



– Evanston Foreign Fire Tax Board –
MINUTES

Date: June 22nd, 2026

Location: EFD HQ – 909 Lake Street

Board Members Present: W. Davis, Holthaus, Smrha, Edwards (designee for Smith)

Called to Order: 08:05

Any member who is interested in being a member of the board needs to submit their name to Secretary Holthaus by June 27. There is one vacant position on the board and a special election will be held in July.

Financial: Davis gives the financial report on behalf of Casey.

Checking Account: \$ 231,710.12

Outstanding Funds: - \$ 54,702.86

Remaining Balance: \$ 177,007.26

Motion to accept the financials: Passes 3-0

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Barlock presents to the board for the following on behalf of Hicks:
Funding for a new grinder at station 4. No discussion.

- Holthaus makes a motion for funds not to exceed \$300 for a new grinder.
- 2nd Davis

Motion passes 3-0

Barlock presents to the board for the following on behalf of Hicks:
Funds to purchase new push lawnmower for station 4. No discussion.

- Holthaus makes a motion to the board to allocate funds not to exceed \$200 for lawnmower.
- 2nd Davis.

Motion passes 3-0

Holthaus presents to the board for the following on behalf of Perrino:
New TV with accessories for station 2. Perrino informed board that current TV at station 2 stopped working properly about a week ago. Discussion follows.

- Davis makes a motion to the board to allocate funds not to exceed \$2300 for new TV and swivel mount.
- 2nd Smrha

Motion passes 3-0

Holthaus presents to the board for the following on behalf of Schroeder:
Blackstone grill for station 3. No discussion.

- Davis makes a motion to the board to allocate funds not to exceed \$700 for Blackstone.
- 2nd Holthaus

Motion Passes 3-0

Yee presents to the board for the following:
Public Education materials for Open House event and other community events. Discussion follows. Board agrees that having these materials and items to distribute is a positive for the department and builds goodwill with the community. However, board feels like this purchase should be the responsibility of the city. Yee is asked to inquire if there are any city funds available to make this purchase. Board agrees to revisit this item if city cannot provide funds. Request is tabled.

W Davis presents to the board for the following:
Funds for 14 new chairs for office/kitchen. 8 chairs for station 1 and 6 for station 3. No discussion. This request also includes the request of J. Collins item on the agenda.

- Davis makes a motion to the board to allocate funds not to exceed \$3200 for new chairs.
- 2nd Holthaus

Motion passes 3-0

W Davis presents to the board for the following:
Coolers for the all rigs at station 3 and one cooler for the station. Edwards says that city will buy coolers for the rigs at station 3 since current ones are in bad shape. Davis still asking for one cooler for the station. Board questions why a station cooler is needed.

- Davis makes a motion to the board to allocate funds not to exceed \$150 for a station cooler.
- 2nd Smrha

Motion fails 2-1.

Davis presents to the board for the following:
Kitchen supplies for station 3. No discussion.

- Davis makes a motion to the board to allocate funds not to exceed \$500 for kitchen supplies.
- 2nd Holthaus

Motion passes 3-0

Malloy presents to the board for the following on behalf of Bazan:

Auto belay system for bailout prop. This will assist members in safely training with bailout prop and can be easily transported to different locations to use.

- Smrha makes a motion to the board to allocate funds not to exceed \$3200 for auto belay system.
- 2nd Davis

Motion passes 3-0

Malloy presents to the board for the following on behalf of Bazan:

7 mounts for flashlights for dive team masks. Smrha speaks to how important and useful these are. No discussion.

- Holthaus makes a motion to the board to allocate funds not to exceed \$1200 for mounts for dive masks.
- 2nd Davis

Motion passes 3-0

Malloy presents to the board for the following on behalf of Bazan:

New equipment bags for swift water team members. New bags that are more breathable are desired. Board questions why new bags are needed when board just bought bags for members about a year ago. Malloy says mold was on a members suit. Board agrees that if items are dried before storing them there is no risk of mold growth. Board also states that it cannot become routine to ask for new items just because previous items purchased are not liked even though they are in a good condition. It is the responsibility of whoever is making the request to do the proper research to ensure the items are solid.

- Smrha makes a motion to the board to allocate funds not to exceed \$1500 for swift water bags.
- 2nd Holthaus

Motion fails 3-0

Malloy presents to the board for the following on behalf of Bazan:

2 Wingman pre built mechanical advantage systems. Discussion follows. Malloy says if an incident were to occur these items would be greatly helpful to our members. Items will be placed on either Squad or Rescue 21.

- Holthaus makes a motion to board to allocate funds not to exceed \$1500 for mechanical advantage systems.
- 2nd Davis

Motion passes 3-0

Other Business: If you are making a request for an item, please make every attempt to be present at the meeting. The board is very accommodating to people who come off shift to get their items discussed first. The person who requests the items often knows the most about it and can advocate for purchasing it. It is difficult for the board to make reasonable and fair decisions about items when the individual is not there or sends another person in its place who is not as well informed.

Meeting Adjourned: 08:56

Next EFFTb meeting: Monday, September 14th, 2026, Shift 2

EFD HQ – 909 Lake – 0800 HRS

Make all submissions via Formstack to EFFTb Secretary Holthaus by: Saturday, September 5th, 2026 at 0900