



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, October 8, 2025. The meeting was held in person at Station 25, located at 5081 N. Old State Road 37, 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
Michael Baker, Fiscal Officer
John Bernstein, Trustee
Susan Hingle, Trustee

Those absent were as follows: Mark Kruzan, Vice-Chair
Kevin R. Robling, Trustee
Dan Vest, Trustee

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

**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.

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 August 8th regular meeting, August 25th work session, and August 29th additional regular meeting were presented to the board for approval.

Trustee Susan Hingle made a motion to approve the minutes.

Trustee John Bernstein 2nd

Motion passed 4-0

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Department Updates

a. Legal Updates

Legal Counsel, Christine Bartlett stated she's been working on Exhaust Grant with Chief Dillard on the terms of that. Started discussion on airport lease again – some preliminary discussion with the County.

b. Statistics

Deputy Chief Matt Bright updated the board the monthly statistics from August 1 – September 30, 2025.

TOTAL Emergency Calls	934
Fire Calls	30
Structure	7
Vehicle	9
Wildland	2
Other	12
Over Pressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat	0
EMS Calls	599
Medical	420
EMS Crew Assist	120
Motor Vehicle Accidents	59
Hazardous Conditions	25
Service Calls	94
Good Intent Calls	133
False Alarms	51
Severe Weather	1
Special Incidents	1

Incidents by Township	631
Benton	39
Bloomington	72
Clear Creek	80
Indian Creek	18
Perry	161
Van Buren	225
Washington	36

Incidents – Contracted Townships	44
Polk	12
Salt Creek	32

Incidents by Aid Given	259
Bean Blossom	3
Bloomington City	115
Ellettsville	42
Richland Township (EFD)	95
Greene County	2
Lawrence County	0
Brown County	1
Owen County	1
Morgan County	0

AID Received - Year to Date 349

**Station 81 Response
Engine 81– 147**

Squad 81 – 5

Average Response (dispatch to arrival on scene)	7 min 45 sec
Average Turnout (dispatch to enroute)	1 min 0 sec
Average Time on Scene	47 min 22 sec

August/September SOR (Statements of Refusal) signed: 12

Trustee Susan Hingle asked for Aid Received to be explained. Deputy Chief Matt Bright stated it's the number of times we received aid from another agency – Ellettsville Fire Department, Greene County, etc. Usually all fire related.

c. Emergency Medical Services & Operations

Deputy Chief Matt Bright updated the board on EMS & Operations

Current Situation:

- Data uploads and set up for First Due Software – the process continues
 - First successful upload/interface with monitors and software
- Special event coverage at area high school football games is ongoing

Accomplishments:

- Sent in quote information for LEPC Grant opportunity
- Pro AQ meeting with county chiefs and ambulance service

Planned Activities:

- Work performance evaluations for all Operations folks which include a free optional spinal screening
- Test the data connection with hospitals and begin training for Fire Due Reporting/scheduling etc.

Trustee John Bernstein asked about EMS standby with Bloomington Police, what direction is that training going? Deputy Chief Matt Bright explained that the training is for Police Department training and asked for MFPD to standby for the training at the range on the southside of town. Good community partnership.

d. Fleet

Fleet Manager Nick Powell updated the board on Fleet:

Current Situation:

- Maintenance:
 - 18 minor
 - 0 moderate
 - 0 major
 - 3 out of service for 1+days
 - Engine 21 – In Chassis Engine Overhaul

Accomplishments:

- Commercial Part Number List
 - Price check comparisons with vendor and cross-referencing Proprietary part numbers to Commercial numbers. Example: Brake parts from one vender cost \$4,023.50. The same brake parts from a commercial vendor cost \$1,566.00. Other parts are currently being cross referenced.

Planned Activities:

- Traveling to evaluate fire apparatus and fire boats
- ARFF
 - Convert ARFF to input based foam testing

Chief Dustin Dillard noted the reason that Nick Powell is doing the commercial part number list is due to RevGroup (which is a vendor we've purchased fire trucks off in the past), went to court and was sued for proprietary part issue.

e. Training

Assistant Chief Danny Gillespie updated the board on Training:

Current Situation:

- Driver Operator Certification Series
 - Driver Operator Pumper – September

- 12 FF's completed the course: 9 – MFD, 3 – BFD
- Mobile Water Supply – October
- Driver Operator Aerial – November

Accomplishments:

- Company Level Trainings on: Fire Alarms (Elevator Recall), Sprinkler Systems, Forcible Entry, 9/11, Ropes & Knots, Officer's Choice
- Leadership Series Training – Multi Agency by IDHS hosted by Monroe Fire in Bloomington
 - MFPD partnered with Van Buren Township to use the Community Center – a big thank you to Van Buren Township Trustee
 - 24 attendees from across Indiana

Planned Activities:

- Public Safety Education – Certification training

Training Hours:

- Company Training
 - August training hours – 1,887
 - September training hours – 2,153.4

Trustee John Bernstein asked what Officer's Choice is? Assistant Chief Danny Gillespie explained that there are times where a crew might want to focus on something on their own. This allows the officer to pick a topic and work on skills with the crews.

