

BARNEVELD BRIGHAM FIRE-RESCUE DISTRICT

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Fire-Rescue District Board Meeting Minutes

The Barneveld Brigham Fire-Rescue District Board met on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, in the Barneveld-Brigham Municipal Building Meeting Room located at 407 E County Road ID in Barneveld, Wisconsin.

In attendance were District Vice President Scott Phillips; District Trustees: Duane Elfering, Colleen Moore, and Joe Pepper; and District Secretary/Treasurer Megan Mieden.

Absent were District President Jim Ramos and District Trustee Rhonda Hazen.

Others in attendance were Don Hugill, Erin Oimoen, and Bud Schlimgen.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by District Vice President Scott Phillips.
2. A motion was made by Moore/Pepper to approve the Public Notice. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Joint Fire-Rescue District Meeting Minutes from September 17, 2025

A motion was made by Moore/Elfering to approve the Fire-Rescue District Meeting Minutes from September 17, 2025. Motion carried.

4. Business for Discussion & Possible Action:

- a. Fire Department

- i. Air pack grant update

The Department received a grant to support replacing the current air pack units which expire at the end of this year. The grant was \$178,350. The Department is required to pay a portion of this amount (5% + shipping), which calculates out to around \$9,350.

A motion was made by Elfering/Moore to utilize funds from the Cost Recovery Account for the required matching portion. Motion carried.

Schlimgen will finish completing the process through the Sam.gov site to have these funds released.

ii. Department update

The Fire Department currently has 26 members. There is fire fighter training happening right now that several members are participating in. Barneveld is a host training site; there are also members taking training in both Blanchardville and Dodgeville.

The total number of calls the Department has responded to is 108. This has increased from last year.

b. Generator replacement

i. Open bid documents

There were two (2) bids received – one (1) from Cummins and one (1) from Wolter. A third option, Onan, was considered, but they utilize the Cummins generator, so only two (2) were solicited.

Both bids provided a similar unit and were within \$1,500 of each other, with both bids coming in at less than \$25,000.

ii. Possible selection of vendor

Schlimgen was going to reach out to electrical contractors who have done work at the Municipal Building to see if either had a strong preference towards one of the brands. He was also going to gather information from both contractors on the cost of uninstalling the current unit and installing the new unit.

A motion was made by Elfering/Moore to move this information along to the Town of Brigham and Village of Barneveld Boards for their blessing to replace the generator at approximately \$25,000, with the funds coming from the Building Replacement Fund. Motion carried.

c. Barneveld Brigham Fire-Rescue District Agreement review

Following extensive discussion at the September Joint Meeting regarding the District Agreement, the District Board reviewed the current arrangement. The Board reached a consensus that the existing Agreement establishing the Rescue Board is no longer necessary, and that its responsibilities should instead fall under the District Board.

The Rescue Board was originally created to provide employee oversight as BARS transitioned to a hybrid staffing model with paid EMTs, and to ensure that all participating municipalities had input in this oversight.

By default, the Town of Brigham and Village of Barneveld have members appointed to the Rescue Board since they are part of the District. In addition, participating municipalities

appoint a member to the Rescue Board. Current participating municipalities include the Town of Ridgeway and Village of Ridgeway.

Both participating municipalities have an agreement with the Fire-Rescue District for contracted Emergency Medical Services. Because they already contact with the District for these services, it was determined that the EMS agreement is sufficient and that the Rescue Board can be removed from the current District agreement. If a participating municipality wishes to end its involvement with the District, it may provide written notice to terminate its participation as outlined in the EMS agreement.

A motion was made by Elfering/Moore to simplify the District agreement as follows:

- Eliminate the Town of Ridgeway and Village of Ridgeway from the beginning of the agreement; and
- Eliminate the Rescue Board of Trustees.

Motion carried.

d. District Secretary/Treasurer position

- i. Review of position description
- ii. Review of job posting and placement of posting

It was suggested to add the expected number of hours per week. Mieden will update this to 2-5 hours/week, variable.

The deadline for application is December 15, 2025.

A motion was made by Elfering/Pepper to place the job posting in the *Barneveld Shopper* and *The Dodgeville Chronicle*. Motion carried.

5. Items for future agendas

- District Secretary/Treasurer position
- Use of Fire Department Command Vehicle

6. A motion was made by Elfering/Moore to adjourn at 8:19 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes written and submitted by
Megan Mieden, Secretary/Treasurer