

Madison Township Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Morgan County, Indiana

April 30, 2025

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman, Nelson Hoggatt

II. Roll Call

- Nelson Hoggatt, Chairman
- Dawn Horock, Secretary
- Matthew Pranger, Member
- Larry Ellis, Trustee
- Tina Turner, Clerk

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Moment of Silence

V. Adoption of Minutes from March 6, 2025 with change of date on the last page.

Motion by Matthew Pranger, seconded by Dawn Horock. Vote 3-0

VI. Old Business

1. Bids for Station 31 Remodel – 2 Bids were received.

- a) RLC Lawyer Contracting LLC bid was \$168,943.45 and the Chairman read each of the specifics within their bid.
- b) John Hast Contracting bid was \$178,105. and the Chairman read each of the specifics within their bid.

Questions were raised regarding electric in sleeping quarters, a gas stove and what the age of the current electric stove was, and flooring. It was also stated that by Indiana Guidelines we cannot provide a \$50K deposit. The Trustee will get with the contractors for any clarification on bids.

2. Status of Driveway – Trustee Ellis stated that he has met with SUNCO regarding drainage issues. Photos were taken by Trustee Ellis and later by SUNCO.

Holloway was contacted regarding these issues and the Trustee and Holloway are at odds. Trustee Ellis stated that we are working on getting those issues resolved.

VII. Reports

Trustee

1. There are several Senate Bills that have been approved. (a) **SB388** is regarding **Firefighter portion of the 77 Fund Retirement Fund**. The Firefighter portion has been raised to 6.5% for 2026, They were originally asking for 8.5%. (b) **SB1 – Property Tax Reform**. Several organizations such as IN Trustee Association, State Board of Accounts and the County are all trying to determine how this will affect us. There is mention of cutting percentages to Fire Departments per thousand. Possible elimination of Safety-LIT (Public Safety monies) that affect Police and Fire Departments. (c) **HB68** Provides an assessed value deduction for individuals at least age 65, that reside and owned their home for at least 5 years and meet other criteria provides a deduction equal to \$120K. There may be several homes within our township which means taxes will go down as well and directly affect us. (d) **HB1461** Which is about roads and gives the county the authority to come and ask for excess

- money at the end of the year to put towards roads. Madison Township falls into this because we are a municipality of over 10,000. However, if the Township money is obligated through a Capital Improvement Plan, Contractor Purchase Order, or specific use by State or Federal Law or other, restricted by a Contractual Obligation, or by a third party, they can't touch it. The funds that they can go after are the Rainy Day Fund, Township money and several others. They cannot take money from our Firefighting Fund. The Township will have to submit a Capital Improvement Plan on a yearly basis so that we can protect the assets of the Township and protect incoming revenue. Ramifications of all of these bills are still not fully known at this time.
2. The Trustee and Clerk attended a meeting regarding Township Mergers. The state is pressuring Townships to start merging. Just like a Fire Territory, Townships must have borders that touch each other. The State would like for 3 Townships to merge. This would eliminate 2 Townships, 2 Trustees and 6 Board members. We will be watching to see how this progresses.
 3. Madison Township is currently undergoing an SBOA Review. This was previously done four years ago. It will be done every 2 years going forward.
 4. A Capital Improvement Plan is a financial plan that identifies and schedules future projects/purchases for renovations, and equipment purchases (like fire engines, equipment, generators).
 5. The Trustee provided information regarding the Fire Chief Report in absence of Steve Hartsock. There has been a hiring process open. We had 11 applicants for 3 full-time positions. We will probably be extending offers to 3. We will be opening a Hiring Process for Part time positions. Paramedic positions are all filled. Paperwork was filed this week for the Ladder Truck at 31 can be ALS certified.

Township Clerk

Tina Turner stated that she will be attending ITA Training for Poor Relief. Township Assistance applications and assistance is up this year. She will be able to provide more information regarding a Poor Relief Policy.

VIII. New Business

1. Review of Station 31 Bids received.
Motion to accept bid from RLC Lawyer Contracting LLC in the amount of \$168,943.50 by Matthew Pranger, Seconded by Dawn Horock. Vote 3-0.
2. Board review of orders and Payments – None at this time.
3. Resolution 2025-09 Resolution concerning Trustee's Township Assistance Policy.
Motion to table by Dawn Horock, Seconded by Nelson Hoggatt. Vote 3-0.
4. Discussion for plans to replace apparatuses and oxygen tanks was brought forward by Matthew Pranger. The Capital Improvement Plan will cover some of these issues and will be drafted by the Trustee and Acting Fire Chief. Air Packs are good for a couple years. Per the Trustee, our Township is in better financial position than it's ever been.

IX. Next Meeting September 24, 2025.

- X. Good to Order
- XI. Board Comments
- XII. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm. Motion by Dawn Horock, seconded by Nelson Hoggatt
Vote 3-0

Minutes prepared by Dawn Horock, Board Secretary

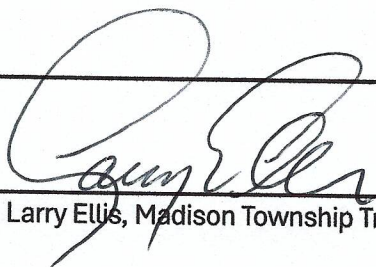
Dated this 26th Day of September 2025.

AYE

NAY

Nelson Hoggatt
MPP
Dawn Horock

ATTEST


Trustee Larry Ellis, Madison Township Trustee