

SUMMARY of the minutes of the June 13, 2011 Town of Hull Board Meeting.

1. Call to order by Chairperson John Holdridge at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Municipal Building, 4550 Wojcik Memorial Dr., Stevens Point WI 54482.

Present: Chairperson Holdridge, Supervisors Mel Bembenek, Dave Pederson, Dave Wilz and LaVerne Syens.

Others present: Clerk Janet Wolle, Fire Chief Mark Kluck, Assistant Chief Mark Fristche, Fire Fighters Fred Hoffman, Nick Proulx, Jeff Krueger and Jill Kapla.

2. Citizens wishing to address the board non-agenda items. Agenda items are for discussion with possible action. Current Wisconsin law requires government action cannot be taken until a topic is placed on the Town Board agenda and published 24 hours in advance of the Town of Hull meeting.

No citizens present regarding non-agenda items.

3. Fire Works Ordinance (revision)

Motion Bembenek, second Pederson, approve the Fire Works Ordinance as revised / modified.

D Wilz – 4 business days should follow through the entire ordinance.

Motion carried.

4. Septic System at the Fire Station

Motion Bembenek, second Syens, contact Dave Glodowski at Gremmer & Associates and get his input regarding the septic system. Motion carried.

5. Energy Usage at the Fire Station

Motion Wilz, second Bembenek, table action and ask Pete Kaminski review the audit report with his colleagues to see if they can come up with suggestions on what they might be able to do to help this. Motion carried

6. Metro Fire Proposal and Discussion

Motion Pederson, second Bembenek, place letter of intent on the agenda of the Monday June 20, 2011 board meeting. Motion carried.

7. FEMA payment to Fire Fighters

Motion Bembenek, second Syens, reimbursement justly earned by the fire fighters, they want to donate the sum of \$1,637.19 to the large equipment reserve fund, Hull must receive a letter from the Fire Department so indicating that and the fact the donation has been discussed with the fire fighters. Hull will put the letter in the audit file. Motion carried.

8. Report of Fire Department monthly activities

Motion Bembenek, second Pederson, accept the report. Motion carried.

9. Adjournment: Motion Bembenek, second Pederson, adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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MINUTES OF TOWN OF HULL BOARD MEETING  
COUNTY OF PORTAGE, WI HELD ON MONDAY JUNE 13, 2011

**UNOFFICIAL**

1. Call to order by Chairperson John Holdridge at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Municipal Building, 4550 Wojcik Memorial Dr., Stevens Point WI 54482

Present: Chair Holdridge, Supervisors Mel Bembenek, Dave Pederson, Dave Wilz and LaVerne Syens.

Others present: Clerk Janet Wolle, Fire Chief Mark Kluck, Assistant Chief Mark Fritsche, Fire Fighters Fred Hoffman, Nick Proulx, Jeff Krueger and Jill Kapla.

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3. Fire Works Ordinance (revision)

**Clerk's note – Entire ordinance made part of the minutes.**

J Holdridge - Ordinance has been worked on by John Holdridge and Barb Brilowski for awhile. A meeting was also held with Attorney Bob Konkol.

✓ Page by page review of fireworks ordinance

A. Residents desiring to obtain a fireworks permit must file the application at least four (4) business days, Monday through Friday before the actual fireworks use would occur

B. Cost:

a. Rural areas \$25.00

b. Subdivision/cluster development \$50.00

i. Subdivision/cluster developments are charged a higher fee because of the need to contact neighbors to explore any concerns they may have

C. Definitions

D. Sale

Regarding the sale of fireworks by Lynn's Greenhouse on Highway 10 the town has been advised by the Wisconsin Town's Association to stay out of anything having to do with sales, let the state law handle these cases.

Fred Hoffman 1884 Pella Drive, what constitutes legal fireworks?

- ✓ Under the assumption only on ground fireworks were legal and that anything leaving the ground is not legal.
- ✓ When calling the Sheriff's Department regarding fireworks leaving the ground, they never send a squad car out.
- ✓ If you have an ordinance where they have to get a permit for fireworks is therefore the Sheriff's Department going to enforce the people who choose not to get one?

Holdridge, they do enforce it. A call was received last year from Jim Grubba because of our permits were not written right and we had to get the permits rewritten by the applicant.

