RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS MADISON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION

10-15-2025

CALL TO ORDER @ 1900 hours.

ROLL CALL: x Mr. Adams x Mr. Anderson x Chief Meister

x Mr. Donaldson x Mr. Lee x Joanne Clapp x Mr. Sill x Mr. Wayman x Stacy Dame

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - The pledge was recited by all.

REGULAR SESSION:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Session minutes from September 17, 2025 were presented for approval. Motion to accept the minutes of September 17, 2025 was made by: Mr. Anderson

Seconded by: Mr. Lee ROLL CALL: 4 ayes

BILLS & PAYROLL - September, 2025

Bills (\$120,960.69) and Payroll (\$231,149.38) for a total of \$352,110.07 are motioned for acceptance and payment.

Ms. Clapp stated that extraordinary expenses for August consisted of payments for the District BWC TPA and the Central Dispatch fees.

Motion to accept bills and payroll was made by: Mr. Sill

Seconded by: Mr. Anderson ROLL CALL: All ayes

FINANCIAL REPORT - September, 2025

Ms. Clapp provided a detail of finances from the fund summary. She noted that December will have two larger expenses; the holiday and longevity payouts to staff, and the next loan payment.

OPENING PUBLIC PORTION

Ms. Erin Tennant (current MFD member) asked to speak in response to last month's statement read by Mrs. Faulhammer. She read the following statement:

"Anyone that knows me, knows that two of my least favorite things are public speaking and being in the spotlight. But unfortunately, sometimes you have to do hard things, and it will be a cold day in hell before I allow my mother to attend a meeting and read a statement for me.

I've come here tonight in response to statements that were made at last month's board meeting. Over the past year, including last month, there have been many statements and accusations directed at me, by both members of this organization and their families. Sadly, at this point I'm not at liberty to go into detail regarding each and every statement and allegation that was made.

10-15-25

I simply want to remind everyone that the facts already have and will continue to 100% vindicate my name and reputation.

However, one example of these non-factual statements, for my Local 3141 friends and coworkers, is that a member of our union is/was the "Local 3141 BWC Representative". I am not aware of our Local having anyone with such a designation, nor have we ever had such a discussion regarding any BWC claims management in the Union environment. Because if we had, I am certain that my entire situation would have been handled differently. But what we do know, based on information given at previous meetings, is that the Madison Fire District did in fact have a member of the department designated as the "Authorized BWC Representative". This is one small example of how the information that many of you hear and have heard, is being manipulated to protect the interests of others, at my expense.

When all facts can be revealed, I am 100% confident that my entire situation, from the day I was injured, on 9/11/2023 to date, will demonstrate that I followed every single direction given to me by my employer. I've overcome each obstacle thrown at me and have been validated in every action taken, whether it was the two grievances I was forced to file to protect myself, the BC Fraud Investigation as well as the Ohio Industrial Commission hearings. In each process, the body overseeing found that I did nothing wrong.

In closing, I once again ask all of you, Board members, friends and coworkers, to please put yourself in my place for a moment. Throughout this two year ordeal, I've done exactly as I was instructed to do by my employer and/or their representative, and nothing outside of that. But despite that, I'm here today defending myself for something that I didn't choose to be a part of. I was simply injured while doing my job, something that, statistically speaking, will happen at least once to most of us in this career field. Everyone has a pushback point, and shame on me for allowing my employer to find mine. Tonight, I'm standing up for myself. Thanks".

*Copy of statement attached as Exhibit A

Chairman Wayman thanked Ms. Tennant for her comments and asked if anyone else had any statements at this time.

Ms. Margaret Lalka (former MFD member, currently working for another department) spoke to her experience at the City of Brookpark with a BWC claim. She gave a brief review of her injury and how it occured. She explained that nothing changed for her after her injury; she continued to work (Brookpark has light duty). In closing, she stated that the process was very smooth and easy, she did not have any issues and at no time needed Union representation.

Chairman Wayman thanked Ms. Lalka for her comments and asked if anyone else would like to speak to the Board. There were no further public comments.

<u>LEGAL COUNSEL</u> - Ms. Dame thanked the Board and the District for allowing her to represent the District over the last 10 years. Due to concerns regarding the increased District workload and a desire to grow her private law firm, she has stepped down from the District Legal Counsel

position and this will be her last meeting. Ms. Dame thanked all and wished everyone the best in future endeavors.

Chair Wayman thanked Ms. Dame, and stated that she is professional, to the point, no gray areas and he speaks for all when he says the District appreciates her service. Mr. Anderson also thanked Ms. Dame for her service to the District and the community.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - None to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Wayman stated that there is a resolution on the floor for consideration and asked Ms. Dame to explain said resolution.

