

Northern Monroe County Fire Territory

Executive Committee Meeting

NMCFT-Bloomington Township Station 5 5087 N Old State Rd. 37, Bloomington IN.

July 22, 2016, 5:30pm

Minutes

Attendance (Executive Committee): Clayton Brickert, Barb Ooley, Mike Baker, Geoff McKim, Kim Alexander, Lillian Henegar

Attendance (Staff): Chief Joel Bomgardner, Deputy Chief Matt Bright, Deputy Chief Dave Calvin, BTVFD Vice President David Allen, Chief Transition Office Faron Livingston, Deputy Township Trustee Lisa Myers

Attendance (citizens): Mr. Dennis Nickless

1. Election of Board Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary  
Motion by Kim Alexander to have Lillian Henegar serve as Chairperson for the remainder of 2016. As outlined in the Operating Agreement, Barb Ooley becomes Secretary for the remainder of 2016. Second by Clayton Brickert. All are in favor.
2. Motion by Henegar to select Brickert as Vice Chair as outlined in the Agreement. Alexander seconds. All are in favor.
3. Alexander moves to approve Agenda.  
Ooley seconds. All are in favor.
4. Agreement between Washington Township and Bloomington Township that minutes will stay at the office of Bloomington Township. Bloomington Township has a more secure office due to the nature of Washington Townships current office set up.
5. Scheduling of meetings  
Executive Committee meetings:  
August 15, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at Station 5  
August 30, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at Station 5  
September 26, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at Station 5  
Subsequently all meetings will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every Month at 5:30 at Station Five, 5087 N Old State Road 37, Bloomington, IN unless otherwise decided upon by the Executive Committee.

Motion by Alexander to approve schedule of meetings. Second by Ooley. All in Favor.

6. Budget.

Review of Salary Calculations. Bloomington Township (BT) is creating a budget reflective of many unknown variables. Cash reserves must also be built up in the first year.

The draft proposed budget sits at \$2.3 million, which is under the \$3.7 million Tax Levy.

Baker asked if the budget reflects new hires for Washington Township. Fire Chief Bomgardner answered that it does. Hiring is currently ongoing so as to be prepared for when new station is ready.

7. Transition Team Report

The team is tasked with identifying all tasks needed to be done for Bloomington Township Fire Department (BTFD) to become Northern Monroe County Fire Territory (NMCFT). For example, approximately 40 items need to be changed in order to changeover from BTFD to NMCFT.

Henegar shared that the employee handbook is being reviewed and updated. New policies being implemented include a tobacco free station and annual physical fitness testing for all paid and volunteer firefighters

Deputy Chief Bright discussed a company-wide contest for the design of a new logo. Fire and EMS equipment will transition to new NMCFT logo as new equipment is purchased. It is hoped that the Executive Committee will choose the winning logo. Station Five will be renamed Northern Monroe County Fire Territory-Bloomington Township Station. The new station in Washington Township becoming the Northern Monroe County Fire Territory-Washington Township Station.

Brickert asked how the Territory will pay for the new signage. It was explained that as the new logo will be added to new equipment as it is purchased. As money becomes available, the other equipment will be changed. Trustee Henegar stated that the goal is to have the change done by the end of 2017.

Deputy Chief Calvin reported on the Hiring Committee process. We have a prioritized hiring roster with 12 people. The first two will be hired by September to fill vacancies created by re-organization and retirements. Station 5 is to be staffed and equipped so that Washington Township is covered and the firefighters will be prepared for staffing a new station when it becomes available.

Station Update for Washington Township:

Livingston reviewed the list of potential sites for a new station. He and Baker are charged with investigating and narrowing down the list of suitable sites. Several of the sites are owned by the state.

Ooley stated that she is not sure that her constituents would be willing to wait until the State is finished with I-69 and releases the property that they own, which means a couple of years of citizens paying higher taxes with no station to show for it.

Baker asked if we were constrained by any County zoning laws. Ooley stated that, according to the State, we are not.

McKim asked who would own the property. Ooley responded that Washington Township will own the property.

There was a general discussion about the merits of being on the west side or the east side of I-69. Livingston stated that the frontage roads will make quick access to either side at the Sample Road interchange. It was also mentioned that it would be possible to rent a house and use a pole barn until a permanent spot was found.

**Other Business:**

The establishment of the Safety Board has been tabled.

**Public Commentary:**

Mr. Dennis Nickless of Washington Township thanked everyone for their hard work, but stated he is not in favor of Territory being as big as is being discussed. He wants to keep the taxes reasonable. The Executive Committee thanked him for his thoughts and for being present at the meeting.

Alexander moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 pm, Ooley seconded, and all were in favor.

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Barb Ooley, Executive Committee Secretary