- The reason Hull has an ordinance is the state says anybody who shoots fireworks off has to have a permit from local government.

Hoffman, if a person in Hull shoots fireworks off with a permit, what do you do about the person who is doing it without a permit? Who enforces that?

Holdridge – the Sheriff's Department.

E. Use.

1. Permit Required
2. Who May Obtain Permit
3. Permit Exceptions
4. Crop Protection Signs
5. Liability Insurance
6. Required Information for Permit
7. Copy of Permit
8. Minors Prohibited
9. Special Conditions

f. A certificate of liability insurance issued by an insurance company authorized to write such policies in Wisconsin in the **minimum** amount of One Million Dollars for bodily injury and for damage to property that may arise by reason of use or discharge of fireworks under permit, with the Town of Hull named, if possible, as an additional insured under such policy.

F. Storage and Handling

G. Parental Liability

H. Enforcement

Discussion:

M Bembenek – you don't have to be a Town of Hull resident to get a permit from us?

Holdridge – that has never come up. That is a good question. There is state law and I have never seen that even in the legal from the Wisconsin Town's Association can you require that only..... What happens on the revised application they have to say where they live and that they own where it is going to be launched. If Barb sees somebody wanting a permit from us and identifies they do not live in Hull I don't think we would give them a permit. We want the owner.

Hoffman, isn't that the same as burning permits though, it has to be the owner?

Mark Kluck, the owner of the property. You don't necessarily have to live in the Town of Hull but if you own property you can get a burning permit.

Holdridge, you own real estate.

E5 Liability Insurance is the really big one. The law says bond or liability insurance, after our experience at the "Pipe" we are not interested in bonds.

**The policy must be for a minimum of \$1,000,000.**

The law states the policy should be taken in the name of the municipality, but the insurance companies will not give us that.

D Pederson – wouldn't the statute be null because you cannot get the insurance?

Holdridge – the statute exempts the town but there is a question of whether we cannot be sued for, the question is because of regulations we put in does that make us somewhat liable? Generally, they cannot come in and sue the town for issuing a permit. Law says they have to have a permit to shoot fireworks.

Pederson – we are requesting the insurance, not the state statute?

Holdridge – it is based on the state statute but the state statute says that when they provide the insurance to you they need to name the government as an additional insured.

Pederson – then fireworks can't be used if they can't follow the statute.

Holdridge – that's up to you. If you want to ban fireworks in the urban area that is where you are going.

Pederson – I'm arguing the semantics of the law, they didn't write it right.

Hoffman – why can't you require the person applying to show proof of \$1,000,000 umbrella?

Holdridge – that is what we are going to do. If you have a \$1,000,000 umbrella policy, that in theory covers property and personal injury.

L Syens – your personal liability and homeowner's policy and umbrella. I do see a problem. I'm wondering if by putting in a liability required limit if there were an occurrence which exceeded that limit can we be held liable for the excess?

Holdridge – I think the town is not liable.

Syens – then why do we not ask for \$2,000,000?

Holdridge – I suppose it is a question of people just being able to come up with \$1,000,000.

D Wilz – this is the same conversation we had last year when that gentleman came to a meeting, what is a \$1,000,000? LaVerne brings up a good point. If something happens over off of Regent, you get 2 or 3 houses going up, a million dollars doesn't scratch that.

Holdridge – my comment to the board, if you don't want to do this then let's not permit it because if you put the amount (liability/umbrella) up to high they are not going to do it anyway.

If you have a \$2,000,000 umbrella most people are not going to be able to get that, but if you think there are some real questions about safety of this thing and us as a five (5) member board can simply say we are not going to do this, I don't think the city or the Village of Plover permits fireworks. Our concern is what we call the urban area that is where there is cluster development and subdivisions.

Kluck – that is why they do not have it because of the cluster.

Holdridge – it is all residential. Keep that in mind. What we are trying to do is accommodate people who live in subdivisions and accommodate people who live in the rural areas.

Hoffman – I would think there is greater danger of a fire in the more rural because there are not as many people to see what just happened.

Holdridge – I'm saying that organized shoot offs when they get a permit from us, the one I think of is Jim Ford who does it every year and shoots it off in a field with all kinds of people around. It is important to know that this was not the town of Hull, this was state imposed across Wisconsin and we are trying to work within it.

