

**WCFD Board Meeting and Public Hearing Minutes  
December 28, 2023**

**Community Center- Aboite Fire Station  
11321 Aboite center Rd Ft Wayne, IN 46818**

**Attendees**

Garry Teeguarden  
Chuck Dwyer  
Lance Dafforn  
Mike Meyers  
Chandler Branning  
Other- Chief Gale Stelzer, Chris Perez  
Approx 30 public in attendance

- 1. Call to Order/Welcome/ Pledge of Allegiance 6:00p**
- 2. Approval of minutes from WCFD board meeting November 30, 2023**

1. Read aloud

Motion to approve by: Chuck Dwyer 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lance Dafforn

**Public Hearing**

See attachments at the bottom

**Arcola Volunteer Fire Department Station Resolution and Equipment Lease**

The meaning of the station and equipment lease is read aloud and a reminder stated that the public can comment, discuss, before the resolution is signed. Discussion includes the following: inventory, items to be returned, movement of equipment to Base 80 and when coverage will commence. Ground north of 30 and the financial ability to make offers, the process and who is involved. Possible impacts of county district consolidation within the next several years.

**Resolution**

The resolution is read aloud.  
All board members signed the resolution.

**Building Lease**

**WCFD and Arcola Inc**

The resolution is read aloud.

The public notice in the paper stated that the lease was available for review in the office of the WCFD financial officer.

The dayroom at Base 80 (Arcola) will be available for use, please contact Chris Perez in advance of the date needed at the email address provided on the WCFD website. The shower may not be ready, crew can rotate in the meantime. There is no longer a need for trailers. Rent \$1 /year. Maintenance and utilities paid for by WCFD, further details are outlined in the lease agreement. The Arcola board president is the "go-to" person.

Motion to approve by: Lance Dafforn 2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Meyers all approve

**Equipment Lease**

The Grass rig, Tank 184 will be leased from Arcola and go to base 80. The following will come to base 80 from Aboite: 281, 285, Medic 85. The inventory of items needed was done and approved. The Chief and an Arcola Representative (whomever they appoint) need to sign the lease. Board members signed the precursing resolution to the lease.

Motion to approve by: Chuck Dwyer 2<sup>nd</sup> Lance Dafforn all approve



## **Aboite Township Station Lease**

### **Station 1 resolution**

Identical to the Arcola resolution, with exception of the Aboite address.

All board members sign resolution.

### **Station 1 Lease (Base 180)**

Garry Teeguarden highlighted details of the lease including 74% paid by the fire dept and 26% paid by the trustee; differences include the building is not only a fire station but is the trustees office as well as community room. Jaime Lock, in the audience, from the Aboite Advisory Board, addressed the board that the final version of the lease is not prepared because of the holidays, clarifying language will be added, term of 6 months instead of a year, and the township board will likely not vote until January. Ms. Perez states the board can vote to sign the resolution to enter the lease agreement. Part of the resolution gives the chief the authority to approve adjustments to the lease with approval of legal counsel.

Motion to approve by: Chuck Dwyer 2nd Mike Meyers all approve

### **Station 2 lease (Coventry)**

Lease amount \$1. This will be month to month. The trustee wants to sell the building. The building serves largely as storage for the fire station. This arrangement allows both parties to complete their respective tasks and not be locked into costs such as utilities for an entire year. The goal is to vacate as quickly as possible.

Motion to approve by: Chuck Dwyer 2nd Mike Meyers all approve

### **Equipment Lease**

Ms. Lock stated from her seat that the lease the board has in front of them is without concern, the lawyer is putting final terms in writing and are on vacation. There is a 2<sup>nd</sup> lease that earlier in the year, Aboite Township approved funds for the purchase of a new fire engine. \$775,000 down. The issue is that when the lease comes offline in 2025, the \$350,000 due will no longer be coming to the trustee as tax revenue. The WCFD will be responsible to pay the remaining to the Aboite trustee who will then pay off the truck, both parties need these details in writing. (Aboite will pay the 1<sup>st</sup> payment, WCFD the last. ) Note that the taxpayers will save \$42,000 due to the \$775,000 put down.

Motion to approve by: Chuck Dwyer 2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Meyers all approve

### **Public Comments/ Other business**

Tim Knitter – concerns regarding future with 30, money

Chandler Branning- 1. Turned in an Arcola Volunteer Application

2. Received a notice for:

WCFD 11329 Railroad Rd

From: KRQHN Associates CPAS and Consultants

The notice is handed over to Chris Perez. Ms. Perez also says she is working on Comcast.

**Adjournment:** 6:55p

Motion to approve by: Chuck Dwyer 2<sup>nd</sup> : Lance Dafforn

Next meeting TBD

Secretary: Natalie Forbing