

Elwood Fire Protection District
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 15, 2026

1. Pledge of Allegiance: The Board stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Prieboy at 9:00 a.m. at 309 W. Mississippi Street, Elwood, IL 60421.

A motion was made by Vinsel to appoint Prieboy President Pro-Tempe and was seconded by Prieboy. All in favor: Aye 2, Nay 0, Absent 1. Motion carried.

3. Roll Call:
Present: Treasurer Colleen Prieboy, and Secretary Patricia Vinsel.
Also Present: Fire Chief Christopher Locacius, Deputy Chief Jasen Melahn, Fire & Life Safety Educator Ehrin Villalobos, Training Coordinator Jeff Toepper, Battalion Chief Justin Lorand, Battalion Chief Brandon Pfizenmaier, Executive Assistant Jill Deaville, Administrative Assistant Clare McKinney, Attorney John Motylinski, and former Board President Norm Fanning. James Howard with Government Accounting attended via Zoom. Battalion Chief Raymond Sebastian joined after the meeting started.
Absent: President Allan Bertucci.
4. Public Comment (Limit 3 minutes): None
5. Approval of December 18, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Vinsel and seconded by Prieboy to approve the minutes as written. All in favor: Aye 2, Nay 0, Absent 1. Motion carried.
6. 6- Month Review of Closed Session Minutes: A motion was made by Prieboy and seconded by Vinsel to keep all closed session meeting minutes closed. All in favor: Aye 2, Nay 0, Absent 1. Motion carried.
7. Financial Report by Government Accounting, Approval of Bills: The Financial Report was presented by Howard of Government Accounting. A motion was made by Prieboy and seconded by Vinsel to approve the Financial Report. All in favor: Aye 2, Nay 0, Absent 1. Motion carried. Approval of Bills: A motion was made by Prieboy and seconded by Vinsel to approve the Bills. All in favor: Aye 2, Nay 0, Absent 1. Motion carried.
8. Officers & Attorney's Reports: Reports presented by Locacius, Melahn, Villalobos, Toepper, Lorand, Pfizenmaier, and Motylinski.
9. Old Business:
 - a. Discussion / Possible Action on 2026 Staffing Contract: Discussed Metro Paramedics being non-responsive to contract negotiations. A motion was made by Prieboy and seconded by Vinsel to authorize Locacius to explore other options with contract providers and to extend the Metro Agreement up to March 14, 2026. All in favor: Aye 2, Nay 0, Absent 0. Motion carried.
10. New Business:
 - a. Discussion / Possible Action on Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, FDIC International, Image Trend, and Illinois Fire Inspectors (conferences): A motion was made by Vinsel and seconded by Prieboy to approve Melahn and Locacius to attend the listed conferences. All in favor: Aye 2, Nay 0, Absent 1. Motion Carried
 - b. Surplus Equipment: None

c. Review Correspondence: Holiday Card from our Neighbor Megan, Donation from Renetta Bridge, Flyers for upcoming Trustee Training Seminars.

d. Other New Business: Locacius, Melahn, Pfizenmaier, Sebastian, Lorand, Toepper, Motylinski, and Fanning thanked Prieboy for her years of service on the Board.

11. Closed Session: None

12. Adjournment: A motion was made by Prieboy and seconded by Vinsel to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. B.', written over a horizontal line.