
- next one not until March

**Consumer Price Index –**

- 7% - inflation is real – guaranteed as a fire district to get 5% next year if we levy for it
- Need to do Truth & Taxation or will not get new growth
- Put advertisement in local paper before Levy
- Make determination in October
- Hearing in November

**New Ethics form –**

- This is the Economic Interest Statement – Needs to be in to Kane County by May 1.
- Requires Trustees to list all assets over \$10,000 – not sure if under obligation to list all assets
- Signed by Ethics Officer – only applies to state employees

**Old Business –**

**Review from Outside Consultant of Fire District after 6 Months, to Gain a Base for the Future and Forward Movement of The Fire District – Tabled – no proposals were received**

**Updating Board Policy Manual**

**Discussion –**

- Chapters 1 and 2 – went through pages one by one last time
- Changes to PIO
- Will send out electronically changes made by Trustee Fagel
- Any changes wanted – send out prior to be reviewed
- Chapter 3 will need more input from the Board – Job descriptions
- Send bullet points to Atty Flaherty
- Need to send copy to Trustee Lamela – never received it

**2<sup>nd</sup> Ambulance Calls**

**Discussion –**

- Reason for not including board
- Is IGA set up
- Discussion held with other Chiefs
- Less demand on neighboring districts
- How are residents charged; could they end up paying out of pocket
- Have not had a resident complain yet
- What is most efficient for residents
- Lost ambulance revenue – increase should minimize loss
- Need for 3 ambulances
- Would like to hire 2 more full time and additional PT spot for 2022

- Four people left on list
- Looking for consortium

**Promotion/Swearing in Ceremony –**

**Discussion –**

- Wait until spread of COVID is to a lesser extent
- Zooming it
- Oswego and Elburn having theirs

**Investment Firm –**

**Discussion –**

- Local vs out of state
- Who represents more fire districts
- Interest we receive from local banks
- How much to invest
- Have Sikich do a projection

**It was motioned by Cicero and seconded by Fagel to:**

**‘Authorize a Relationship with Sawyer/Falduto Initiating Investments in an Amount to be Determined’**

**Roll call vote – All in favor - Motion carried**

- Paula to contact Sawyer-Falduto to start the paperwork

**Financial Comptroller –**

**Discussion –**

- What services Sikich offers other fire district
- What else can Sikich do for the district to benefit financial needs
- See projections - numbers
- Sikich is already doing what the Governmental Accounting, Inc is quoting
- GAI \$23,700 a year – Sikich around \$14,000 last year
- Schedule date for Debbie from Sikich to meet with Trustees Cicero and Lamela

**Closed Session –**

Trustee Blankenship walked out of the room

**It was motioned by Cicero and seconded by Lamela to:**

**‘Go into closed session under 13a and 13b at 6:55pm’**

**Roll call vote – 3 in favor - Motion carried**

**Open Session – 7:50pm**

**Motioned by Cicero and seconded by Lamela**

No action taken in closed

**Adjourn – 7:51pm**

**Motioned by Cicero and seconded by Lamela**

**All in favor - Motion carried**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Timothy Cicero, Secretary

  
Paula Lacey, Recording Secretary