

Office of the Town Clerk
South Rock Island Township, Illinois
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April 27, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes – Approved

Call to Order/Roll Call - The April 27, 2026, South Rock Island Township Board meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Acting Supervisor Bill Sowards.

Elected Officials Present:

- Supervisor Grace Shirk (remote), Clerk KJ Whitley, Trustees – Bill Sowards, Diana Hebbeln, Chris Elsberg, Jonah Sallows-Hines, and Assessor Nichole Parker

Remote Electronic Attendance – A motion was made by **Elsberg** and seconded by **Hebbeln** to allow the remote attendance of Supervisor Shirk due to a family illness emergency, as permitted under the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Roll call vote. 4-Ayes Elsberg, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, and Sowards. 0-Nays Motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda - Elsberg moved, and **Sallows-Hines** seconded, to approve the **April 27, 2026** South Rock Island Township agenda. Roll call vote: 5 ayes Sowards, Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, and Elsberg, 0 nays; motion carried.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – **Elsberg** moved, and **Hebbeln** seconded, to approve the **March 30, 2026** South Rock Island Township Board meeting minutes. Roll call vote: 5 ayes Sowards, Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, and Elsberg, 0 nays; motion carried.

Reports

Supervisor’s Report (Record) – **Shirk** shared information regarding upcoming community events, including the 250th Anniversary of America celebration scheduled for July 2, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Additional township events include the SRIT Outdoor Giveaway on May 12, 2026, and a CPR Class on May 13, 2026. **Shirk** also reminded the Board that employee leave and disability-related procedures are governed by the Township Personnel Policy.

Clerk’s Report (Record) – **Whitley** reported there were no FOIA requests received. She also provided an update regarding federal accessibility requirements for the township website under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The U.S. Department of Justice extended the compliance deadline for local governments and special district governments with populations under 50,000 to April 26, 2028. Additional information regarding the DOJ ADA Title II Web Accessibility Rule is available through the U.S. Department of Justice at [ADA.gov Title II Web Accessibility Guidance](https://www.ada.gov/title-ii-web-accessibility-guidance) and [ADA.gov Small Entity Compliance Guide](https://www.ada.gov/small-entity-compliance-guide).

Assessor’s Report (Record) – **Parker** reported that 395 Senior Freeze exemptions have been processed. Parker also stated that tax bills will be mailed on May 1, 2026. The current tax rate decreased slightly to 1.0060, compared to last year’s rate of 1.00683.

General/Emergency Assistance Report (Record) - The **March 2026 Client/Public/Senior Citizen Report** was provided with the agenda.

Treasurer’s Report and Authorization and Transfers of Town Fund and Relief Fund Bills – (Record) - The Treasurer’s Report for **March 2026** was presented and placed on record. The Township Board audited the

arch **March 2026** bills and claims, which were also placed on record. **Sallows-Hines** moved, and **Hebbeln** seconded, to authorize payment of the Town Fund and Relief Fund bills and transfers in the amount of ~ **\$56,853.51**. Roll call vote. 5-Ayes Sowards, Sallows-Hines, Shirk, Hebbeln, and Elsberg. 0-Nays. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

Motion to remove any past resolutions for caps on salaries for South Rock Island Township – Elsberg moved to approve the removal of prior salary cap resolutions, and **Sallows-Hines** seconded the motion. Roll call vote: 5 ayes Sowards, Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, and Elsberg, 0 nays; motion carried.

Approval of new Township personnel guidelines (Record) – After discussion, **Shirk** moved and **Elsberg** seconded to approve the updated Township personnel guidelines, including language stating that employees who reach their 10-year anniversary pay period will receive a separate \$500 check, not included as part of their base salary and issued the week following their anniversary, in recognition of their service to SRIT. Roll call vote: 5 ayes — Sowards, Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, and Elsberg; 0 nays. Motion carried.

Approve to extend CD with American Bank for 12 months or discontinue – **Elsberg** moved and **Hebbeln** seconded to discontinue the current CD with American Bank. Roll call vote: 5 ayes Sowards, Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, and Elsberg, 0 nays; motion carried.

Approval of Budget Transfers for the Fiscal Year 4/1/25 - 3/31/26 per Hoffman and Tranel – **Elsberg** moved and **Sallows-Hines** seconded to approve the **budget transfers for fiscal year 4/1/25 – 3/31/26**. Roll call vote: 5 ayes Sowards, Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, and Elsberg, 0 nays; motion carried.

Consideration of Resolution for OMA Review of Minutes of a meeting lawfully closed – **Hebbeln** moved and **Elsberg** seconded to approve the **Resolution for closed sessions minutes to remain closed**. Roll call vote: 5 ayes Sowards, Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, and Elsberg, 0 nays; motion carried.

Donations

Friendship Manor Birdies for Charity – Following discussion, the item died for lack of a motion.

Soles for children - **Sowards** moved and **Sallows-Hines** seconded to support the Soles for Children Coat & Shoes Giveaway in the amount of \$1,700. Roll call vote: 5 ayes Sowards, Shirk, Sallows-Hines, Hebbeln, and Elsberg, 0 nays; motion carried.

Public Comments - None

Adjournment

Elsberg moved to adjourn the meeting at **5:20 pm** and the motion was seconded by **Hebbeln**. Roll call vote. 5-Ayes Sowards, Shirk, Elsberg, Sallows-Hines, and Hebbeln. 0-Nays. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

The next SRIT Board meeting is scheduled for Monday ,May 18, 2026, at 4:00 pm.

THIS IS A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING APPROVED BY THE SOUTH ROCK ISLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD ON MAY 18, 2026.

Seal—>

Township Clerk

5.18.26

Date