



Monroe Fire Protection District



MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair Vicky Sorensen called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Monroe Fire Protection District to order at 6:00p.m. EST Wednesday, March 12, 2025. The meeting was held in person at Station 21, located at 9094 S. Strain Ridge Road, Bloomington Indiana and via Zoom for public to view. Public notice of the meeting had been duly made to local media by email transmission and hard copy notices had been placed in all the usual places.

Administrative Assistant Tammy Bovenschen called the roll of the board of trustees to determine members present, absent, and to identify others present via Zoom.

Present in person were as follows:

- Vicky Sorensen, Chair
- John Bernstein, Trustee
- Mark Kruzan, Vice-Chair
- Michael Baker, Fiscal Officer
- Susan Hingle, Trustee
- Dan Vest, Trustee

Those absent were as follows:

- Kevin R. Robling, Trustee

Others present were as follows:

- Dustin Dillard, Chief
- Jeffrey Combs, Assistant Chief of Administration
- Matt Bright, Deputy Chief, EMS
- George Cornwell, Deputy Chief, Operations
- Steve Coover, Deputy Chief, Community Risk Reduction
- Christine Bartlett, Attorney, Ferguson Law
- Nick Powell, Fleet Manager
- Tammy Bovenschen, Administrative Assistant
- Lorie Robinson, Financial Assistant
- Darrell Cooper, IT Specialist

CHANGES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Chair Vicky Sorensen asked if there were any changes or amendments to the agenda. Administrative Assistant Tammy Bovenschen stated there were no changes to the agenda.

**HEADQUARTERS
3953 S KENNEDY DRIVE
BLOOMINGTON IN
812-331-1906
812-336-1166 (FAX)**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Vicky Sorensen explained this was the time when any member of the public could speak to the board concerning any matter not listed on the agenda. No public comment.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from the February 12, 2025 regular meeting were presented to the board for approval.

Vice-Chair Kruzan made a motion to approve the February 12, 2025 minutes.

Trustee Vest 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Vest – Yes, Sorensen – Yes, Kruzan – Yes

Motion passed 6-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business this month.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Department Updates

a. Legal Updates

Legal Counsel, Christine Bartlett stated she's been reviewing the pending bills with the legislature. So far so good, no negative impact on the fire district.

b. Statistics

Deputy Chief Matt Bright updated the board the monthly statistics

	<u>JAN 2024</u>	<u>FEB 2025</u>
TOTAL Emergency Calls	525	469
Fire Calls	23	13
<i>Structure</i>	15	6
<i>Vehicle</i>	3	0
<i>Wildland</i>	1	6
<i>Other</i>	4	1
Over Pressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat	0	0
EMS Calls	314	310
<i>Medical</i>	218	218
<i>EMS Crew Assist</i>	69	71
<i>Motor Vehicle Accidents</i>	27	21
Hazardous Conditions	43	38
Service Calls	51	30
Good Intent Calls	61	46
False Alarms	33	31
Severe Weather	0	0
Special Incidents	0	1
Incidents by Township	381	335
Benton	32	32
Bloomington	33	29

Clear Creek	32	28
Indian Creek	15	4
Perry	86	70
Van Buren	166	154
Washington	17	18
Incidents – Contracted Townships	8	16
Polk	1	2
Salt Creek	7	14
Incidents by Aid Given	136	118
Bean Blossom	1	2
Bloomington City	73	59
Ellettsville	19	14
Richland Township (EFD)	35	41
Greene County	8	2
Lawrence County	0	0
Brown County	0	0
Owen County	0	0
Morgan County	0	0
AID Received - Year to Date		74

Station 81 Response
Engine 81 – 55

Squad 81 – 10

Average Response (dispatch to arrival on scene)	8 min 22 sec	8 min 6 sec
Average Turnout (dispatch to enroute)	1 min 1 sec	1 min 6 sec
Average Time on Scene	26 min 38 sec	29 min 56 sec

August SOR (Statements of Refusal) signed: 1

Trustee Hingle asked about a map showing locations of all calls. Deputy Chief Bright stated he believes what is requested is referring to a “Heat Map”. Deputy Chief Bright will provide at the April meeting.

