



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, May 13, 2026. The meeting was held in person at Station 21, located at 9094 S Strain Ridge Road, Bloomington, Indiana, and via Zoom for the 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
Mark Kruzan, Vice-Chair
Michael Baker, Fiscal Officer
John Bernstein, Trustee
Susan Hingle, Trustee

Those absent were as follows: Kevin R. Robling, Trustee
Dan Vest, Trustee

Others present were as follows: Dustin Dillard, Chief
Matt Bright, Deputy Chief, EMS & Operations (via Zoom)
Steve Coover, Deputy Chief, Community Risk Reduction
Bill Tusing, Deputy Chief, Facilities & Logistics
Danny Gillespie, Assistant Chief of Training
Christine Bartlett, Attorney, Ferguson Law
Nick Powell, Fleet Manager
Jason Allen, Battalion Chief
Tammy Bovenschen, Administrative Assistant
Lorie Robinson, Financial Assistant
Darrell Cooper, IT Specialist
Leigh Dillard, MFD Life Safety Educator

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

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 no changes or amendments.

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.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from April were presented to the board for approval.

Trustee John Bernstein made a motion to approve the minutes.

Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan seconded the motion

Motion Passed 5-0

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

a. Legal Updates

Legal Counsel, Christine Bartlett stated that it had been a quiet month for her and nothing to report.

b. Statistics

Deputy Chief Matt Bright updated the board on the monthly statistics for May.

TOTAL Emergency Calls	481
Fire Calls	36
Hazardous Situation	30
Medical	263
Public Service	61
Rescue	3
No Emergency	88
Law Enforcement	0

Incidents by District Station	481
Station 21	38
Station 22/HQ	142
Station 23	10
Station 24	37
Station 25	42
Station 26	22
Station 29	170
Station 39	20

Incident Count by Aid Type & Direction	80
Aid in support of primary entity	
Aid given	49
Aid received	18
Aid in lieu of primary entity	
Aid given	11
Aid received	0
Aid acting as another entity	
Aid given	2
Aid received	0
 Incidents by Township	 62
Bean Blossom	7
Bloomington (City)	38
Ellettsville	17
Brown County	0
Greene County	0
Lawrence County	0
Morgan County	0
Owen County	0
 Total Patient Transports	 123
Ambulance 21	7
Ambulance 22	23
Ambulance 23	10
Ambulance 29	83
 Destinations	 46
IU Health Bloomington	38
Monroe Hospital	8

Trustee John Bernstein asked why Stations 22 and 29 are always the busiest? Deputy Chief Bright explained the population density in those two areas, Van Buren Township and Perry Township. He also noted that those areas are main thoroughfares into the city.

c. Emergency Medical Services & Operations

Deputy Chief Matt Bright updated the board on EMS & Operations

Current Situation:

- Ivy Tech EMT students continuing ride along
- Reviewing cancer prevention measures as well as testing options for future physical exams
- Scheduling annual bloodwork and physical exams and working on quotes for 2027/2028

Accomplishments:

- Received all township donated cardiac monitors, all programmed, and distributed to Stations
- Upstaffing of ambulances during Little 500 to ensure continuity of service for district
- Staffed additional ambulances to provide emergency coverage for county during internal hospital water emergency on April 27
- Participated in the District 8 Emergency Preparedness Coalition districtwide tabletop exercise

Planned Activities:

- LEPC command level exercise in September
- LEPC ESF-8 (medical) exercise in fall

Trustee John Bernstein asked about the Glucometers for the EMS group, does that mean there weren't Glucometers originally in the ambulances? Deputy Chief Bright indicated we've had the Glucometers district wide for probably four or five years in ambulances.

Trustee John Bernstein asked where the second location for the vending machine will be and if it's medical. Deputy Chief Bright stated the medical vending machine will be at Station 29.

Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan asked if water leaks like the one that happened at the hospital put a strain on fire suppression ability. Deputy Chief Bright explained it certainly could, but in the particular case, no. It was a result of 2 ½ inches of rain from a roof leak.

