

WARSAW-WAYNE FIRE TERRITORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 5, 2025
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, 01/01/25 to 12/31/25

Gordon Nash, Wayne Township Board, 01/01/25 to 12/31/25

Dave Allbritten, Community Member, 01/01/25 to 12/31/25

Jeanie Stackhouse, Wayne Township Board, 01/01/25 to 12/31/25

Jeff Grose, Warsaw Mayor, 01/01/25 to 12/31/25

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, Mike Klondaris, Gordon Nash, Fire Chief Joel Shilling, Territory Attorney Adam Turner, and Board Secretary Heather Vogts. All board members were present.

6. Approval of Minutes for July 1, 2025
 - a. Minutes for July 1, 2025

Board Member Klondaris made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 1, 2025, meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Allbritten, and all members present voted in favor.

II. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

III. REPORTS / ORAL & WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

1. Lutheran EMS Report - June 2025

Lutheran EMS representative Alicia Mediano summarized Lutheran EMS' June response report.

2. Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory Monthly Report - June 2025

Fire Chief Shilling reviewed and summarized the Monthly Fire Activity Report for June 2025.

3. CARES - Update Newsletter - July 2025

CARES Responder Navigator Tanya Jackson reviewed and summarized the CARES newsletter for July 2025.

4. WWFT Monthly Expenditure Report, Operating Fund 2243 – June 2025

Fire Chief Shilling presented the Operating Fund for June 2025.

5. WWFT Monthly Expenditure Report, Equipment Replacement Fund 4410 – June 2025

Fire Chief Shilling summarized the Equipment Replacement Fund for June 2025.

Mayor Grose entertained a motion to approve all 5 motions as presented to the Board. Board Member Allbritten made the motion to approve, seconded by Board Member Nash.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. 2026 Budget
-Operating Fund, 2243

Chief Shilling presented the Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory's 2026 Operating Fund – 2243. The total proposed budget for 2026 is \$7,114,410. All line items reflect a reduction compared to 2025, with the exception of Personal Services—which includes salaries, wages, insurance, pensions, and related expenses—which will see a 7.51% increase. Overall, the total budget reflects a 5.18% increase from 2025.

Mayor Grose commended Chief Shilling for not utilizing the maximum levy increase and for requesting only the funds necessary to meet operational needs. He emphasized that the sole area of increase is in Personal Services, underscoring the commitment to taking care of employees. Mayor Grose requested a favorable recommendation from the board and noted that Chief Shilling will present the 2026 budget to the Common Council on Monday, August 18.

Board Member Klondaris moved to approve the proposed 2026 Operating Fund – 2243 budget, with Board Member Stackhouse seconding the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

2. 2026 Budget
- Equipment Replacement Fund, 4410

Chief Shilling presented the Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory's 2026 Equipment Replacement Fund- 4410. The total proposed budget for 2026 is \$1,391,450. All line items reflect a reduction compared to 2025. Overall, the total budget reflects a 49.13% decrease from 2025.

Board Member Allbritten moved to approve the proposed 2026 Equipment Replacement Fund-4410 budget, with Board Member Nash seconding the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

3. 2026 Budget
- Hazardous Material Response Fund, 2238

Chief Shilling presented the Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory's 2026 Hazardous Materials Response Fund – 2238. The total proposed budget for 2026 is \$2,100. Overall, the total budget reflects a 67.69% decrease from 2025.

Board Member Nash moved to approve the proposed 2026 Hazardous Materials Response Fund- 2238, with Board Member Stackhouse seconding the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

4. 2026 Budget
- Fire Pension Fund, 8801

Chief Shilling presented the Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory's 2026 Fire Pension Fund- 8801. The total proposed budget for 2026 is \$275,480. Overall, the total budget reflects a 4.94% increase from 2025.

Board Member Allbritten moved to approve the proposed 2026 Fire Pension Fund- 8801 budget, with Board Member Nash seconding the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Request to Accept IDHS Grant

Chief Shilling informed the Board that the Indiana Department of Homeland Security has approved the Territory to receive a \$10,000 grant to update and replace training equipment. The Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory had received permission to apply for the grant in January of this year. Battalion Chief Iden submitted the application and will oversee its implementation.

Mayor Grose entertained a motion to approve acceptance of the \$10,000 IDHS grant. Board Member Klondaris made the motion, seconded by Board Member Stackhouse. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

VI. TRAVEL REQUESTS

1. WWFT Travel Requests

Chief Shilling presented the submitted travel requests for the Board's approval. While reviewing each request, he highlighted Probationary Firefighter Keegan McCawley's request to attend the Advanced Cardiac Resuscitation Masterclass LEMS. Chief Shilling noted that probationary firefighters do not typically submit travel requests; however, he emphasized that this training is important for both McCawley and the Territory. He also thanked Alicia for hosting the class.

Alicia shared that Kosciusko County's cardiac save rate is 17%, which is well above the national average of 8%.

Mayor Grose called for a motion to approve the travel requests as presented. Board Member Klondaris moved to approve, with Board Member Allbritten seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

1. Family Safety Day - Saturday, September 13th, 9 a.m. to Noon

Fire Chief Shilling informed the Board that Family Safety Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 13, from 9 a.m. to noon at Central Park. He expressed appreciation to the Parks Department for allowing the Territory to utilize the park and its facilities for this community event. Chief Shilling noted the Territory's excitement to continue this tradition and encouraged community members to attend.

2. Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 2, 2025; 4 p.m.

VIII. MEETING REVIEW

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

Both Mayor Grose and Board Member Klondaris expressed their appreciation to Chief Shilling for his work in preparing and presenting the budget to the Board. Chief Shilling acknowledged that it was a team effort, with station budgets submitted to him and administrative staff assisting in the review process.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Grose entertained a motion to adjourn.

Board Member Nash motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Board Member Stackhouse. All members present voted in favor.