

WARSAW-WAYNE FIRE TERRITORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 3, 2026  
4:00 PM

**I. ORGANIZATION OF MEETING**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Grose called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

2. Member, Appointing Authority, Dates of Terms;

Mike Klondaris, Council, 01/01/26 to 12/31/26

Gordon Nash, Wayne Township Board, 01/01/26 to 12/31/26

Dave Allbritten, Community Member, 01/01/26 to 12/31/26

Jeanie Stackhouse, Wayne Township Board, 01/01/26 to 12/31/26

Jeff Grose, Warsaw Mayor, 01/01/26 to 12/31/26

3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Moment of Silence
5. Roll Call to Determine Quorum by Presiding Officer

Mayor Grose conducted roll call, with the following board members present: David Allbritten, Jeanie Stackhouse, Gordon Nash, Fire Chief Joel Shilling, Territory Attorney Adam Turner, and Secretary Heather Vogts. Board Member Mike Klondaris was absent.

6. Approval of Minutes for February 3, 2026
  - a. February 3, 2026- Minutes

Mayor Grose called for a motion to approve the February 3, 2026, minutes as written. Board Member Allbritten made the motion to approve the minutes from February 3, 2026. The motion was seconded by Board Member Nash. All members present voted in favor.

**II. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

**III. REPORTS / ORAL & WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Lutheran EMS Report — January 2026

Lutheran EMS representative Alicia reviewed the January 2026 EMS Report. Alicia advised that January was slower compared to January 2025. She explained that during the previous year, flu season hit earlier than expected, which contributed to higher call volumes. That trend has not occurred this year.

Additionally, Alicia expressed her sincere appreciation to the North Webster/Syracuse Fire Department, Tri-County, TRAA, and Northeast and Southwest Fire for providing coverage, so her team could attend the funeral of a fellow paramedic who tragically passed away due to suicide.

She also noted that the additional coverage during that time may have contributed to the lower call numbers

reported for January.

2. WWFT Monthly Report — January 2026

Fire Chief Shilling reviewed the Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory monthly report, advising that the Territory responded to a total of 300 calls in January. Additionally, personnel completed 477.75 hours of training and 27.25 hours of community service during the month.

3. WWFT Monthly Expenditure Report, Operating Fund 2243–January 2026

Chief Shilling presented the Operating Fund 2243, for January 2026.

4. WWFT Monthly Expenditure Report, Equipment Replacement Fund 4410–January 2026

Chief Shilling summarized the Equipment Replacement Fund 4410, for January 2026

Mayor Grose entertained a motion to approve all 5 motions as presented to the Board. Board Member Nash made the motion to approve, seconded by Board Member Allbritten. All members present voted in favor.

#### **IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

1. J&K Communications Quote, Approval to Proceed

Chief Shilling approached the Board requesting approval to purchase eleven computers, along with the corresponding accessories, from J&K Communications in the amount of \$74,429.88. Shilling informed the Board that the software update will allow the Territory to utilize MCT (Mobile Computer Terminal). This system will provide access to real-time data, direct communication with dispatch, GPS services, and improved data collection.

Shilling explained that he chose Panasonic computers, and after meeting with J&K Communications for a quote, it was determined that Panasonic is a member of Sourcewell, a purchasing cooperative the City of Warsaw has utilized numerous times. J&K Communications was then able to become a Sourcewell vendor as well. Although this delayed the purchase process slightly, it resulted in significant cost savings.

Territory Attorney Adam further explained that, due to the significant savings, this was an acceptable procurement method for purchasing the equipment. Additionally, Shilling advised that he has been working with the Police Department, County officials, and the IT Department regarding the computers for approximately six months. The attached quote includes only the equipment and mounting hardware; there will be an additional fee from CentralSquare for the required software.

To further reduce costs, the Street Department will be installing the equipment.

Mayor Grose called for a motion to approve the purchase of the equipment from J&K Communications in the amount of \$74,429.88. Board Member Allbritten made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Board Member Nash. All members present voted in favor.

2. Mutual Aid Agreement — Columbia Township

Chief Shilling informed the Board that the Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory was approached by Columbia Township in Whitley County to provide Emergency Technical Rescue Services (ETRS). The Territory was asked

to enter into a mutual aid agreement, as the Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory has a Technical Rescue Team (TRT) that provides services including confined space rescue, structural collapse response, rope rescue, and other specialized operations. Unfortunately, these are services that Columbia Township/Whitley County is currently unable to provide.

The proposed mutual aid agreement outlines the terms of the partnership, including legal provisions, replacement of damaged equipment, billing procedures, and other operational details.

Territory Attorney Adam advised that while reviewing the Columbia Township agreement, he also reviewed the Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory agreement between Wayne Township and the City of Warsaw for comparison and approval process. Adam further explained that both agreements state that the governing entities authorize this Board to approve mutual aid agreements on behalf of both the township and the city.

Mayor Grose called for a motion to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement with Columbia Township as written. Board Member Nash made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Board Member Stackhouse. All members present voted in favor.

### 3. Purchase of Vehicle — 2024 Chevy Tahoe

Chief Shilling asked for the Board's approval to purchase a 2024 Chevy Tahoe. This vehicle was originally scheduled to be traded in by the Warsaw Municipal Airport for \$42,000. Instead of completing the trade-in, the Warsaw Municipal Airport offered to sell the Tahoe to the Territory while honoring the trade-in value, resulting in significant cost savings for the Territory.

A new vehicle had already been budgeted for 2026 to replace the Assistant Chief's current vehicle.

Mayor Grose called for a motion to approve the purchase of the Tahoe from the Warsaw Municipal Airport in the amount of \$42,000. Board Member Allbritten made a motion to approve the vehicle purchase, seconded by Board Member Nash. All Board Members present voted in favor.

### 4. Transfer Resolution: 2026-03-01

Chief Shilling presented Transfer Resolution 2026-03-01 to the Board. This resolution included the transfer of two funds:

- **Amount:** \$11,250.16  
**From:** 2402-000-390.417 (FSSA Grant)  
**To:** 2243-600-010 (Miscellaneous Revenue – Operating)  
This transfer allows the grant account to be consolidated per the Clerk's request.
- **Amount:** \$1,200.00  
**From:** 2402-000-390.493 (Local Training Support Grant)  
**To:** 4410-600.000 (Miscellaneous Revenue – Equipment Replacement)  
This transfer reimburses the Equipment Replacement Fund for purchases made using the Local Training Support Grant.

Mayor Grose called for a motion to approve the Transfer Resolution as written. Board Member Allbritten

made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Board Member Stackhouse. All members present voted in favor.

## **VI. TRAVEL REQUESTS**

1. WWFT Travel Requests

Chief Shilling presented the submitted travel requests for the board's approval.

Mayor Grose called for a motion to approve the travel request as presented. Board Member Nash made the motion, seconded by Board Member Stackhouse.

## **VII. OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD**

1. Next Meeting — April 7, 2026

## **VIII. MEETING REVIEW**

1. Items Carried Forward
2. Visitors' Questions & Comments

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further matters to come before the Board, Mayor Grose entertained a motion to adjourn. Board Member Stackhouse made the motion, seconded by Board Member Nash.