Chair Vicky Sorensen asked if Deputy Chief Bright could explain the ARPA funding request. Deputy Chief Bright elaborated that around August or September of last year Financial Assistant Robinson indicated there was going to be excess ARPA funding (which funds the ambulances). Deputy Chief Bright worked with Financial Assistant Robinson on an initial proposal, totaling just under a million dollars of items that we could request. That was revised and turned back into the county on April 27th or 28th for their council meeting for them to review. Additional stretchers and power loads were included in the request. All things basically to help get us out the door and be more effective.

Financial Assistant Robinson also mentioned the County Council suggested commissioners having a joint meeting to determine ARPA extra funding. Tentatively the joint meeting is scheduled for 5pm on May 18th at the courthouse. There are competitors, the Parks department and the jail to get some of the surplus funds.

d. Fleet

Fleet Manager Nick Powell updated the board on Fleet:

Current Situation:

- Maintenance:
 - 12 low priority
 - 19 medium priority
 - 7 high priority
 - OOS: 2 – Out of Service 1+ days
 - Marine 21 Failed Drive
- Equipment/Apparatus Warranty claims in process
 - 1 Warranty Claim for Marine 21's Failed Drive
 - FireTech Headlight Claim
- Hose Bed Covers
 - Working with crews and vendors to purchase two new hose bed covers

Accomplishments:

- Met with 3 Boat manufacturers to discuss marine options. Boats from other manufacturers were at FDIC, these boats were inspected and did not meet basic requirements. Example: Jet Drive, Airboat or Semi Rigid Construction
- 2 New HME Fire Engines Ordered
- Mower 21 purchased and delivered to Station 21
- New Brush 21 in service; old brush 21 moved to Station 26

Planned Activities:

- Brush Truck Conversions
 - Obtaining bed, bumper and lighting quotes to convert two vehicles to brush/squad combo
- Receive Updated Boat Quotes and Specifications
 - Communicating with 3 boat manufacturers to obtain updated specifications and quotes

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker asked about the timeline on the boat. Fleet Manager Powell said he would like to bring the request to purchase to board in June.

Trustee John Bernstein asked if the boat manufacturers are close. Fleet Manager Powell stated no, he's been looking at Mobile, Alabama and Lake Superior, Wisconsin. The other boats are in New York, Canada, or on the west coast of Oregon. Fleet Manager Powell would like to be able to service the boat locally and install a separate pump for water that could be serviced locally also.

Trustee Susan Hingle asked if Fleet Manager Powell's mustache was allowed.

e. Facilities & Logistics

Deputy Chief Bill Tusing updated the board on Facilities & Logistics:

Current Situation:

- Finishing some electrical updates for Station 25 gear washer/water heater
- Annual ice maker service

- Station 21 ice maker needs to be replaced after the service was done – over 25 years old.

Accomplishments:

- Load of Riprap delivered to Station 26
- Insulation blown in Station 23
- Generator installed at Station 26

Planned Activities:

- Get concrete pad checked at Station 29 for possible repair
- Annual HVAC service and inspection
- Paint Station 23 exterior

f. Training

Assistant Chief Danny Gillespie updated the board on Training:

Current Situation:

- Company Training: UTV Safety Course, Preplans, EVPC, Officer's Choice, Water Supply Considerations, Moving Downed Firefighters, EMS Care for Fire Victims
- Working with Admin to purchase Conex containers through IDHS grant
- Wrapping up Hoosier Hills and Ivy Tech school years – another great year of partnership

Accomplishments:

- Provided Hazmat refresher training to Monroe County Central Dispatch. All day and night shift personnel attended the training across multiple sessions at Station 25
- Met with Bedford Fire Department to provide guidance on First Due Software
- Recruit Orientation completed 4/30 and 5/1. Included: Fitness Baseline, Gear/Uniform fitting, Expectations, MFD Handbook, Ladder Climb, Community Involvement and Education, etc.

Planned Activities:

- Volunteer training opportunity – Engine Company Operations
- Search & Rescue course for Rescue personnel – May 19th & 20th at Station 25 with instructors from Westfield FD
- Hosting District 8 instructor meeting on May 19th, 6pm at Station 25

Training Hours:

- Company Training
 - February training hours – 2,718.75
 - March training hours – 2,059.71

Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan asked if Assistant Chief Gillespie could explain moving downed firefighters. Assistant Chief Gillespie elaborated that when MFPD operates on any scene the potential that a firefighter could get in trouble inside of a building (air issue, running out of air, being unable to get out of the building due to partial collapse).

