

**Elwood Fire Protection District  
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 19, 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 Veerman at 9:00 a.m. at 309 W. Mississippi Street, Elwood, IL 60421.
3. Roll Call:  
Present: President April Veerman, Treasurer Patricia Vinsel, Secretary Allan Bertucci.  
Also Present: Fire Chief Christopher Locacius, Deputy Chief Jasen Melahn, Fire & Life Safety Educator Ehrin Villalobos, Training Coordinator Jeff Toepper, Battalion Chief Brandon Pfizenmaier, Battalion Chief Justin Lorand, Executive Assistant Jill Deaville, Administrative Assistant Clare McKinney, Attorney John Motylinski, and James Howard with Government Accounting and Lori Pope with Mack and Associates attended via Zoom.  
Absent: None.
4. Public Comment (Limit 3 minutes): Joy Ronald expressed thanks for all that the fire department does for the community.
5. Approval of February 19, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Vinsel and seconded by Veerman to approve the minutes as written. All in favor: Aye 3, Nay 0, Absent 0. Motion carried.
6. Financial Report by Government Accounting, Approval of Bills: The Financial Report was presented by Howard of Government Accounting. A motion was made by Vinsel and seconded by Veerman to approve the Financial Report. All in favor: Aye 3, Nay 0, Absent 0. Motion carried. Approval of Bills: A motion was made by Vinsel and seconded by Bertucci to approve the Bills. All in favor: Aye 3, Nay 0, Absent 0. Motion carried.
7. Audit FY 2025 Presentation: Pope with Mack and Associates presented the Elwood Fire Protection District Financial Audit Ending December 31, 2025.
8. Officers & Attorney's Reports: Reports presented by Locacius, Melahn, Villalobos, Pfizenmaier, Lorand, Toepper, and Motylinski.
9. Old Business: None
10. New Business:
  - a. Discussion / Possible Action on the Audit FY 2025: A motion was made by Veerman and seconded by Vinsel to approve the Financial Audit Ending December 31, 2025, as presented by Mack and Associates. All in favor: Aye 3, Nay 0, Absent 0. Motion carried.
  - b. Discussion / Possible Action on Ordinance # 03192026 An Ordinance Setting Compensation for the Members of the Board of Trustee of Elwood Fire Protection District, Will County, Illinois: A motion was made by Veerman and seconded by Vinsel to approve Ordinance # 03192026. All in favor: Aye 3, Nay 0, Absent 0. Motion carried.
  - c. Discussion / Possible Action on the Initiation of Full-Time Lieutenants' Original Appointment Process: A motion was made by Vinsel and seconded Bertucci to approve the Full-Time Lieutenants Original Appointment Process with the following dates: June 1- Announcement on website, June 15 – Application due, June 30 – Orientation (8:30am) and Written Test 50% of score (9:00am), Structured Oral Interview 50% of score (date and time to be determined). All in favor: Aye 3, Nay 0, Absent 0. Motion carried.

- d. Discussion / Possible Action on Surplus Equipment: None
- e. Review Correspondence: The Board reviewed a thank you from Julie Friebele.
- f. Other New Business None.

11. Closed Session: None.

12. Adjournment: A motion was made by Bertucci and seconded by Vinsel to adjourn the meeting at 9:380 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted Patricia Vinsel