Motion Bembenek, second Pederson, approve Fire Works Ordinance as revised / modified.

Wilz – 4 business days, I think the word business needs to be followed through the entire ordinance and application.

Kluck – I actually drive out and take a look at the residence and the area around it.

Wilz – on item #9c it talks about a minimum of 200 feet from the nearest spectator, public road or building and at least 50 feet from above ground power lines – if we would have had that last year that would have handled the situation because the person who wanted the permit was in a typical subdivision where lots are 120 x 240 and surrounded by homes. This still would work in some of our subdivisions with 2 acre minimums.

Holdridge – I think what we will do is get some sense of what the clear zone is from the guys who do this for a living, use that as a basis. That is probably the best rational.

Motion carried.

#### 4. Septic System at the Fire Station

Report from Bob Stuczynski of Stuczynski Soils & Design alternatives for septic system:

- Holding tank for domestic and industrial waste
- Conventional septic system and a holding tank

D Pederson – the person who did the work is a soil scientist, certified soil tester and designer of private sewage system.

D Wilz – the report does not indicate that the system is functioning correctly or not other than to say it has approximately 25" of ponding at the time of inspection with 4 feet working depth (not full).

- DNR requires a waste holding tank to treat garage floor waste

- Do we have any garage floor waste, is that plumbed, is there drains in our garage floors?

M Kluck – there are drains in both sections; they are plumbed to run together.

Wilz – if they run to the dry well we are out of whack right now. If they run somewhere else

Kluck – the only drain I am aware of run downs the center of the training room/voting area through a pipe there is an access port just before it goes through the east wall out to where the field is.

M Bembenek – there has to be a tank somewhere before the drywell because the tank takes care of the solids then it raises up with the liquids and the liquids goes into the dry well. If there would not be a tank everything would have been plugged up years ago.

Wilz – the tank would be instead of a drain field.

Bembenek – there would be a cover for the tank.

*Numerous people talking at the same time.*

J Holdridge – would it be reasonable to say we have a hybrid system that needs to be looked at, have somebody put in a holding tank and move on?

Pederson – if a new tank is installed at the FD I inquired if it could be moved out of that building. The answer is yes.

Holdridge – a holding tank would go in and it gets pumped every month or as necessary.

Wilz – it has an alarm system.

Holdridge – the unknown at this time is where the industrial waste is going.

Mark Fritsche – the old part of the garage area has a u-drain in the center, a channel type drain with grading over the top, I'm not sure where that flows to, and there is a pipe on the end of it.

*Numerous people talking at the same time.*

Pederson – wouldn't we take bids on bringing the system up to code that way an analysis is done to figure out what is there and what they have to do and then give us a price.

Bembenek – we have to make a decision of whether we want holding tanks or going with a conventional system with a 1,000 gallon tank and a drain field. I'm in favor of not going with a conventional system if we do not need it.

Pederson – I would ask for a bid only on a holding tank but it has to include handling the industrial waste so that connection has to be made and looking ahead if that building goes in to cold storage it still takes care of any industrial waste.

Kluck – there is a possibility you would have to try to link those where that waste goes in somehow, if that is what requires, we talked about having that (septic system) relocated someplace so there is a possibility of an addition going on to the station over where the septic currently is. It could go north next to the white garage, or as a Building Committee we talked about purchasing the property next to that. What the board is doing is great but you would lock us in to no expansion what so ever.

Hoffman – wherever the waste is disposed of by whoever pumps the tank are they going to be allowed to dump a mixture of human waste, water from the sink with a blend of industrial waste or, are you going to have to have them separate?

Wilz – according to the report you can mix wastes together. If we are going to do something, I think Portage County and citizens would want to know that if we are trying to fix a potential septic problem that the DNR is letting us know right now that if you are doing that you better take care of the other wastes too.

Pederson – if we tell potential bidders what we want, they will figure out how they have to connect and where we want to put the tank, they have to figure out how to connect to it. Request a bid.

Holdridge – we need some specifications.

Pederson – they will have to meet the county inspection because they will come out and inspect it.

Holdridge – if we are going to put this out for bid who will write the specs?

