Meeting Minutes
Meeting of the North Township Advisory Board
Held at the Fire Station in Lapaz, IN
Wednesday, July 27, 2026 (following the Territory meeting)

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 6:57pm.

1. Approval of 6/8/26 Meeting Minutes: Mr. Barber moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Fisher, and passed 3-0.
2. Territory Recommendations:
    a. Mr. Barber moved to adopt the Territory recommendation regarding the applicant – to extend an offer of employment, seconded by Judy Fisher, and passed 3-0.
    b. Mr. Barber moved to adopt the Territory recommendation regarding the part-time pay rate of $19.00/hour for Advanced EMTs, seconded by Ms. Fisher, and passed 3-0.
    c. Mr. Davenport moved to adopt the recommendation to approve the changes to the Employee Manual except for the Compensatory Time section, seconded by Ms. Fisher, and passed 2-0 (Mr. Barber abstained).
    d. Mr. Barber moved to adopt the recommendation to transfer 5% of the levy (about $40,000) from the Fire Territory General Fund to the Equipment Replacement Fund, seconded by Ms. Fisher, and passed 3-0.
3. Cemetery Update
    a. Ms. Haskins contacted the County Highway Department and is awaiting a response to our question if there is a headstone in the right of way of Michigan Road in Zion Cementery. She has not yet heard from County Line Brethren Church regarding their wishes for the plot they own adjacent to the Zion Cemetery. As a result, we are not yet ready to move forward with the fencing around Zion Cemetery.
4. Township Budget update:
    a. Ms. Haskins reported the following changes
        i. Township General Fund, Communication and Transportation: Reduced from $1,300 to $650 because we have made changes to our phone service, discontinuing our landline.
        ii. Township General Fund, Printing and Advertising: Reduced from $1,000 to $500 because our expenditures for this line item are minimal.
        iii. Township General Fund, Insurance and Bonds: Reduced from $1,000 to $500 because the only expenditure coming out of the category is the Trustee bond.

iv. The total budget for all funds = $1,025,200.
v. Mr. Barber asks for clarification of the Township Assistance Fund. Ms. Haskins identified that there is $39,033.17 in the Township Assistance Fund as of 7/23/26. She clarified that we could reduce all the categories somewhat, and that if more were needed, we could allocate those funds from the balance which is in the Township Assistance Fund. She recommended that we not lower the budget for utilities. Mr. Barber moved to reduce housing to $5,000 and utilities to $7,500. This motion died for lack of a second.
vi. As a result the budget for 2027 will increase 4.99% over this year.

5. Trustee Update:
   a. Ms. Haskins alerted the Board that she anticipates holding an Appropriation Hearing for the Ambulance Remount at the September meeting and encumber that money from the 2026 budget.
   b. Ms. Haskins reported that the Capital Improvement Plan is not required of us at this time. Mr. Barber voiced his desire for this process to continue.
   c. Ms. Haskins provided a summary of the action on the funds of the Township (see attached).
   d. Ms. Haskins provided a summary of Township Assistance (see attached).
6. Good of the Order announcements or updates from Fire Department:
   a. Mr. Haskins referred to handouts on Territory collections, run reports, and Mr. Robertson's report of his administrative activities in June.
   b. Mr. Haskins reported that as of today they have responded to 289 calls so far this year. Pump tests will be completed tomorrow. SCBAs will be tested next month.
7. Public Comment:
   a. Mr. Haskins asked Ms. Cox if she had heard anything about the potential of working on the bridge over the railroad tracks in LaPaz. Mr. Haskins was referred to the Marshall County Highway Department.
8. Salary Ordinance: Mr. Barber moved to adopt the Salary Ordinance to include the range of $16-$19/hour, based on qualifications to address pay for part-time Advanced Level EMTs, seconded by Ms. Fisher, and passed 3-0.
9. Next Meetings:
   a. Fire Territory Meeting, Wednesday, September 16 at 6:00pm..
   b. Township Board Meeting, Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30pm or immediately following the Territory meeting.
10. Mr. Barber moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Fisher, and passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephen Barber, Secretary

Approved: [X] As Written/Printed [ ] As Amended [ ] As Corrected

Steven Davenport (ekh) — 9-16-26
Steven Davenport, President — Date

[signature] — 9-16-26
Stephen Barber, Secretary — Date

Judy Fisher (ekh) — 9-16-26
Judy Fisher — Date

North Township Marshall County Public Meeting
Monday, July 27, 2026 at 6:30pm
LaPaz-North Township Fire Station

1. **Approval of 6/8/2026 Meeting Minutes**
2. **Territory Recommendations**
3. **Cemetery Update, if applicable**
4. **Township Budget update**
5. **Trustee update**
6. **Good of the order announcements or updates from Fire Department**
7. **Public Comment (Limited to 2 minutes per person)**

North Township Marshall County Public Meeting
Monday, July 27, 2026 at 6:30pm
LaPaz-North Township Fire Station

Sign-In Sheet

1. Judy Fisher
2. Andrew Hayt
3. Sarah Klingerman
4. Shawn Murphy
5. [illegible]
6. Nicole Cox
7. Steve Barber
8. [illegible]
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