

Meeting Minutes

Meeting of the North Township Advisory Board

Held at the Fire Station in Lapaz, IN

Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 6:00pm

North Township Advisory Board Members Present:

Steven Davenport, President

Steve Barber, Secretary

Judy Fisher

Emily Haskins, Trustee, North Township

Mathew Haskins, Fire Chief

For other community members present, please refer to the attached sign-in sheet.

*The reader will note that meetings are now livestreamed and available for viewing thereafter. Please refer to our website for a schedule of our meetings, links for the live streams (available for viewing thereafter), approved minutes, and additional information: <https://northtownship.org>.

The meeting consisted of the following.

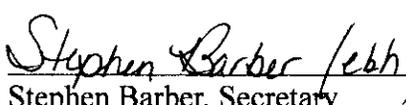
Mr. Davenport called the meeting to order at 5:59pm.

1. Approval of 12/10/25 Meeting Minutes: Mr. Barber moved to approve the minutes as printed, seconded by Ms. Fisher, and passed 3-0.
2. Establish Board Positions for North Township Advisory Board
 - a. Ms. Fisher nominated Mr. Barber for Secretary, seconded by Mr. Davenport, and passed 3-0.
 - b. Mr. Barber nominated Mr. Davenport for President, seconded by Ms. Fisher, and passed 3-0.
3. Establish Board Positions for North Township Board of Finance
 - a. Mr. Barber nominated Ms. Fisher for Financial Secretary, seconded by Mr. Davenport, and passed 3-0.
4. Establish Board Positions for North Township-LaPaz Fire Protection Territory
 - a. Mr. Barber moved that Mr. Barber and Ms. Fisher be appointed to serve on the Territory Committee, seconded by Mr. Davenport, and passed 3-0.
 - b. Ms. Haskins chose not to sit on the Territory Committee because of her marriage to the Fire Chief and appointed Mr. Davenport to serve in her place on the Territory Committee.
5. Trustee Update:
 - a. Ms. Haskins explained that at the joint meeting with the Town of LaPaz Council next week the only information to be discussed will be the financial report for the Fire Territory.
 - b. At the Township Advisory Board Meeting, the Annual Financial Report will be reviewed.
 - c. Ms. Haskins reported that we had responded to the 1782 Notice and had asked for a reconsideration of this Notice. We have not heard back from the State. "But I did get the Certified Budget Order from the County that they (the State) did not increase our Territory general levy by the 0.0333 that we would like." She also asked for clarification on when the Capital Asset Plan could be submitted and has not received a response from the State on this either. While doing some research, some of the information required for the Capital Asset Report is needed during the budget preparation in the summertime. Therefore, in the future, the Capital Asset Report should be done between July 1 and September 30. She anticipates doing this during our budget discussion season.
 - d. Anticipated discussions during the upcoming year include:

- i. Township Assistance Guidelines
 - ii. Cemetery Plan for fencing
 - iii. Library cards
 - iv. Employee manual
6. Good of the Order announcements or updates from the Fire Department:
- a. Mr. Robertson reported that there are 3 individuals in the Marshall County Academy for Fire 1 certification. Upon completion of Fire 1, another person will be joining them to complete Fire 2 certification. By May or June, these 4 will be certified for Fire 1 and Fire 2.
 - b. Three individuals are in the advanced EMT classes.
 - c. Mobile 1 has all the equipment on it and is ready to run.
 - d. Mr. Robertson asked for guidance on what should be done with the old air packs (which were replaced by the new SCBAs. Another department has expressed an interest in purchasing a few of them. For the remaining air packs, one idea is to donate them to the Plymouth CTE training program for students. The consensus was that these air packs have very little value at this time. Mr. Barber moved to allow the Fire Chief to dispose of them as desired, beginning with an attempt to sell to the other department and then donate the remaining units to the Plymouth CTE program. This was seconded by Ms. Fisher and passed 3-0.
 - e. In the near future, Mr. Robertson anticipates a discussion with the Territory Committee and the Board about hiring additional staff.
 - f. Mr. Barber informed the board that he received a list of concerns about response times from a patron. The concerns have been forwarded to Mr. Haskins and Ms. Haskins, asking Mr. Haskins to respond. As Mr. Haskins is not present for the meeting tonight, it seemed prudent to wait for him to respond to these concerns at our meeting next week. It was clarified that the full-time staff work shifts of 6am-6pm.
7. Public comments: None
8. Next Meetings:
- a. Wednesday, January 14, 2026 (Joint meeting with Town of LaPaz at 6:00pm – to review the Annual Financial Report – according to the Interlocal Agreement)
 - b. Wednesday, January 14, 2026 (Township Advisory Board meeting at 7:00pm)
9. Mr. Barber moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Fisher, and passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at about 6:19pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Stephen Barber, Secretary

Approved: As Written/Printed As Amended As Corrected

 _____ Steven Davenport, President	1-14-26 _____ Date	
 _____ Stephen Barber, Secretary	1/14/26 _____ Date	
 _____ Judy Fisher	1/14/26 _____ Date	

North Township Marshall County Public Meeting
Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 6:00pm
LaPaz-North Township Fire Station

Sign-In Sheet

1. *W Roberts*
2. *Judy Fisher*
3. *Hue Dewey*
4. *Steve Barber*
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Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 6:00pm
LaPaz-North Township Fire Station

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- 2. Establish Board Positions for North Township Advisory Board**
- 3. Establish Board Positions for North Township Board of Finance**
- 4. Establish Board Positions for North Township-Lapaz Fire Protection Territory**
- 5. Trustee Update**
- 6. Good of the order announcements or updates from Fire Department**
- 7. Public Comment (Limited to 2 minutes per person)**