

MINUTES
Baraboo Area Fire and EMS District Commission Meeting
Baraboo Fire & EMS Station 135 4th Street, Baraboo, WI
Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at 6:30pm

Commissioners Present: Steve Hause, Greg Wise, Eugene Larsen, Brett Topham, Randy Puttkamer, Terry Turnquist, Mike Arndt, Dave Kitkowski

Commissioners Excused: Heather Kierzek

Others Present: Caleb Johnson, Josh Hecht, Megan Marshall, Attorney Thompson

Call Meeting to Order – Meeting was called to order by Terry Turnquist at 6:30pm.

Note compliance with the Open Meeting Law – Compliance with Open Meeting Law verified.

Roll Call – Roll call was taken.

Adoption of Agenda – Motion by Randy Puttkamer, seconded by Steve Hause to approve. Voice vote, motion carries unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2026, and July 8, 2026, Meetings – Motion by Steve Hause, seconded by Randy Puttkamer to approve. Voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – None.

Presentations

- 2025 Audited Financial Statements – BakerTilly LLP

Reports

- Legal Counsel Report – None.
- President's Report – None.
- Financial Report – In packet.
- Asst. Chief of Operations Report – Asst. Chief Hecht gave report.
- Asst. Chief of Training Report -
- Fire/EMS Chief's Report – Chief Johnson gave report.

Closed Session

Upon proper motion and vote, convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(f), Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. (Commissioner Mike Arndt)

Motion by Eugene Larsen, seconded by Steve Hause to convene into closed session with Attorneys Thompson and Larson and Chief Johnson present and all others are excused. Roll call vote, AYES - Hause, Wise, Larsen, Topham, Puttkamer, Turnquist; NAYS - Arndt. Motion carried 6-1.

Motion by Mike Arndt, seconded by Brett Topham to return to open session. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Session

The Baraboo Area Joint Fire and EMS District Commission will return to Open Session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(2) and may take action as a result of closed session discussions:

1. Consideration and possible action concerning allegations relating to Commissioner Mike Arndt.
2. Request the Village of West Baraboo to exercise its appointment authority to remove Commissioner Arndt and designate a replacement representative.

Motion by Brett Topham, seconded by Terry Turquist to table items 1&2 per Village of West Baraboo's attorney's request. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Discussion and possible action regarding the following items:

1. Proposed Lease Agreement with the City of Baraboo for 135 4th Street & 120 5th Street.
2. Draft amendments to the Intergovernmental Agreement & BYLAWS.

New Business

Discussion and possible action regarding the following items:

1. Approve check details and online payments for June 2026 in the amount of \$242,277.11. Motion by Brett Topham, seconded by Randy Puttkamer to approve. Voice vote, motion carried unanimously.
2. Approve write off of patient accounts for June 2026 in the amount of \$75,775.00, per EMSMC recommendation. Motion by Brett Topham, seconded by Steve Hause to approve. Voice vote, motion carried Arndt-Nay, Topham-Aye, Turnquist-Aye, Hause-Aye, Puttkamer-Aye, Wise-Aye. Motion carried.
3. Review DRAFT Request for Proposals (RFP) for an Independent Financial Feasibility Analysis of Interfacility Transfer (IFT) Ambulance Services. Motion by Brett Topham, seconded by Mike Arndt to approve. Voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Comments & Future Agenda Items

- Request for Special Meeting for Draft Budget: August 12, 2026, at 6:00pm
- Next Meeting Date: August 26, 2026, at 6:30pm

Adjournment – Motion by Mike Arndt, seconded by Brett Topham to adjourn. Voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted, Megan Marshall, Executive Assistant, Baraboo Fire and EMS District