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker noticed a truck near hydrants in Washington Township Area. Assistant Chief Danny Gillespie explained MFPD was doing Ropes & Knots training.

Trustee John Bernstein mentioned he noticed training around the Pointe. Assistant Chief Danny Gillespie stated that was Driver Operator Series.

f. Community Risk Reduction

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

Current Situation:

- October Fire Prevention Week
 - "Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home"

Accomplishments:

- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) course
 - Started August 28 with final practical exam September 20

Planned Activities:

- We will be starting another CERT class
 - November 13 orientation and December 13 final practical exam

Fire Inspections:

- Fire Safety Inspections – 117
- Re-Inspections – 7

- New Construction Inspections – 5
- Plans Review –6

g. Financial – Claims

Financial Assistant Lorie Robinson presented financial summary for October 2025.
Current Situation:

- Seeking additional ARPA funding from Monroe County

Accomplishments:

- Covid-19 request for Public Assistant Grant fully closed out by IDHS
- 2019 SAFER Grant fully closed out by FEMA
 - Final reimbursement \$8,000.00 from years 1 & 2

Planned Activities:

- 2026 Budget Adoption by the County Counsel – October 14, 2025

EMS Revenue & Collections:

- Added the active accounts receivable – September: \$93,847.72

Additionally, Financial Assistant Robinson stated that at this time of year we could have expended 75% of our budget. Currently the General Fund has spent 67%, Cumulative Fund has spent 70% and the Restricted Donation Fund has spent 100% (which we had expected with the Station 26 construction).

Trustee John Bernstein asked about the overtime pay at the end of September – 106%. Financial Assistant Lorie Robinson explained that payroll category was incorrect and will be corrected by end of October. It'll be a line transfer.

f. Administrative Report

Chief Dustin Dillard updated the board on Administration Report.

Current Situation:

- Working with Franklin Peters on Financial Impact of SEA1
- ISO Pre-Survey

Accomplishments:

- Peden Farms – another fun event
- Bean Blossom for AVL recommendations

Planned Activities:

- Recruitment & Retention Tailgate
 - October 11 from 11:00am – 1:00pm at Station 25
- Budget Adoption
- Report to Governor on Emergency Alert Systems Statewide

Personnel Report:

- New Hires – Full Time – 0
- New Hires – Part-Time – 0
- New Hires – Substitutes – 2
- Retirements – 0

- Promotions – 0
- Resignations – 0

Volunteer Hours August & September: 392.5

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker asked about current situation on financial reporting, is that for 8 years? Chief Dustin Dillard stated yes, through 2032.

Trustee John Bernstein asked if we see all townships having a fire station by 2032? Chief Dustin Dillard stated the only townships he doesn't see having a fire station would be Polk or Salt Creek Township. Less than 500 people in Polk – maybe a small cooperative with Paynetown or Hardin Ridge. Chief Dillard stated that a possible smaller structure in southern Salt Creek would be best suited for Salt and Polk townships.

Trustee Susan Hingle asked if Fullerton opening made a difference. Assistant Chief Jeffrey Combs explained with the secondary engines it's a game changer. 22 has picked up some of 29 calls. AVL - roundabouts messed up the AVL dispatch, but we believe it has been corrected.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Concrete Bid

Deputy Chief Bill Tusing presented the Concrete Bid to the board to remove and replace concrete pad at Station 29. Barrow Excavating Inc. has done work for us before, so we recommend proceeding with them.

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker made motion to approve Barrow Excavating Contract for a total of \$6,500.00

Trustee John Bernstein 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Sorensen – Yes

Motion Passed 4-0

b. Station 24 – Snow Bar Replacement

Deputy Chief Bill Tusing received a few more quotes and still recommends JMMA Roofing & Construction to replace the Snow Bar on the aluminum standing seam roof at Station 24 in the amount of \$3,159.00. JMMA has done business with MFPD in the past. Workmanship warranty of 5 years.

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker made motion to approve JMMA Snow Bar Replacement at Station 24 in the amount of \$3,159.00.

Trustee John Bernstein 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Sorensen – Yes

Motion Passed 4-0

NEW BUSINESS

a. Benton Township – Capital Improvement Plan/ b. Van Buren Township – Capital Improvement Plan

Chief Dustin Dillard explained we've received agreements from Benton & Van Buren Townships for them to purchase equipment for the fire district out of the Capital Improvement Plans. Benton Township's Capital Improvement Plan is ready to go. There will be one similar coming from Van Buren Township. For the record, both townships in contrast to their size and revenues they have available are making significant investments in the fire district. Legal Counsel Christine Bartlett has reviewed both agreements.

Trustee John Bertnstien made a motion to accept the Benton Township Capital Improvement Plan.

Chair Vicky Sorensen 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Sorensen – Yes

Motion Passed 4-0

Chief Dustin Dillard asked what is the dollar amount received? Legal Counsel Christine Bartlett stated \$236,394.74.