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker asked now that the ambulances have been running for a few months, any particular lessons learned? Are we at a point we feel comfortable with how the ambulances work? Deputy Chief Matt Bright explained yes and no. We’re dispatching the way we want to be, but it’s not ideal still. We are still not part of the system for ambulances with dispatch. Trustee Vest asked if the Ambulance is dispatched without fire? Assistant Chief Combs explained that the dispatch is the station alert, and a firetruck will respond when necessary, but an ambulance can respond from the station. We still need to be in the system completely with Lifeline. Still running into issues with Lifeline Ambulances because they are not on the CAD System. Long discussion on ambulance dispatch and navigating with IU Health Lifeline. Assistant Chief Combs

explained that the issue is technology. Trustee Hingle asked if the issue is only a Bloomington issue or is this a statewide issue. Assistant Chief Combs stated that in Lawrence County also uses Spillman system and the ambulance dispatching works in their system. Vice-Chair Kruzan asked if we should have the County Commissioners speak with IULL to discuss the options available to get the system working correctly for all parties. Chief Dillard has spoke with the County Commissioners and they are aware of the issues that we are having. Further discussion on how calls are received through the Spillman system.

c. Emergency Medical Services – Special Operations

Deputy Chief Matt Bright updated the board on EMS/Special Operations

Current Situation:

- Work continuing on EMS inventory control system

Accomplishments:

- Traveled to New Jersey for ambulance inspection; final ambulance has arrived!
- Medbill contract signed and returned
- Annual physicals contract signed and returned

Planned Activities:

- Working to create a variety of long-term options to address the EMS transport situation in the county

Deputy Chief Bright went of the questions from last month concerning soft collections from MedBill.

d. Operations

Deputy Chief George Cornwell updated the board on Operations

Current Situation:

- Total of seven Building Fire/Structure Fire
 - Brummett’s Creek Road – Benton Twp – working structure fire – no injuries
 - Brummett’s Creek Road – Benton Twp – working structure fire – no injuries
- Total of five mutual aid fires
 - N. Sapphire Drive – Ellettsville – working barn fire – no injuries
- Total of one outside rubbish, trash, grass, or waste fires/other
 - S. Old State Road 27 – Perry Twp – controlled burn – services not needed
- Total of 8 fires for the month of February 2025

Planned Activities:

- Updating of Mutual Aid agreements for 2025

Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan asked if there’s a max amount of water available. Chief Dustin Dillard explained that we are supplying about 6,000 gallons on the apparatus first arriving. Chief Dillard elaborated on the water shuttle process, explaining how we get

water to outer areas where hydrants are not available. Trustee Bernstein commented that 30,000 gallons is around the size of an average swimming pool.

e. Fleet

Fleet Manager Nick Powell introduced himself and explained his background. Fleet Manager then updated the board on Fleet:

Current Situation:

- Ambulance 25 warranty airbag suspension replacement and upgrade
 - Ambulances are being rotated out for suspension upgrade from airbags to liquid springs

Accomplishments:

- Engine 22 repaired
 - Slight cooling issue, replaced faulty thermostat

Planned Activities:

- Vehicle tracking
 - Currently searching for a plan to help track large apparatus. This would track their location, in-service/out of service

Trustee Susan Hingle asks if we don't have current inventory or are you creating one in a monitoring system? Fleet Manager, Nick Powell explains that we do have an inventory and master list of vehicles, but things get shuffled around, what he is creating is a tracking system for Chief's to know where apparatus is at all times.

f. Training

Chief Dustin Dillard updated the board on Training:

Current Situation:

- Recruit School – MFD & BFD – end of academy celebration with family and instructors will be March 14

Accomplishments:

- Company level training completed
 - Customer service, pipeline emergencies, communications, personal safety & cancer prevention, ropes & knots, MSA lunar & fire grid, CPR recertification, chemical exposures, hazmat spills on motor vehicle accidents and vehicle extrication
- Station 21 participated in a safety drill at Lakeview Elementary