We have a RIT team (Rapid Intervention Team) on the outside of a house fire to protect our own. If a firefighter was in trouble, the RIT team would go in and rescue them and identify potential issues/hazards. Long discussion on details of RIT team.

g. Community Risk Reduction

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

Current Situation:

- CERT Class practical exam rescheduled for fall
- Working with Monroe County Sheriff's Office on Arson Case
 - Finalized report with Monroe County Prosecutor
 - Lab results returned from State Laboratory
 - Submitted for peer review
- Collaborating with Meadows Hospital regarding Spice/K2 vaping pods psychosis prevention presentation to be delivered regionally
 - First presentation June
- Cooperative program with United Way/Red Cross regarding public education for disaster preparedness

Accomplishments:

- Responded with District 5 REST team (Resilience and Emotional Support Team) for event at the Indianapolis International Airport
- Fire Extinguisher Training to all three shifts at Cook Polymer
- Events: Ivy Tech Career Fair, Hoosier Hills Job Expo, Grandview STEP night, YMCA Touch a Truck, Healthapalooza

Planned Activities:

- Create a Transition Assistance Plan (TAP) program for retirement for the Monroe County Community with the VA
- CPR/First Aid courses requested August
- Hoosier Burn Camp teen lake outing July 6-7

Fire Inspections:

- Fire Safety Inspections – 45
- Re-Inspections – 6
- New Construction Inspections – 1
- Plans Review – 0
- Consultations – 2

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker asked about the renovations at Simtra (old GE building), whether it is mandatory for them to have such facilities inspected when they are added. Deputy Chief Coover explained it's mandatory and the section you're referring to is Richmond Township. The new building going up is part of MFPD and we're part of the permitting process.

Trustee John Bernstein asked about Spice/K2 vaping, whether is that significant in Monroe County even Indiana. Deputy Chief Coover explained that two hospitalizations and two responses in the county for youths that have used K2 vape for the first time went into a catatonic state and were almost comatose for three and seven days alongside permanent brain damage. These incidents happened in January.

Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan asked what District 5 is. Deputy Chief Coover explained that we have 7 to 8 districts in the state for the Resilience in Emotional Support Teams. Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan followed up asking if it referred to counties. Deputy Chief Coover stated they were regions. District 5 is Marion County and surrounding. Deputy Chief Coover was invited due to his background.

Chair Vicky Sorensen asked about the consultations. Deputy Chief Coover explained.

h. Financial

Financial Assistant Lorie Robinson presented financial summary for April 2026.

Current Situation:

- Reviewing Internal Controls and validating member affidavits
- Discussions with other government units regarding Donation Fund processes & appropriations
- Review of MES Invoices with Capt. Mahurin & the MES accounting staff

Accomplishments:

- Purchased three \$500,000.00 12-month CDs with The People's State Bank from the Rainy-Day savings account
- Submitted final information to Hartman & Williams for GAAP Report
- Approved CEP Access for MedBill to process VA payments

Planned Activities:

- Update vendor information, tax status, and payment processes
- Budget 2.0 in-person training – Johnson County May 19th, 2026
- Legislative Update webinar June 17th, 2026

EMS Revenue & Collections:

- Added the active accounts receivable – April
- General Summary – 30.3%
- Cumulative Fund – 33%

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker thanked Financial Assistant Robinson for her attention to detail on noticing the error on interest rates. The relationship with People's State Bank is exemplary.

Trustee John Bernstein recommended consolidating 2025 on EMS report.

i. Administrative Report

Chief Dustin Dillard updated the board on the Administrative Report.