Kluck – there is a pipe that runs from where the hose tower is, there is an opening that Dave Page and Mark put through a warming cord that had to be shoved through and his understanding is it goes underneath the parking lot towards where the flag pole is, towards the corner of the building, that has to be plugged in every winter to keep that pipe from freezing. The north end of the building is an addition not the original building, there is a sink in there, and there was a restroom in there, a shower stall. That may be a separate line.

Fritsche – I think that goes in to the existing dry well.

Pederson – need to find a practical place to put a holding tank which will be insulated with snow in the winter and we would have to have a line far enough down so it would not freeze under the blacktop.

Motion Bembenek, second Syens, contact Dave Glodowski at Gremmer & Associates and get his input regarding the septic system. Motion carried.

## 5. Energy Usage at the Fire Station

J Holdridge:

- Received a memo from Mark Kluck
- Also discussed at the June 6, 2011 meeting

M Kluck – there are places in the building where there is too much lighting and other places where there is not enough.

- 5 furnaces that run in the building

Holdridge – how would we implement the report?

D Pederson – suggestion replace the incandescent bulb would assist. The “exit signs” LED technology would pay for itself as well, and they will be needed even when we put that building in to cold storage.

- Weather stripping of the doors

Kluck – a couple of overhead garage doors, when they come down, the concrete is off set and cracked. The doors don’t seal right.

Pederson – most of our building maintenance is being taken care of by our road crew.

Nick Proulx – there is a set of outside flood lights that are not halogens, they are incandescent. They are on the northwest corner of the building and are used at night when doing training.

F Hoffman – if this is almost technically a temporary fix, we would never really see any savings.

D Wilz – question how do we know if we change light fixtures how much money we will save? A full energy audit that costs a substantial amount of money, they come in and hook up machines to the wiring, turn things off and then start turning things on, and they can indicate that item cost X. They can then do their projections. That is how you get to the final number. This audit is more general and Dave (Pederson’s) recommendation to go with the basics is probably the way to go.

- ✓ The electric costs at the Fire Station go up in the summer when we have the most natural light.
- ✓ In the Municipal Building, the electrical usage is the lowest in the summer and we keep air conditioning on.

Kluck – could it be the air conditioner is on and there is very little light at the FD. You cannot walk around during the day without having lights on.

Fritsche – looking at the report, January, February and March are somewhat equal and then April and May drops down, June, July, August comes back up. Feel this is the air conditioner running. You then get into the fall when the air conditioner is shut off and it is not quite cold enough to turn the heat on. In November the electric costs start to pick up you get into the winter months when the furnaces are running.

Wilz – there is air conditioning at the Municipal Building too and the electrical usage is the opposite. That is unusual unless you are using your building more in the summer for training, if you are more active there in the summer than other times of the year.

Kluck – they are. Doors go up more often there are electric motors on the doors.



Motion Wilz, second Bembenek, table action and ask Pete Kaminski review the audit report with his colleagues to see if they can come up with suggestions on what they might be able to do to help this.

Bembenek – to look at the high priority items?

Wilz – yes.

Holdridge – after they look at the Fire Station, they can then look at the Municipal Building.

Nick Proulx – when they do go through with the EXIT signs, if they are going to replace any, please have them contact us because there are some of the signs that are not needed.

Motion carried.

## 6. Metro Fire Proposal and Discussion

J Holdridge – we have a cover letter from Plover Fire Chief Tim Kluck and handouts relating to the Metro Fire.

M Kluck opening statement is as follows:

“I’d like to start with an opening statement on the Metro and also clarification for the Board as to why Hull FD is requesting to join the Metro Fire district to make sure the Board knows exactly what our intentions in this request are.

This request is gear towards doing the right thing for the residents of the town of Hull in providing the residents of the Town of Hull with the best possible level of fire / rescue protection available, at zero cost and by doing so creating a safer working environment for the Town of Hull fire fighters when on a scene.

If all we discuss tonight on this topic, that is what I would like the Board to keep first and foremost in their minds.

It is just as important to understand if approved and a letter is submitted the Metro group could simply say no to the request as well.

From time to time we hear comments concerning the Metro that are not in the agreement itself. I asked all to re-read the info carefully, make calls to the Metro government counter parts and especially the other Fire Chief’s to get their views as they deal with it every single day and ask them how it has been working.

Metro has been in place for almost 6 years now with Plover and Whiting with Point joining a year ago now. I have never heard anything negative about it from my counterparts or the Mayor, or Plover Administrative people. I have not been able to talk to the new Whiting President but as his predecessor approved Metro that says a lot. All praise what it has done for their residents, fire fighters and especially their communities.