Chief Dustin Dillard commented a huge thank you to Trustee Bright & Benton Township Board.

Deputy Chief Matt Bright explained the upcoming proposal to purchase 3 cardiac monitors for ambulances. Right now, the monitors are sitting on the ambulances we do have. This would allow a monitor remain on the ambulance at each station. Benton is essentially funding the north side of the county – Station 24, 25, 26. In addition to that, Benton is funding the CPR devices for Station 24 and 26 where two people are on shift.

Trustee Susan Hingle asked who decided on what equipment to purchase? Deputy Chief Matt Bright explained discussions on what would be best and what was needed most is how the conversation started. Trying to determine what we could use as a district and the township could fund.

Trustee Susan Hingle asked do we have a wish list of items needed in each township or district wide? Deputy Chief Matt Bright said yes, we have a perpetual wish list that we would like to have. However, holistically, we want to be able to provide our same level of services station wide. Bloomington Township Trustee notified us that they want to provide some structural items at Station 25, partnering with us.

Chair Vicky Sorensen mentioned that state has said townships need to spend money. Appreciate Township Trustees.

b. AFG Exhaust

Deputy Chief Matt Bright stated that Station 25/Station 39 will get a conversion

system and Station 22/Station 23 will get new AFG Exhaust. It's all paid through federal funding. 15% cost share.

c. 2026 Medical Insurance Proposals

Administration Assistant Tammy Bovenschen indicated errors in the 2026 Medical Insurance information provided by Bill C Brown. Chief Dustin Dillard mentioned in the past we haven't gotten any of this until November, which meant you couldn't vote on it until December – putting us in a pinch for open enrollment by the first of the year. The intent is to get as much in advance to get approval for open enrollment. Assistant Chief Jeffrey Combs explained surveying on providers. In the pre-insurance meeting with Bill C Brown, dental and eye insurance was discussed – as companies could submit proposals earlier. Assistant Chief Combs stated that we will be surveying staff to determine what providers they are utilizing to compare with new proposals.

Trustee John Bernstein asked if you have to choose the same plan for everyone? Chief Dustin Dillard indicated yes, we have to choose one provider.

Administrative Assistant Tammy Bovenschen mentioned that in the traditional plan we have 24 people, in the HSA plan we have 67. Bill C Brown did tell us the Anthem plan isn't the true quote; however, it's what they marked up based on what Anthem said of 22% increase.

Financial Assistant Lorie Robinson stated the major difference she noticed between United Health Care and Anthem (besides the increase of cost) is for the HSA plan.

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker asked what our current plans are? Administrative Assistant Tammy Bovenschen explained that we have two plans with Anthem one is a traditional plan and the other is an HSA plan Both are with Anthem.

Discussion of health insurance options in Indiana.

FINANCIALS

a. Financial – Claims

Financial Assistant Lorie Robinson presented claims for August and September 2025.

Total claims for August - \$243,735.63.

Total claims for September - \$516,171.92

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker made a motion to approve the claims for August and September 2025.

Chair Vicky Sorensen 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Sorensen – Yes

Motion Passed 4-0

b. Payroll

Administrative Assistant Tammy Bovenschen presented the August and September monthly payrolls for approval on 15th and 30th (which included trustee pay on

September 3rd).

Trustee John Bernstein made a motion to approve the payrolls for August and September as presented.

Trustee Susan Hingle 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Sorensen – Yes

Motion Passed 4-0

c. Financial – Statement

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

Trustee John Bernstein made a motion to approve the financial statement for August and September.

Fiscal Officer Michael Baker 2nd

Bernstein – Yes, Hingle – Yes, Baker – Yes, Sorensen – Yes

Motion Passed 4-0

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

No additional comments.

NEXT MEETING


Chair Vicky Sorensen stated that the next meeting will be in person on November 12, 2025, at Station 21, located at 9094 S Strain Ridge Road, Bloomington, Indiana. The meeting will also be held via zoom.

ADJOURN

Chair Vicky Sorenson made a motion to adjourn at 7:11 p.m.

Minutes approved by the board of trustees on November 12, 2025:

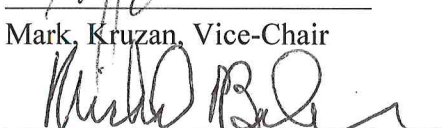
Aye:



Vicky Sorensen, Chair



Mark, Kruzan, Vice-Chair



Michael Baker, Fiscal Officer

Nye:

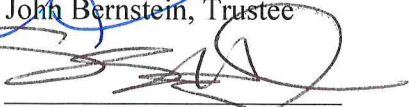
Vicky Sorensen, Chair

Mark Kruzan, Vice-Chair

Michael Baker, Fiscal Officer



John Bernstein, Trustee



Susan Hingle, Trustee

Kevin R. Robling, Trustee



Dan Vest, Trustee

John Bernstein, Trustee

Susan Hingle, Trustee

Kevin R. Robling, 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