Sandwich Community Fire Protection District

Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2026 *7:00 P.M.*

Present:

Trustee President – Jeff Beverage
Trustee Secretary – Justin Gifford
Trustee Treasurer – Matt Weismiller
Administrative Assistant – Ashley Benitez
Chief – Derek Hagerty
Assistant Chief – Kyle Gruca
Leutenant – Mike Platt
Firefighter – Curtis Moersch
Firefighter – Matt Davis

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Beverage opened the meeting at 7:05P.M, followed by the reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was held for fallen firefighter Jeff Pruski, Jake Pruski's brother and their family.

Open Forum / Comments from the Public

-Firefighter Curtis Moersch – Appreciates the carpet cleaning and it was a great job done. They smelled great and dried fast, faster than other companies previously used.

Review, Correct and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

Trustee Weismiller noted that on the April 9, 2026 agenda it stated " Review, Correct and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes Including Special Meeting", there was no special meeting that minutes needed to be approved for. Trustee Beverage motioned to approve the March 2026 meeting minutes, Trustee Gifford seconded the vote. All voted yes.

Treasurer's Report

Trustee Weismiller presented the bills to be paid are $38,428.58. Trustee Beverage made a motion to approve the bills; Trustee Gifford seconded the motion. All voted yes. Trustee Weismiller presented the treasurer's report and stated the cash on hand as of 3/31/26 was $2,821,371.34; and the cash on hand as of 4/9/26 is $2,785,928.67. Trustee Beverage made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report; Trustee Gifford seconded the vote. All in favor.

Correspondence

-None

Attorney's Report

-None

Chief's Report

-#481 needed some repairs, the outrigger got stuck. BK fixed.
-Carpet cleaning is done – they did a very good job.
-#442 – some electrical issues, BK spent time trying to get it to replicate the issue, but could not.
-Mabas 14 – 2 of our guys are now part of the fire investigators team.
-Wes came in and got all certs completed & up to date, which is normally a tough task. He is doing our trainings.
-Curtis keeps up on our maintenance and is doing a great job in the basement.
-Currently working on finding someone for trim work.
-Working on getting a bid to replace the kitchen ceiling (drop ceiling) – it is in great need to be replaced.
-Fighting with Frontier regarding our phones – they are hard to get ahold of and still charging sales tax that should not be. They have not yet refunded what they said they would for past sales tax paid.

Executive Session
(Roll Call/Reason)
ILSC120/2©(1):

Trustee Beverage made a motion to enter into executive session at 7:32pm to discuss personnel. Trustee Beverage voted yes, Trustee Gifford voted yes, and Trustee Weismiller voted yes. Executive session was entered into. The regular meeting was opened back up at 7:48pm.

Old Business

-Union Negotiation discussion

-Union contract approved and signed.

New Business

- Equipment Purchase request

-Request to purchase 4 sets of bullet proof vests and helmets at a cost of $2716. These would be used to respond to school shootings or other situations requiring this protective gear. Trustee Gifford made a motion to approve the purchase the 4 sets at $2716. Trustee Weismiller seconded the motion. All voted yes.

-Training requests

-Requested for Bri Bell to take 3 classes in Champaign, IL. It is $300 total for all 3 classes and the hotel is free. Lt. Platt would like to take a class for lead instructor at a cost of $500. Trustee Beverage made a motion to approve both requests; Trustee Weismiller seconded the motion. All voted yes.

-New Personnel

-D/C Contract approval

- Trustee Beverage made a motion to approve with corrections discussed; Trustee Weismiller seconded the motion. All voted yes.

-District Assets:

-Money Market - none

-CD's – none

-Investment Accounts – Trustee Gifford made a motion to move another $500,000 to the investment account from the money market; Trustee Weismiller seconded the motion. All voted yes.

-Approve and Sign Final Union Contract

-Trustee Weismiller made a motion to approve and sign the 3-year union contract; Trustee Gifford seconded the motion. All voted yes.

-Old Fire Station on Center St.

-Trustee Weismiller met with Gary Agustine and he is going to try and get free pain from his distributor. Gary is working on a quote to paint. The door needs fixed. Trustee Weismiller made a move to spend up to $4,000 to paint and make repairs to the old fire stations with Trustee Weismiller donating his time for some of the repairs.

-Vehicle Surplus Discussion and Approval

-Trustee Weismiller made a motion to get valuation for sale of #471; Trustee Gifford seconded the motion. All voted yes.

-Discuss 2026-27 Annual budget, vote for approval

-Biggest change from last year's budget is the added personnel. Changes to be made to presented budget: Move 5245 to make it $440,000, move $4000 to 5287 ($48,000), take $5000 from 5211, add $10,000 to 7005, take $2000 from 5214 & take $3000 from 5287. Trustee Beverage made a motion to approve the presented budget with the changes above; Trustee Weismiller seconded the motion. All voted yes.

Adjournment

Trustee Beverage made a motion to close the meeting at 8:45PM. Trustee Gifford seconded the motion. All in favor.