# ACW Fire Authority

**Regular Meeting Minutes**
**August 13, 2026**
**At the Columbia Township Hall**

Meeting called order at 6:00 PM by Chairperson, Lisa Valentine.

**Present**:
Akron Twp.: Jamie Schuette, Katie Sattelberg
Columbia Twp.: Chris Creguer, Christina Parmenter-Thompson
Wisner Twp.: Lisa Valentine, Wade MacFarlane
Member at Large: Leila Rish
Clerk: Lucille Keipinger

**Others present**: Justin Wolf

## Communications and Announcements

A **motion** was made by Creguer second by Sattelberg to approve the agenda as presented. 7 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 absent, Motion carried. 7 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 absent, Motion carried.

A **motion** was made by Creguer, second by Sattelberg to approve June 4, 2026, minutes as presented. 7 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 absent, Motion carried.

**Public Comment**
None

**Audit Results**
Kylie Kraft, Nietzke & Faupel, P.C. presented their findings for the audit of 2025-2026 fiscal year.

**Fire Report**
They had sixty-eight runs.
Last week, August 4th, was National Night Out at Unionville Park and they attended the National Night Out in Caro.
On August 15th they participated in training with the new grain bin rescue equipment that they received from a grant. They will need more ropes and harnesses for this. A suggestion was made to get a list of what is needed and businesses or other groups might be interested in purchasing the equipment needed.
They were not awarded the $10,000.00 grant from State Farm for additional equipment for fighting grass fires.

Sydney Miller is a recruit that will be attending classes in the fall.
The lights were taken off the old boat and added to the new boat that belongs to the DNR. They will need more lights. The old boat (that came from Bay City Safety Department) was given to Bay Port Fire Department.
Sprayed the USA Band at practice. This exercise is to challenge their concentration.
Boat training has been done.
Equipment repairs have taken place, but the air conditioner on the grass rig, blinker on the tanker must be fixed, and a valve on E2 is causing an issue.
Access for the iPad is not working.
They will need approximately five hundred kits for fire prevention material to use at the schools. The cost is split between Unionville and Sebewaing.
With the 911 mileage passing, there is a chance of upgrading the radio equipment.

**Old Business**

Facebook and other tech issues
The firemen can do work on the site but need to have admin access assigned to Shawn and Justin. They cannot get access to the iPads in the trucks. The door locks are working, but they cannot change any codes. It was decided to check with the manufacturer or a locksmith for assistance. We need to get assistance from Bob Frost, TISD Tech, with the technical issues and report at the next meeting.

Fire Chief
No applications were received. We will continue as it is for now and keep trying to improve procedures.

Fire Billing
Billi Edmonds from MI Financial Services LLC is making progress on the billing.

Logo
It was decided to use the logo that is on the EPR reports.

Collections
Credit Services of Michigan asked if the board would be interested in pursuing legal action on of the accounts that had been turned over to them for collection. They would cover all the cost of the suit, but the commission rate moves to 50%. A **motion** by Rish, second by Creguer, to advise Credit Services of Michigan to pursue legal action to collect the accounts that have been turned over to them. 7 Yeas, 0 Neys, Motion carried.

Website
The new site is not active. Parmenter-Thompson will contact Bob Frost, TISD in September. Discussion of website and email address switch will be tabled until the regular October meeting.

Grant Opportunities
Michigan Fire Equipment Grant has been reinstated. A **motion** by Crueger, second by Sattelberg to apply for the Michigan Fire Equipment Grant to obtain ropes and harnesses for grain bin rescue, turnout gear, additional equipment for the boat, and grass rig up to $50,000.00. 7 Yeas, 0 Neys, Motion Carried.

**New Business**

Future Grants
Valentine has spoken with Representative Matthew Bierlein about a grant for fire pumper/tanker.
Mr. Bierlein told her that the next round of applications begins in January. It was decided to table and pursue at the proper time.
Discussion was held concerning the application for Fire Station Grant. It was decided to table for the October meeting. We will need to communicate with the residents about the costs and financing and have all three townships prepare a letter of support and finance to cover our share of the cost in support of the grant application.

Tuscola County Fire Association Meeting
A **motion** by Creguer, second by MacFarlane to approve the funds to cover the cost of the meal, approximately $300.00, that ACW is hosting for the Tuscola County Fire Association meeting on August 20th. 7 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Fire Prevention Material
A **motion** by Creguer, second by Sattelberg, to approve the shared cost of purchasing five hundred fire prevention kits for the schools with Sebewaing Fire. Approximately $500.00 each. 7 Yeas, 0 Nays, Motion carried as amended.

Financial Statements
A **motion** by Parmenter-Thompson, second by MacFarland, to pay the bills. 7 Yeas, 0 Neys, Motion Carried.

**Public Comment**
Pam Shook

**Adjourn Meeting**
A motion was made by MacFarland, second by Creguer to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM, 7 Yeas, 0 Neys, Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
*Leila Rish*
Leila Rish, Secretary