

Chippewa Fire District Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 17:30 Chippewa Fire District Station 1

1. **Meeting called to order by Mr. Staber** per Chapter 19.84 and Chapter 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin State Statutes at 17:30.
2. **Roll Call:** The following members were present: Mr. Rod Eslinger, Mr. David Staber, Mr. Tom Zwiefelhofer and Mr. Gary Spilde called in by telephone at 17:32.
3. **Approve Minutes:** Mr. Eslinger made a motion to approve the July 15, 2025, Meeting Minutes, seconded by Mr. Zwiefelhofer. Motion carried on unanimous voice vote.
4. **Public Comments:** Mr. Doug Matthews asked what the LOSA checking account balance was. Mr. Staber stated that since Mr. Spilde was not available yet, he could not answer that, and Mr. Spilde would get in contact with him.
5. **Old Business:** None
6. **New Business:**
 - A. Discuss/Act on County EMS options and Ad Hoc Committee. Mr. Andy Albarado, County Administrator, presented to the Board that there have been conversations about County-wide EMS and how the ambulance services in the County are struggling and they are trying to put together a committee to work with the ambulance services in the Chippewa county area.
No action was taken.
 - B. Discuss/Act on 2024 Preliminary Audit as Final. Mr. Nick Goeman, from Baker Tilly, presented the Board with an overview of the 2024 Audit and answered any questions. **Mr. Zwiefelhofer made a motion to approve the 2024 Audit as final, seconded by Mr. Eslinger.** Motion carried on unanimous voice vote.
 - C. Discuss/Act on Preliminary 2026 Fire District Budget. Discussion was had over the budget, and the final will be done at the October Fire Board Meeting. **Mr. Eslinger made a motion to approve Option 2 for the purchase of a new ambulance in the amount of \$304,911.00, 3-year term, payments at \$113,909.97 with 5.39% interest rate, seconded by Mr. Zwiefelhofer.** Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.
 - D. Discuss/Act on new Ambulance ordered for 2028 – 2029. Mr. Bernette updated the Board on the current ambulance status. **Mr. Eslinger made a motion to approve Mr. Bernette on beginning the process of purchasing a new Ambulance for the 2028-2029 year, seconded by Mr. Zwiefelhofer.** Motion carried on unanimous roll call vote.
7. **Convene to closed session** per Chapter 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Scott Bernette Employment Agreement. **Mr. Staber made a motion to convene to closed session, seconded by Mr. Zwiefelhofer.** Motion carried on unanimous roll call vote. Convened at 16:38.
8. **Re convene to open session**, and announce any action taken. **Mr. Staber made a motion to re-convene the open session, seconded by Mr. Zwiefelhofer.** Motion carried on unanimous roll call vote. Re-convene at 16:48. Mr. Bernette will remain on the same wage contract for the next three years.
9. **Approve Checks and Financial Statement:** Mr. Zwiefelhofer made a motion to approve Checks and Financial Statement, seconded by Mr. Eslinger. Motion carried on unanimous roll call vote.

10. **Chiefs Report:** Reports attached.

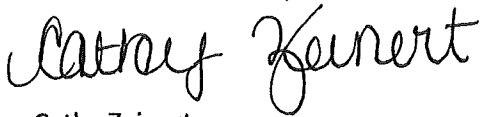
11. **Comments from Board Members:** Mr. Zwiefelhofer asked Chief Bernette what kind of alarm system is used in our garages.

12. **Next Meeting:** September 16, 2025, at 17:30 – Town of Howard

13. **Adjourn:** Mr. Eslinger made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Zwiefelhofer. Motion carried on unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 18:53.

Draft minutes to be approved at the September 16, 2005, meeting.

Minutes Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathy Zeinert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cathy" and last name "Zeinert" clearly distinguishable.

Cathy Zeinert

Administrative Assistant