Planned Activities:

- Company Level Training on topics including: vehicle extrication size up and safety, vehicle stabilization (airbags), extrication techniques, fire dynamics and vehicle extrication hands on skills
- Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) in Indianapolis April 9-12

Training Hours:

- Company training – 2469

Deputy Chief George Cornwell and Chief Dustin Dillard elaborate on company training. Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan asked if new buildings have to give the District access? Deputy

Chief Coover stated that all buildings with a fire alarm system have to give the District access.

f. Community Risk Reduction

Deputy Chief Steve Coover updated the board on Community Risk Reduction.

Current Situation:

- Fire Investigations – three
 - Completed secondary interviews
 - Discussion of evidence with State Fire Marshal, MCSO Detectives and Monroe County Prosecutor
 - Filed search warrants

Accomplishments:

- Meeting with BFD Mobile Integrated Health
 - Potential sharing of resources
 - During meeting did a co-staff home visit to assist a person who lives in the District
- Provided grief assistance to Pleasant Run Fire Department
 - Initiated contract counseling services for PRFD members who requested assistance
 - Arrange for Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) session for PRFD

Planned Activities:

- USAR Medical Course
 - Extensive planning meetings set due to relocation from past years
 - MFPD receives one free seat for paramedic to attend due to involvement

Fire Inspections:

- Fire Safety Inspections – 38
- Re-Inspections – 42
- New Construction Inspections – 7
- Plans Review – 10

g. Financial – Claims

Financial Assistant Lorie Robinson presented financial summary for February 2025.

Current Situation:

- 2024 Annual Financial Report submitted by Fiscal Officer Baker on February 27th
- Fire Service Agreements with Polk and Salt Creek were uploaded by the Townships
- MFPD Contract Upload Attestation submitted in Gateway February 26th
- Received \$50,000 from the Department of Workforce Development – Employer Training Grant as reimbursement for Academy 004
- 2019 SAFER Grant has been closed. During the period performance from March 10, 2021 through March 9, 2024 we were able to request

reimbursements from FEMA totaling \$3,802,373.88

- Additional Appropriation requested with Monroe County Council on March 11, 2025 for Cumulative Fund, Station 26 construction in the amount of \$500,000

h. Administrative Report

Assistant Chief Jeffrey Combs and Chief Dustin Dillard updated the board on Administration.

Current Activities:

- Working with Benchmark 7710 on Physical Fitness Planning and Training for MFD Staff

Accomplishments:

- Presented information about MFD and its service capabilities to the “Tuesday” Bloomington Rotary Club

Planned Activities:

- Hoosier Hills Food Bank Annual Meeting & Awards – April 4th

Personnel Report:

- New Hires – Full Time – 1
- New Hires – Part-Time – 0
- New Hires – Substitutes – 0
- Retirements – 0
- Promotions – 0
- Resignations – 0

Chief Dustin Dillard gives a special shout-out to Fiscal Officer Michael Baker regarding the Bloomington Rotary Club. Fiscal Officer Michael Baker elaborates on the Bloomington Rotary Club presentation, the questions asked, the interest in how the District was formed. Fiscal Officer Baker talked about the questions that citizens had relating to how Station 26 is only staffed with two firefighters. It would be better if we explained that not only are those two firefighters being dispatched from Station 26 but firefighters from other stations will be also responding based on the call. Its hard to explain to people how it works, but Chief Dillard did a great job explaining.

Chair Sorensen asked for an update on Bean Blossom. Chief Dillard explained the County Commissioners want to have additional meetings for Bean Blossom township residents.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Station 26 – Update

Chief Dustin Dillard updates the board on Station 26. Explains that everything is moving right along and Fox Construction estimates end of March or beginning of April depending on weather. We will plan an open house once we are in the building. Trustee Bernstein asked if the project on time or ahead of schedule? Chief Dillard stated that the project is ahead of schedule and Fox Construction has been wonderful.

NEW BUSINESS

a. 2024 Financial Encumbrances

Financial Assistant Lorie Robinson explains the revised financial statements for December 2024 and January 2025 and asks for approval.

