

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

Date: November 17, 2025
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Sugar Grove Fire Station

Board of Trustees: David Blankenship– President
Tim Cicero – Secretary
Nicole Lamela – Treasurer
Mike Fagel – Trustee
Susan Cuomo - Trustee

Guests: Chief Moran, DC Weaver, Paula Lacey, Lori Kellogg, Shawn Flaherty

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – All Trustees present

Public to Address the Board – Nothing heard

Minutes –

October 20, 2025 – open

Motioned by Fagel Seconded by Cicero to Approve October 20, 2025, open minutes

Roll call vote: Roll call vote – Ayes – Blankenship, Cuomo, Cicero, Fagel Abstained – Lamela, Motion carried

October 20, 2025 – closed

Motioned by Cicero Seconded by Fagel to Approve October 20, 2025, closed minutes

Roll call vote: Roll call vote – Ayes – Blankenship, Cuomo, Cicero, Fagel Abstained – Lamela, Motion carried

Correspondence – none

October Report – Cash Balances vs Actual Reports –

Motioned by Lamela Seconded by Cicero to Approve the Cash Balances and Budget vs Actual Reports for October 2025 - Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

Expenditures –

Motioned by Lamela Seconded by Fagel to Approve the Expenditures for October 2025

Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion Carried

Trustees Report –

- Trustee Fagel provided correspondence about a firefighter widow settlement in Rock Falls.

Report of the Fire Chief –

- Pub Ed is going well; we just finished up the last pizza parties today for the E.D.I.T.H. winners
- Structure fire on Caulkins-crews did a great job with a quick stop

Attorney's Report –

- New bills expected to be effective January 1, 2026
 - FOIA – can't hold special meetings on an election day or holiday
 - Remote participation – military service is now included
 - FOIA – if we receive an email with a link to an attachment for the FOIA request we don't have to accept it unless they send it in a readable format
 - AI – If a Bot is flooding your inbox, we can request to verify humanity
- As of January 1, 2027 firefighter gear with the forever chemicals are not going to be available for purchase and there is an anticipated supply issue for the newly approved gear

- The bill to allow charging for excessive lift assists at a nursing home or assisted living has passed. Effective January 1, 2026 fire districts are allowed to charge for the seventh visit to a nursing home or assisted living facility, this cannot exceed the cost of service

Old Business – None

New Business –

Truth in Taxation and Levy Ordinance 2025-03

- Levy Ordinance is in packet – Amounts have been distributed between the different funds
- Pension Fund amount is determined by the actuarial report

Motioned by Fagel Seconded by Cicero to Approve the Levy Ordinance No. 2025-03

Roll call vote – All in favor, motion carried

Ambulance Billing Provider

- EMS|MC has not been billing according to our agreement. Paramedic Billing Services will be able to handle EMS billing, Fire billing and collections at an overall lower cost. We have heard nothing but good feedback about PBS from several other districts.

Motioned by Fagel Seconded by Cuomo to Approve the signing of the Contract with Paramedic Billing Services Roll

Call Vote: All in favor, Motion carried

Wintrust Lockbox

- This lockbox is required for payments from insurance companies to be processed by Paramedic Billing Services

Motioned by Fagel Seconded by Lamela to Approve the opening of the Wintrust Lockbox with Chief Brendan Moran and Nicole Lamela as the signers Roll Call Vote: All in favor, Motion carried

Update Fire Codes

- Discussion to update to the 2024 Edition of the Fire Prevention Codes. The current codes do not require businesses to have a sprinkler system. This would require any commercial structure to install a sprinkler system. The village is up for a code change and is not giving the fire district any push back on updating our ordinance. This would not affect the three subdivisions who currently have agreements with the village.

Motioned by Cicero Seconded by Lamela to Approve the updated Fire Codes to Ordinance No. 2025-04 Roll Call

Vote: All in favor, Motion carried

Monthly Meeting for 2026 –

- Will keep the third Monday of the month at 5pm for 2026

Motioned by Blankenship Seconded by Fagel to Keep the Same Time and Days for the 2026 Meetings

Roll call vote – All in favor, motion carried

Closed Session

Motioned by Blankenship Seconded by Lamela to go into closed session at 5:20pm for purpose of line items a. and b. under Closed Session on the agenda Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

Open Session

Motioned by Blankenship and Seconded by Fagel to return to open session at 5:53pm Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

No action taken in closed session

All Other Matters that May Come Before the Board – Nothing heard

Motioned by Blankenship Seconded by Fagel to adjourn the meeting at 5:55pm.

Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy Cicero, Secretary



Lori Kellogg, Recording Secretary