



Monroe Fire Protection District



MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Joel Bomgardner called a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Monroe Fire Protection District to order at 6:04 p.m. EST Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at Station 21 located at 9094 S. Strain Ridge Road, Bloomington, Indiana. Public notice of the meeting had been duly made to local media by facsimile transmission and hard copy notices had been placed in all the usual places.

Mr. Bomgardner called the roll of the board of trustees to determine members present, absent, and to identify others present.

Those present were as follows: Joel Bomgardner, Chairman
C. Ed Brown, Fiscal Officer (arrive at 6:13pm)
Vicky Sorenson, Vice-Chairman

Those absent were as follows:

Others present were as follows: Dustin Dillard, Chief, MFD
George Cornwell, Deputy Chief, MFD
Tammy Bovenschen, Administrative Assistant
David Ferguson, Ferguson Law Offices
David Owens, Lt, MFD
Tess Hazel, FF, MFD
Glenn Duthie, FF, MFD
Iris Kiesling, community member

Those absent were as follows:

CHANGE OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Chairman Bomgardner asked if there were any amendments or changes to the agenda. There were no amendments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bomgardner explained this was the time when any member of the public could speak to the board concerning any matter not listed on the agenda. Mr. Bomgardner explained that we do have a policy for public comment that is outlined on the back of the agenda. There was no public comment.

HEADQUARTERS
STATION 11
3953 S KENNEDY DRIVE
BLOOMINGTON IN
812-331-1906
812-336-1166 (FAX)

LAKEVIEW
STATION 21
9094 S STRAIN RIDGE RD
BLOOMINGTON IN
812-824-6077

KIRKSVILLE
STATION 23
8019 S ROCKPORT RD
BLOOMINGTON IN
812-824-6202

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from the July 9, 2019 regular board meeting were presented to the board for approval. Chairman Bomgardner asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the minutes.

Mrs. Sorenson made a motion to approve the Minutes of July 9, 2019 as presented.
Mr. Bomgardner 2nd.
Motion passed 2-0

OLD BUSINESS

a. District 8 Fiscal Agent

Chief Dillard stated there were no updates this month. We are in the process of getting the new grant agreement executed. With the new grant, we will create a new Monroe Fire Protection District account instead of changing the old account name in IGMS. We are just waiting on the state to appropriate the funds.

b. Legal Updates

1. Annexation

Mr. Ferguson updated that board concerning the Annexation lawsuit. The City has 30 days from July 25 to file their response brief.

c. Station 23 Expenses

Mrs. Bovenschen updated the board on the expenses at station 23. Mrs. Sorenson asked if the electric bills were always so high. Mrs. Bovenschen stated that being the first year for MFD, we are assuming that part of the issue is the fact that the building is not insulated very well. Mrs. Bovenschen also noted that the thermostat controls are set at certain temperatures and are locked so that no one can excessively make it hot or cold. Chief Dillard also stated that the lighting is probably 20 years old. Mrs. Bovenschen reminded the board that there are things charging 24 hours a day at all the stations, with computers and trucks charging, we use a lot of electricity. Mrs. Bovenschen noted the electric bills at Station 11 and Station 21 both are over \$600 per month also. FF Hazel noted that at Station 11 the lighting has sensors, so that the lights come on when you walk into the room. She stated that it would be nice if we had those at all the stations.

Chief Dillard stated that the lighting FF Hazel is referencing was done through a Duke Energy Grant. He noted that we saw a small reduction in the energy usage, but not significant enough to change the lighting in all stations. Chief Dillard stated that we may have a few sensors left and he will investigate putting some of those at Station 21 in the living areas, however placing them in the garage area would be costly.

Mrs. Sorenson asked if there were restrictions about putting up solar panels at the fire stations. Chief Dillard stated that no there were not any restrictions, and that the city even has placed them on several of their buildings.

Fiscal Officer Ed Brown arrives.

d. Rescue 11 Replacement

Chief Dillard explained in more detail the breakdown of the additional charges for Rescue 11.

- Aluminum wheels instead of steel - \$5,806.
- Power widow front and rear cab doors - \$3,591
- Upper rear medical cabinet in cab - \$3,330
- Trailer brakes controller with 7 pin connector - \$1,488
- Two tone body paint - \$2,170
- Kussmaul air compressor - \$1,029
- Delete MDT mount – (\$1,183)
- Delete one roll-out tilt down tray – (\$1,566)
- Total changes \$14,509.