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker explains that he reviewed the details of the Financial Statements and feels comfortable with the changes.

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker made a motion to approve the revised Financial Statements for December 2024 and January 2025.

Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Vest – Yes, Sorensen – Yes, Kruzan – Yes

Motion Passed 6-0

b. Nicholas Fire & Fleet Quotes

Fleet Manager Nick Powell presents the Nicholas Fire & Fleet Quotes and recommends approval of equipment tests and certifications – totaling \$32,292.09 for 2025.

Trustee Vest asked if we had used Nicholas Fire & Fleet previously? Assistant Chief Combs stated that we used this company last year and all of this is accounted for in the budget.

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker made a motion to approve the equipment tests and certifications totaling \$32,292.09 for 2025.

Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Vest – Yes, Sorensen – Yes, Kruzan – Yes

Motion Passed 6-0

FINANCIALS

a. Financial – Claims

Financial Assistant Robinson noted that the EMS revenue was 20,014.39

Financial Assistant Lorie Robinson then presented claims for February 2025 for a total of \$238,498.53.

Trustee Bernstein made a motion to approve the claims for February 2025 as presented.

Vice-Chair Kruzan 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Vest – Yes, Sorensen – Yes, Kruzan – Yes

Motion Passed 6-0

b. Payroll

Administrative Assistant Tammy Bovenschen presented the February monthly

payrolls for approval which included February 15th and 30th, 2025.

Vice-Chair Kruzan made a motion to approve the payrolls for February 2025 as presented.

Fiscal Officer Baker 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Vest – Yes, Sorensen – Yes, Kruzan – Yes

Motion Passed 6-0

c. Financial – Statement

Financial Assistant Lorie Robinson presented the financial statement to the board for approval.

Vice-Chair Kruzan made a motion to approve the financial statement.

Fiscal Officer Baker 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Vest – Yes, Sorensen – Yes, Kruzan – Yes

Motion Passed 6-0

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

No additional comments.

NEXT MEETING

Chair Vicky Sorensen stated that the next meeting will be in person on April 9, 2025 at Station 25, located at 5081 N. Old State Road 37, Bloomington, Indiana. The meeting will also be held via zoom.

ADJOURN

Chair Vicky Sorensen made a motion to adjourn at 7:00p.m.

Minutes approved by the board of trustees on April 9, 2025:

Aye:



Vicky Sorensen, Chair



Mark, Kruzan, Vice-Chair




Michael Baker, Fiscal Officer

Nye:

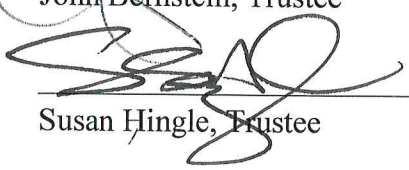
Vicky Sorensen, Chair

Mark Kruzan, Vice-Chair

Michael Baker, Fiscal Officer



John Bernstein, Trustee




Susan Hingle, Trustee

John Bernstein, Trustee

Susan Hingle, Trustee

Kevin R. Robling, Trustee

Kevin R. Robling, Trustee



Dan Vest, Trustee

Dan Vest, Trustee

Copy furnished:

- Mrs. Vicky Sorensen, Chair
- Mr. Michael Baker, Fiscal Officer
- Ms. Susan Hingle, Trustee
- Mr. Daniel Vest, Trustee
- Mr. David Ferguson, Legal Counsel
- Headquarters, Bulletin Board
- Station No. 22, Bulletin Board
- Station No. 24, Bulletin Board
- Station No. 29, Bulletin Board

- Mr. Mark Kruzan, Vice-Chair
- Mr. John Bernstein, Trustee
- Mr. Kevin R. Robling, Trustee
- Mr. Dustin Dillard, Fire Chief
- Mrs. Christine Bartlett, Legal Counsel
- Station No. 21, Bulletin Board
- Station No. 23, Bulletin Board
- Station No. 25, Bulletin Board
- Station No. 39, Bulletin Board