

Edgewood BI-Co Fire Protection District
Report of the Decennial Efficiency Committee

June 10, 2025

Pursuant to 50 ILCS 70/1 et seq., the Decennial Efficiency Committee of the Edgewood BI-CO Fire Protection District respectfully submits to the administrative office of Effingham and Clay County its reports as follows:

- A. On April 14, 2025, the Board of Trustees of the Edgewood BI-CO Fire Protection District formed the committee required by 50 ILCS 70/10. The committee was comprised of the members of the Board of Trustees of the District, and two residents of the district. Michael Bowman, Steve Robinson, Larry Kuhns, Terry Kuhns, Kelly Robinson served on the committee.
- B. The Committee met on the following dates: April 14, 2025, May 12 2025 and June 9 2025. All meeting were held pursuant to the notice requirements of 50 ILCS 70/20 and public input was solicited at each meeting of the committee. Meetings were conducted in accordance with the Illinois Open Meeting Act.
- C. In connection with its work, the committee examined or considered the following:
 - 1. District and Fire Department Policies and Ordinances currently in effect and the laws which apply to the

- District such as the Illinois Fire Protection District Act.
2. District's and / Fire Department Bylaws.
 3. The District's current fire department rating (ISO Rating) by the Insurance Services Office.
 4. The District's compliance with IL-OSHA requirements (Illinois Department of Labor)
 5. The District's compliance with the recommended Annual Calendar & Checklist promulgated by the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts.
 6. The District's Budget and Appropriation Ordinances for the current and proceeding two (2) fiscal years.
 7. The District's real estate tax levy, tax extension, equalized assessed value (EAV), tax rate limits, and tax rates for the last three (3) years.
 8. The Districts Annual Financial Report (AFR) filed with the office of the Illinois Comptroller for the last three (3) fiscal years.
 9. The District's Treasurer's Statement of Receipts & Disbursements for the last three (3) years
 10. The District's Annual Audit Reports, if an audit was performed, for the last three (3) years.
 11. Annual fire / rescue / emergency medical services (EMS) call report information for the current and prior year.
 12. The location, condition, and adequacy of District's physical facilities including its fire station or stations.

13. The District's inventory of fire apparatus and other emergency vehicles including the make, model, age, mileage, and condition of each vehicle.
14. The District's inventory of firefighting, rescue, and if applicable, EMS equipment, including firefighting personal protection equipment (PPE); self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and equipment; radio and communications equipment; rescue gear and equipment; and EMS equipment (if applicable).
15. Water Supply sources and their sufficiency for fire suppression in all parts of the District.
16. Dispatching services and radio communications utilized by the District for Fire Department communication and their adequacy or lack of adequacy.
17. The District's current mutual aid agreements and other intergovernmental agreements and how those agreements relate to and affect the District's performance and needed updates to any of those agreements or arrangements.

D. After examining each of the foregoing areas, the committee has determined that:

1. With its available resources, the District and its Fire Department are providing the most adequate service it can provide at this time.
2. The following are the areas of the District's greatest strength and efficiency: Our fire district has good

response times. The firemen know the layout of the district well, most have lived in the fire district for many years, knowing how to navigate efficiently in and around our district in various situations being weather, traffic, construction, enable them to quickly respond to the call. The districts fleet of equipment is well maintained and tested regularly as required by law. Our district has enough gear and equipment for a 25-person roster, and usually full, some of the volunteers work in town, and are available for fire calls during the day. Plus, we rely on mutual aid in those case we are short on manpower.

3. The following are the districts areas of weakness, need, or inefficiency which need to be addressed by the District: Our Mason firehouse in terrible shape and needs to be replaced. We are currently in process of updating that station.
4. The District can best address its area of weakness, need, or efficiency by doing the following: The district need to replace the Mason firehouse with a new and bigger fire station. With 50 percent of our volunteers running out of the Mason firehouse. By doing this we can better serve the majority of the members of the fire district. We are in process of designing and planning for a new station in Mason.
5. The District as a provider of an essential emergency service in its jurisdictional territory is in need of

federal, state, and county support to address its areas of weakness and need by providing additional direct financial support: supporting the District's effort to increase its financial support by tax and bond referenda; and by working with the fire service organizations in the county to recruit and retain volunteer and paid personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Bowman

Van R. R. R.

Langley

Isaiah

Kelly D. Robinson

Being all of the Members of the
Edgewood BI-CO Fire Protection
District Decennial Efficiency
Committee

Dated: June 10, 2025