

WCFD Board Meeting

Date : December 19th 2024

Location: Community Room – Base 80
11329 Railroad Street Arcola, IN 46704

This meeting is a meeting of the West Central Fire District in public for the purpose of conducting the fire district's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting.

Attendees

Garry Teeguarden

Chuck Dwyer

Lance Dafforn

Mike Meyers -arrive @ 6:10p

Chandler Branning

Other- Chief Gale Stelzer, Chris Perez

1. Call to Order/Welcome/ Pledge of Allegiance 6p

2. Approval of minutes from WCFD board meeting date

Motion to approve by: C. Dwyer 2nd: L. Dafforn

3. Review Meeting Schedule- C.Perez

Background: the board must meet a minimum of 1x per quarter (January, April, July, October) and be published once in the local newspaper.

2025 WCFD board meetings :B180 January 16th, B80 April 17th, B180 July 17th, B80 October 16th

Meetings can be added and if necessary and posted appropriately.

Motion to approve by: L. Dafforn 2nd C. Dwyer

4. Tanker Bid Update- Chief Stelzer

Background: A grant leftover from Arcola volunteer fire that WCFD is able to use and invest for a tanker to proactively manage the expense of equipment/ apparatus maintenance.

We have received 2 bids and I want to reject them both . Pierce came in at \$694,000. Summit at \$592,000 . I want to be closer to \$400,000 and submit again. My goal is to get it in the paper and close it out in 2 weeks. We can go into 2025 without losing grant money and apply for an extension, if necessary, after July 2025. The 3 manufacturers are Midwest, Pierce, and Summit.

5. Discussion and Vote on Construction/ Renovation Project – G. Teegarden

Background: : WCFD is in its infancy though tasked with serving the county's most rapidly expanding area, shared with NWFD. Per County Council in August 2024, prior to authorizing approvals for additional station(s) for the WCFD- a scoping study of both stations the WCFD is currently comprised of must be completed The study was done by RQAW (architect) and BW (construction) to evaluate current conditions of the stations; it was done according to what was given from downtown and can be found on WCFD website- wcfcd.org

After review and discussion of Scenario 1 or Scenario 2 the board agrees to set a time and what they expect in terms of information: C. Branning, L. Dafforn and Chief Stelzer asked Charlie Seifert, John Banet, Mark Butts, Steve Thurber to look for land south of 30. L. Dafforn will have conferred with his contact who is currently out of town. C.Branning verify B80 IS still available (for purchase.)

5.1 Land update – L. Dafforn

The land does not look to be available.

5.2 Land Committee update- Charlie Seifert, John Bannet, Mark Butts, Steve Thurber

Per Mr. Butts: the land North of Eme Rd is in a trust , the person passed away. We didn't realize we don't have negotiating power.

5.3 Arcola Building- C. Branning

Arcola Inc. is still willing to sell as long as scenario 1 is selected (current Arcola building remain a fire station).

Board discussion ensues including:

Chief Stelzer : goal is to use the building but not at the cost of millions of dollars.

M. Meyers : is there a statute that says what it has to be? The building could be used for trucks and certain functions, walked to from next door.

G. Teegarden: it gives us something to look into.

L. Dafforn: Details, verbiage could be worked on. The 1st thing is to get appraisals to see if it's in the budget, then focus on language. Dig deeper into Mike's idea of using the existing building as a supplement to another.

Chief Stelzer : is there a price range they are looking for?

C. Branning: no

Estimate for 3 appraisals will be \$1500- \$3000, C. Perez will reach out to the appraisers. The average of the 3 will then be presented to Arcola Inc.

L. Dafforn: what is the threshold for the millions, ie sprinklers, ADA restrooms, etc.

Concern over unknowns of I30 and station closures, working with NWFD:

Chief Stelzer : NE B170 wasn't forced to close, they did it on their own. B 190 has volunteers and Paid staff.

C. Dwyer: keep in mind the less than desirable circumstances the current crew is living in, it's a consideration is all. I'm not arguing about taking time, I don't want to drag this out. 20,000 people are south of Bass Rd looking on the outside in. We won't please everyone.

Chief Stelzer: Do what's right for the people in WCFD.

WCFD and NWFD are talking about how to best work together; the Wallen Rd station needs replaced- a location has not been discussed.

Impact to B180 of Woodside Middle School being torn down concerning water lines. In the works is preserving the water line – it could cost easily \$100,000 if we have to dig our own.

Motion to approve 5.3 by: M. Meyers 2nd L. Dafforn

C. Dwyer – nay

G. Teegarden, C. Branning - aye

6. Adjourn 6:32

Motion to approve by: Chuck Dwyer 2nd C. Branning

Secretary Natalie Forbing