I sent out 4 new handouts, #1 is a letter from Fire Chief (Tim Kluck) as no one here contacted them for input. #2 why Hull FD wishes to join Metro. #3 is a list of benefits and possible benefits in joining. #4 is a list of answers to some questions you have already raised.

There may also be other opportunities that may exist outside of the Metro agreement itself. But it is very important we all understand we would only be committing to what is in this agreement and nothing else and there is an escape clause. That is very important to remember here because anything other than what is in the agreement is just speculation, guessing, wishful thinking or maybes. We have discussed this topic off and on for over a year, gave possible scenarios, made possible predictions, said what if this, what if that and guessed at things but it has all been just talk.

I also want to express how important a topic this is for fire fighters because it directly impacts all our safety and again the safety of every Hull resident. We are the ones out there with the boots on the ground but the Board needs to rule on this and hopefully has their best interests in mind when it comes to safety, efficiency and better service to the residents at no cost as well. That's what this is and should be about.

The decision could also attract new people to HFD or send some people away to be in safer environments with other volunteer FD's just as well.

There are 2 key points we want to make and you to be aware of while we go through this tonight. **1.** This concept is geared 100% towards improving response time to Hull citizens at zero cost and increasing fire fighter safety, improves efficiency and effectiveness on Hull fires. **2.** As Fire Chief's & supervisors and FD members are your expert consultants on fire / rescue or emergency related topics. Jeff (Krueger), Mark (Fritsche) and I have a combined 91 years alone of fire knowledge, fire safety, NIMS, Incident Command, National Fire Academy training, fire experience, fire back ground, fire training, etc and therefore we are the best qualified to know about what this means in any emergency situation. With that said we feel it is extremely important that you show your trust in our judgment on this topic just as you trust the other expert opinions you solicit from the Town Lawyer, Pete (Kaminski), or others you have hired in the past for their opinions. We are the experts here and you should take advantage of those 91 years of fire experience.

**We want to make sure we are clear on what is being requested tonight.** **1)** A decision and letter to the proper people for Hull to join Metro and request to move the process up from 24 to 12 months and begin July 1, 2012. **2)** By doing so we are asking this Board to help us do our jobs better, more efficient, safer, and thus provide better fire and emergency services to the resident's of Hull. Again, at no additional costs. Nothing else is being asked for.

Also be aware if such a letter was submitted **this month** nothing would happen for 12 months and then it could take another 12-24 months to be fully indoctrinated. So in effect if approved to joining this month by the Metro municipalities it could be the summer of 2014 before this FD became totally indoctrinated.

It should also be stated that the Metro reply to our request if you move this forward tonight as we are requesting could simply be; Let's wait 24 months or Hull could be turned down by Metro completely just as well.

**Finally** – We are happy to go over each and every page of materials you have page by page tonight if you have not read them, we have recommended you contact the other Chief's and your political counterparts to get answers to your questions as some questions only they can answer and some cannot be answered unless Hull FD would join. I hope this Board realizes

all the good that can or could come from this for not only Hull FD but its citizens and moves forward tonight and approves the letter and moving this forward.”

Mark Kluck, Fire Chief

Holdridge – I’ve been in government for 17 years on the County Board and since 1991 in the Town of Hull. Sometimes you have to question the experts. Good dialogue, understanding is crucial. It’s almost the notion of trust but clarify.

- The biggest thing you should expect from us is to try and understand this system (Metro).
- The correspondence from Fire Chief Tim Kluck clearly is the goal to get more fire fighters on the scene.
- The safety standard is based upon NFPA 1720 which require 14/16 personnel on-scene within the first 8 minutes.
- Randy Kruziki, John and others talked about Insurance Service Office (ISO) several years ago at the FD.
- ISO is a direct impact on each homeowners insurance

Kluck – regarding ISO:

- ✓ Not every insurance company honors it (ISO) or follows it
- ✓ FD gets calls requiring the ISO rating
- ✓ FD receives calls asking how far the people live from the fire station
  - False thing as some insurance companies will use the closest fire department and that fire department may not be called if there is a fire.