Current Situation:

- Working on wrapping up the 90-day review on Rescue Company
- Assisted with the scheduling of the Owen County FF ½ Course-MFD Recruits in course
- Planning and scheduling apparatus for multiple Egg Drop Events at schools

Accomplishments:

- Little 5 Bloomington Police Preparedness Meeting and Little 5 event
- Initial meeting held for “Fire Camp” this summer for recruitment and community engagement
- WTHR story for Volunteer Firefighters

Planned Activities:

- Valor Awards Dinner – Lt. Bryce Williams and Crew nominated for their work in water rescue
- HME Pre-Build Meeting
- Lakeview Kickball Game

Personnel Report:

- New Hires – Full Time – 0
- New Hires – Part-Time – 0
- New Hires – Substitutes – 1
- Volunteers – 0
- Resignations – 2 (1 Volunteer/1 Substitute)
- Retirements – 1 (Medical)

Volunteer Hours: 274.75

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker asked how do they determine how to respond to certain fire calls? Chief Dillard explained we have a call card that is initiated to dispatch – screening calls that will filter it down to three types of structure fires. 1st on arrival can determine if more is needed. When Deputy Chief Gillespie was referring to RIT Team, they must be able to do anything and everything on all jobs.

Long discussion on different fire instances.

Battalion Chief Allen mentioned that if anyone wants to do a ride along, please let him know. There’s also a training coming up if anyone wants to attend and he’ll answer any and all questions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. AFG Exhaust Grant

Deputy Chief Matt Bright presented the AFG Exhaust System Grant. This is for new or existing exhaust. Deputy Chief Matthew Bright presented the board with the Bid packet for their approval.

Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan made a motion to approve the AFG Exhaust bid packet as presented.
Trustee John Bernstein 2nd
Motion passed 5-0

NEW BUSINESS

a. Annual Bio-Medical Services Contract

Deputy Chief Matthew Bright explained that this is for servicing our medical devices that are housed on the ambulances, engines and other apparatus. Deputy Chief Bright explained that he requested quotes from three different companies, and received only two back. We have used Responder Biomedical Services the past several years and have been very satisfied with the work they have performed.

Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan made a motion to approve the annual bio-medical services contract with Responder Biomedical Services in the amount of \$5,135.00
Trustee John Bernstein 2nd
Motion Passed 5-0

FINANCIALS

a. Financial – Claims

Financial Assistant Lorie Robinson presented claims April 2026. Total claims - \$343,219.22

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker made a motion to approve the claims for April 2026.
Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan 2nd
Motion Passed 5-0

b. Payroll

Administrative Assistant Tammy Bovenschen presented the April monthly payrolls for approval.

- April 15th payroll – totaling \$335,373.17
 - 28 Day
- April 17 - Volunteer Quarterly payroll - \$3,453.72
- April 30th payroll – totaling \$281,814.86

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker made a motion to approve April payrolls.
Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan 2nd
Motion Passed 5-0

c. Financial – Statement

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

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

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker 2nd
Motion Passed 5-0

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

NEXT MEETING

Chair Vicky Sorensen stated that the next meeting will be in person June 10, 2026, at Station 25, located at 5081 N. Old State Road 37, Bloomington, Indiana. The meeting will also be held via zoom.

ADJOURN

Vice-Chair Mark Kruzan made a motion to adjourn at 7:21p.m.

Minutes approved by the board of trustees on June 10, 2026:

Aye:

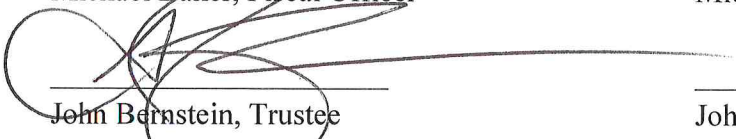


Vicky Sorensen, Chair

Mark Kruzan, Vice-Chair



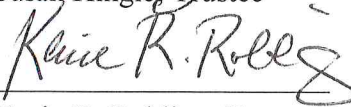
Michael Baker, Fiscal Officer



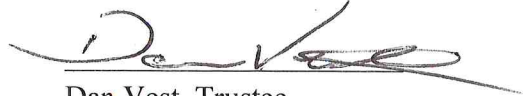
John Bernstein, Trustee



Susan Hingle, Trustee



Kevin R. Robling, Trustee



Dan Vest, Trustee

Nay:

Vicky Sorensen, Chair

Mark Kruzan, Vice-Chair

Michael Baker, Fiscal Officer

John Bernstein, Trustee

Susan Hingle, Trustee

Kevin R. Robling, Trustee

Dan Vest, Trustee

Copy furnished:

Mrs. Vicky Sorensen, Chair

Mr. Mark Kruzan, Vice-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. 26, Bulletin Board
Station No. 39, Bulletin Board

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. 29, Bulletin Board