Resolution #25-19 Approval to Renew the Lake County Sheriff Central Dispatch Agreement for a 5 year period beginning January 1, 2026 and continuing through December 31, 2030.

Ms. Dame stated that she recommends the resolution be re-numbered for consistency to #25-20, since #25-19 was previously presented and rejected.

She advised the Board that the agreement can be cancelled provided a 6 month notice is given prior to the next January 1st. (i.e notice must be given by July 1st of any given year during the term of the agreement). She also stated that it is worded the same as previous agreements with the only exception being the additional charges for cellular/VPN networks and station alerting maintenance.

Mr. Adams, Mr. Anderson, & Mr. Lee expressed that the District really has no other choice now, but would like Chief Meister to compile information on alternate options in the future. All other members of the Board agreed.

Motion to approve **Resolution #25-20** - Renewal of the Lake County Sheriff Central Dispatch agreement was made by: Mr. Lee

Seconded by: Mr. Anderson ROLL CALL: All ayes

Policies for Review:

#200 - Organizational Structure, #201 - District Directives, #202 - Training, #203 - Liability
Claims, #204 - Electronic Mail, #205 - Administrative Communications, #214 - ADA Compliance,
& #215 - Limited English Proficiency Services

After some discussion, Chief Meister suggested that a Policy Committee be developed for the purpose of reviewing policies prior to the meeting in which they will be brought for approval. This will assist with keeping the policy implementation process moving forward.

Chair Wayman asked for two (2) members to volunteer to sit on the Policy Committee. Mr. Lee and Mr. Adams volunteered, and were appointed accordingly. Chief Meister will schedule a meeting in the next couple of weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #25-21 Accepting the US Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighters Grant was presented for approval.

Chief Meister explained that the District has been awarded \$248,075.00 in a grant to purchase new air packs. The grant was written last fall and Homeland Security awards them each April. The caveat is the District will be required to pay 10% of the cost which amounts to approximately \$22.5K. The District has 30 days to accept the grant, however, due to the government shutdown, Chief Meister has not been able to log in to the portal to accept it.

Resolution #25-21 - Accepting the US Homeland Security Assistance to FF Grant in the amount of \$248,075.00 was made by: Mr. Lee

Seconded by: Mr. Anderson ROLL CALL: all ayes

CHIEF'S REPORT

Anniversaries: FF Gabriel Ananea - 2 years, FF Jamie Burgett - 2 years, FF Greg Byers - 1 year, and FF Brandon Noe - 2 years; Congratulations to all!

Financial: EMS revenue is 87% of yearly projection while tax revenue is 99% of budgeted collection YTD. The District has spent 59.4% of the annual budget to date in 2025.

Chief Meister and Joanne continue working on the 2026 budget and will bring it to the November meeting for discussion/review.

Staffing: Staffing is stable with some overtime due to staff out on medical leave. Part-time interviews are ongoing. He is hopeful that the new hires will eventually offset scheduling voids, but will take time.

Volume: The District responded to 361 calls for service in September; 272 EMS and 89 Fire.

Inspections: Remain on-going; see report in your folder.

Vehicles: Chase vehicle #2147 is back in service following repair work done for damages obtained in the deer strike. The previously ordered squad is slated for delivery in Q2-Q3 of 2026 and build time continues to be at least 2 years, with 90 day remount timeframes. Engine #2123 will be going out for paint/corrosion work next week

Buildings: Station #3's generator had its batteries replaced; everything looks to be working well.

Other:

Discussions with Cardinal Woods regarding the volume of calls was scheduled but Chief Meister had a family emergency that day, so the discussion will be rescheduled.

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Thanks

Training: VFIS training courses and a walk through of Standing Rock Farms is slated to take place this month.

CLOSING PUBLIC PORTION - No additional comments.

<u>CLOSING BOARD COMMENTS</u> Mr. Adams stated that given the unfortunate circumstances over the last couple of weeks for various District members (past and present), he would like all to keep those families in your thoughts and prayers.

Chair Wayman requested a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation, per ORC 121.22(G)(3).

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation, per ORC 121.22(G)(3) was made @ 19:50 by: Mr. Anderson

Seconded by: Mr. Sill

ROLL CALL: All ayes

Regular session resumed at 20:02.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wayman stated there being no further business, he would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn was made by: Mr. Adams

Seconded by: Mr. Anderson

ROLL CALL:

Jay Adams, Board Vice-Chair

All ayes

Meeting was adjourned at 20:03

Accepted and Approved: November 19, 2025

Attest: Joanne Clapp, Fiscal Officer