Chief Dillard also stated that there is an on-board diagnostics system that we will need to purchase software for. We will also need to be trained on how to use the system. The cost is approximately \$10,000. Chief Dillard stated the software will be able to tell us things like seat belt data, brake use, speed control along with information concerning any mechanical issues with the engine. Mr. Bomgardner stated that the expenses for the software and training are extensive and will require updates and possibly yearly training updates. Prior to purchasing, the district will need to decide if we will be hiring a full-time mechanic. If we are planning to do that, then the expense may be worth it, however if we are not planning on doing that, we may want to rethink the software. Mr. Brown asked what the cost of the diagnostic equipment is. Chief Dillard explained that the truck is automatically equipped with the diagnostic system, however, we must purchase the software to be able to use the diagnostic system. Mr. Bomgardner suggested that Chief Dillard speak with Jeff Bailey stating that he may already have the hardware for the system, just not the software.

e. Monroe Fire Protection District Future

Chief Dillard stated that we just finished up two weeks of public meetings. The first week was with Van Buren township residents and the second week was with Bloomington township residents. Everything went well, there were more questions at the Bloomington township meetings related to finances and planning. At the Van Buren township meetings the questions were more concentrated on why we were merging and how the firemen felt about joining. Chief Dillard stated that at the Bloomington township meeting questions were asked concerning fair wage for fire fighters and how many would we be hiring in the first year.

The remonstrance period is now open. Bloomington township has turned in their postcards to the Auditor's office for verification. If 50 or more people remonstrate, then a hearing would be held by the county commissioners. Mr. Bomgardner stated

he believes the county commissioners plan to hold a meeting on September 11 and September 18 if needed.

Chief Dillard stated that he received an email from the Benton Township trustee stating they would like to begin discussion with us about joining the district. Chief Dillard explained that we will speak with them after Van Buren and Bloomington townships are finished.

Mrs. Sorenson stated that she had received a few emails from Indian Creek township residents who were concerned with why their taxes would be going up when the new townships are added. Mrs. Sorenson stated she had forwarded the messages because she didn't feel she had an answer. She also stated that Commissioner Munson may contact the chief soon concerning the same issue. Chief Dillard stated that he has spoke to Commissioner Munson.

Chief Dillard explained that the County Commissioners are the ones that make the decision about anyone joining the district. Mrs. Sorensen stated that residents in Indian Creek do not understand why their township had to do so many steps to join the district and now the county commissioners are not requiring new townships to do this. Chief Dillard did state that when Indian Creek went through the process it was the first time the county commissioners had added a township to the fire district.

Chief Dillard explained that when Indian Creek joined the district their taxes were brought up to the current rate of the district. The taxes are now going up for the entire district, not just one township due to the increase in a larger assessed value.

Mr. Bomgardner suggested we do a press release concerning the two townships joining the district. Chief Dillard stated that he had already done a press release. During the township meetings, the worse-case scenario was presented for increase in taxes. Chief Dillard does not believe we will ever see the 14% increase that was presented at the meetings. Chief Dillard isn't sure how else we can explain it to the taxpayers. Chief Dillard explained the changes in staffing that will benefit the entire district.

Chief Dillard stated that if board members receive any questions from citizens, please forward those questions to him, he will be happy to address them.

h. Public Safety Income Tax

Chief Dillard stated the committee has stated that we will receive approximately \$88,000 out of the request of \$150,000. This amount has not yet been finalized.

i. Rhorer Road Property

Chief Dillard explained we have prepared a letter for the rental property explaining that the district purchased the house for expansion, and it is now time for us to start planning the expansion. We are terminating the lease as of December 31, 2020.

Mrs. Sorenson asked if the tenant wanted to leave prior to December 31, 2020 is that ok? Chief Dillard stated that yes, we are fine with her leaving any time sooner. Mr. Brown asked if we needed to make a motion on this issue. Mr. Bomgardner stated that we had made a motion at a previous meeting.

j. Budget 2020

Chief Dillard went over the budget sheet. Chief Dillard went over the additional appropriations for 2019. He reminded the board that we did the same thing in 2018 with the Salt and Polk township contracts. Chief Dillard explained that we will have to go before the county to have the additional appropriations approved.

Chief Dillard went over the increases in the 2020 budget explaining the increases by line to the board. The District board has the authority to change any amounts within the categories. The County will approve the budget based on the recommendations from the board. Mrs. Sorenson asked about the budget line for fuel, stating that the previous year was at \$0. Chief Dillard explained that in the current budget we have fuel/operating supplies listed together but in the 2020 budget we are separating the two items so that we can better track our fuel costs.

Chief Dillard went over the category totals and increases from actual spent in 2018 to 2020.

Chief Dillard stated that the budget session is August 26, at 5:15pm and will be held in the Nat U Hill room at the Monroe County Courthouse.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the 2020 Budget as presented.

