

**Northern Monroe County Fire Protection Territory
Executive Committee Meeting
April 10, 2019 MINUTES**

Meeting called to order and Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 pm by Barb Ooley.

Committee Members Present: Barb Ooley (WT), Kim Alexander (BT), Kenny Bryant (WT), Lorraine Merriman Farrell (BT), Geoff McKim (BT)

Committee Members Absent: Troy Colvin (WT)

NMCFPT/BT Staff Present: Chief Joel Bomgardner, Deputy Chief Matt Bright, Deputy Chief Dave Calvin, Lisa Myers, Legal Counsel Darla Brown

- 1) **Approval of meeting agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda by Kenny Bryant with a second by Kim Alexander. Motion passed.
- 2) **Approval of minutes:** Motion to approve March 13, 2019, minutes by Alexander with a second by Lorraine Merriman Farrell. Motion passed.
- 3) **Old Business**
 - a. Property Update - Bryant advised he had heard back from INDOT regarding potential properties. He noted that there were two properties which appeared to be large enough for purposes of constructing a fire station. One is the old Bandag Tire site, located on the west access road directly across from the temporary Station 15, and the other is on the east side at the Sample Road interchange near the old gas station. Bryant suggested this was a bit too far south. INDOT is in the process of dispositioning the property along the I-69 corridor, and have been asked to expedite the process in order to facilitate the possibility of fire station construction.
 - i. Geoff McKim asked about the process for obtaining the property. Bryant advised that normally he thought they would look for a fair market value, but that there may be a special circumstance due to the proposed use of the site.
 - ii. McKim enquired whether there were mitigation issues with the land and noted that the county had run into issues with a similar property along the corridor in southern Monroe County. Bryant advised they were aware of the reason for the request and this is part of the reason for the small property list.
 - iii. Alexander asked about the timeline moving forward. Bryant suggested that while it could take some time, INDOT knowing the purpose and sense of

NMFT Executive Committee Meeting

April 10, 2019 MINUTES

Page 2

urgency could speed this up. Barb Ooley noted that INDOT has two years after completion of the segment to dispose of the property. McKim pointed out that the property the County is looking at was in the previously completed section of interstate, and has yet to be released.

- b. Station 15 – Alexander advised she wanted to make a motion that the members of the Committee cast his or her vote as to whether or not the Territory move forward with the construction of Station 15. She then followed with the motion. Motion was seconded by Lorraine Merriman Farrell. Motion Passed.
 - i. Lorraine Merriman Farrell – Yes
 - ii. Kim Alexander – Yes
 - iii. Barb Ooley – Yes
 - iv. Kenny Bryant – Yes, but with reservations on the station location and building affordability.
- 4) **New Business**
- a. There was no new business.
- 5) **Updates and Reports**
- a. Bloomington Township Trustee Report – Alexander made a special presentation to Captain Travis Terry in honor of 15 years of service to the department.
 - b. Attorneys Report – Darla Brown discussed the process of Benton Township joining the territory in the future. She provided a brief summation of the process, and provided an outline for the Committee (see attached). Additionally, she advised an estimate was obtained from Umbaugh & Associates who provided services during the original territory discussions. The estimate provided was between \$15,000 and \$20,000.
 - i. McKim asked about how the costs were shared between units moving forward. Brown suggested that this is a discussion which would need to happen between the units, but she thought the existing territory would be the unit contracting with any consultants.
 - c. Chief's Report – Chief Bomgardner provided a summation of the department's emergency responses for the past month. Deputy Chief Calvin provided a short summation of the training activity for the period, as well as a summation of fire safety inspections conducted. Chief Bomgardner provided a Washington Township specific breakdown of calls. Committee members and public were invited to see the department's new electric positive pressure ventilation fans (PPV) which were obtained through grant funds.

6) Public Comment

- a. Andy Spriggs (Washington Township) inquired about Washington Township's financial contribution to the territory when it was created. Ooley advised they paid for 1/3 of the fees including the consultant, attorney, as well as advertising and other incidental fees.
- b. Spriggs (Washington Township) commented that the current station still said Bloomington Township on the front. Chief Bomgardner pointed out that lettering was still to be added. The new name would be Northern Monroe Fire Territory Bloomington Township Station. Similarly the proposed station would be called Northern Monroe Fire Territory Washington Township Station.
- c. Darla Brown notified all in attendance that she was resigning as the attorney for the Territory. She advised she felt privileged and enjoyed the training opportunities. She also thanked all the staff and public who had contributed time and energy into the Territory towards construction of a new station. Alexander thanked her for her service.

7) Committee Comments

- a. Bryant expressed concern that the current two townships in the Territory had already paid the costs to create the Territory and felt that it would be asking a lot of taxpayers to foot the bill for doing so again if Benton wants to join especially since they dropped out last time. He suggested that how this was handled now would dictate how it is handled again in the future if another township wished to join. Lorraine Merriman Farrell provided a clarification and noted that Benton did not drop out of the discussion. McKim voiced appreciation for the clarification, and all agreed that this was an issue which should be discussed in more detail moving forward. Lisa Myers advised the Committee that despite not being part of the Territory in the end, Benton did go ahead and pay their agreed upon 1/3 of consultant fees.

8) Adjournment

- a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bryant with a second by Alexander. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.



Kim Alexander, Secretary
NMCFT, Executive Committee

Matthew Bright, Deputy Chief