Mrs. Sorenson 2nd
Motion passed 3-0

New Business

a. Department Updates

Chief Dillard went over the statistics for July. He noted that road closures are still causing many delays in our response time.

1. Statistics	<u>July 2019</u>
Fire	13
EMS	84
MVA	11
Haz Cond	8
Service	3
Good Intent	0
False Alarm	11
Special Weather/Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident	0
Total Runs	130

b. ISO Water Shuttle

Chief Dillard explained that in October 2018 we submitted paperwork to ISO for our review. ISO wanted to do a full review of our fire protection class and water shuttle capabilities. Chief Dillard has been working with them for approximately 8 months. Chief Dillard explained that recently he received a call concerning a small area, approximately 5 square miles, just south of station 23 in which the first truck gets there quickly, however, it will run out of water prior to the next truck arriving. Due to this, no credit can be given to the entire district. When Chief Dillard asked what can be done to help correct this issue, John Beard with ISO stated that if we had more water located at station 23 for initial response, it could bring our rating back to where we currently are or even lower it more.

Chief Dillard explained the ISO rating and the water shuttle to the board.

Chief Dillard stated that we could possibly purchase a used tanker to put at Station 23 to help with the water capacity. Chief Dillard also stated that he knows that Benton township has planned to purchase a new tanker. Their current tanker is still useable and in good shape and holds approximately 2100 gallons of water.

Mrs. Sorenson asked if this was due to Indian Creek joining the district. Chief Dillard explained that Indian Creek joining is not the reason at all. Chief Dillard also stated that the district has not done a water shuttle in the past. And this applies to the entire district, not just one township.

Chief Dillard is waiting to hear back from John Beard at ISO to determine how many gallons of water we are currently short. Chief Dillard stated that he will get information out to taxpayers as soon as we know more.

c. UTV Trailer

Deputy Chief Cornwell spoke to the board concerning the trailer we currently use for our UTV. We would like permission to purchase a new trailer for the UTV located at Station 21. Deputy Chief Cornwell explained the problems we currently have with the trailer originally purchased and why we are needing a different trailer.

Deputy Chief Cornwell presented the board with quotes from 3 different distributors. He is recommending an aluminum trailer 7'x14' with a price of \$3,100.

Mr. Brown made a motion to purchase an aluminum trailer from Roots with a price not to exceed \$3,100.

Mrs. Sorenson 2nd

Motion passed 3-0

Mrs. Sorenson asked where the funds to purchase the trailer will come from. Chief Dillard stated that the funds will come from the Salt and Polk contracts and the CUMM fund.

Claims and Financial Report

Claims:

a. Monroe Fire Protection District Claims:

Monroe Fire Protection District Claims dated July 25, August 6 and August 13, 2019 were presented for approval.

Mr. Brown motioned to approve MFD claims dated July 25, August 6 and August 13, 2019.

Mrs. Sorenson 2nd
Motion passed 3-0

b. District 8 Claims:

There are no District 8 claims this month.

c. Financial Report:

Chief Dillard went over the July 2019 financial report.

Payroll: Included the semi-monthly payrolls for July 2019.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the Financial Statement dated July 31, 2019, and payroll for July 2019.

Mrs. Sorenson 2nd
Motion passed 3-0

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Mrs. Bovenschen informed the board that the Hog Roast is August 24, 2019 at Station 21. Food is served from 11-2 with activities from 11-4pm.

NEXT MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

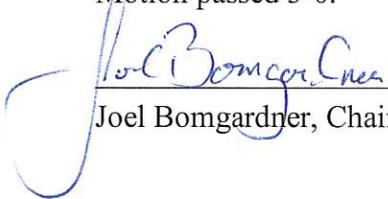
Mr. Bomgardner reminded everyone that our next scheduled regular board meeting for the Monroe Fire Protection District will be at 6:00pm Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at Station 23, 8019 S. Rockport Road, Bloomington, IN.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to properly come before the board, Mr. Bomgardner called for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Brown motioned to adjourn at 7:30pm on Tuesday, August 13, 2019.

Mrs. Sorenson 2nd
Motion passed 3-0.


Joel Bomgardner, Chairman


Ed Brown, Fiscal Officer Vicky Sorenson, Vice-Chairman

Copy furnished:

Mr. Bomgardner, Chairman
Mrs. Sorenson, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Cornwell, Deputy Chief
Mr. Ferguson, Legal Counsel
Station No.11, Bulletin Board

Mr. Brown, Fiscal Officer
Mr. Dillard, Fire Chief

Station No. 23, Bulletin Board
Station No. 21, Bulletin Board