F Hoffman – talking with colleagues what is irritating most is giving a person a quote and then they get a better rate quote from another company because the agent is cheating and saying they live 2 miles from the fire station and we have to say he lives 8 miles from the fire station that services the property. Proximity of the station does not mean anything, you can be across the street from a fire station and unless Hull would call that fire department, they don’t go anywhere.

Kluck – info from a web-site titled “Benefits of the PPC Program for Communities” (Public Protection Classification). It tells where the class ratings are for Wisconsin for Fire Departments.

Holdridge – look at that and see how we can incorporate and understand that so

Kluck – do not know how much information Jeff Krueger has. Jeff has been heading the ISO part and actually asked them (ISO) – we were scheduled last year to have a test.

- ✓ We have asked them to hold off on ours because the difference between our #8 rating now and where we would go if we went to automatic aid, which is what we are talking about, is quite a big jump; it could actually be 2 points.
- ✓ How that works out dollar wise to the average home owner I do not know.

Holdridge – how do we get a handle on that system? I am concerned about the system so we understand what the system is.

- This is not government
- It is a professional group – they have a role in rating that some insurance companies use, others do not.
- Does Sentry use anything?

L Syens – they have their own rating system.

D Pederson – is this something that they financially support as a consortium. I'm looking for a reason insurance companies pulled out of ISO ratings.

L Syens – in some cases they felt that the ratings did not go far enough. An argument insurance companies had was the development that experienced in modern times, as we have what is called an isolated location, you can't see the location from a road or any other dwelling, building, structure. ISO does not have a rating for isolated. In those particular cases the homeowner can come home to a pile of ashes as nobody knew there was a fire there. After a certain distance from a Fire Department ISO consider that class of home unprotected. ISO ratings are developed largely on distance from fire departments, distance from hydrants.

Kluck – to get a better rating:

- A person comes out
- All equipment must be inventoried
- Meet certain regulation as to how much fire hose of different sizes is on each truck
- Actually have to perform for a gentleman who will come out
  - Because we do not have hydrants we have to shuttle water back and forth for certain distances
  - There is a specific formula that has to be followed
  - We are timed on it
  - We are allowed to use any other fire departments tenders (tankers)
- It's a 3 month process, at least, before you know what your rating will be

Jeff Krueger – it also determines where your water sites are: ponds, rivers.

- They want to know how many million gallons per minute flows through the rivers and ponds.
- It is an over view of all fire fighting resources
- An ISO testing can be done once every 7 years

M Bembenek – when is Hull FD planning on doing the ISO test?

Kluck – we put everything on hold until the Metro got worked out because if we can get automatic aid it is like night and day.

Syens – by signing the agreement would it be 24 months before it would kick in so that the ISO rating would not be affected for 24 months?

Krueger – after we become Metro that's when we have the test or apply for it

Kluck – the best case scenario would be a year if the letter went out and we were accepted in February.

- Hull has not had an ISO test since 1983 or '84
- Any data that goes out insurance wise is twenty some years old

Holdridge – wouldn't it be in Hull's interest to look at and get moving on ISO?

Krueger – we know how to do the test, at the time we have been talking Metro. I talked with an agent who said if you are going Metro with automatic aid, he said it does not pay to do the test now because once you become Metro you will have to test again.

Holdridge – does mutual aid play a role in this?

Kluck – aid in the county:

- ❖ Mutual aid was the first aid that came along
- ❖ Next it went to the MABAS system which the board signed on to statewide – this elevated responses to allow specific equipment to go as soon as possible
- ❖ Automatic aid is the highest level you can have
  - It is all preplanned out
  - All four fire departments are paged at 1 time
  - They all send what has been preplanned out equipment wise

Pederson – does the page specify what kind of a fire it is?

Kluck – yes. It specifies the type of fire, the location, if somebody is trapped, if vehicles are in the driveway.

- ❖ They try to give you as much information as they can get.

Hoffman – you would not get a Metro page every fire in the Town of Hull. You would still have the MABAS system. You can still use mutual aid.

- Metro fire is primarily for the structure fire

Kluck – there are many areas in the Town of Hull there is no doubt in my mind that Stevens Point FD can reach some areas before Hull FD.

- ✓ Technically we cannot call Stevens Point FD for help until Hull gets somebody on the scene and determine what is going on
- ✓ I don't think it matters to anybody who pulls them out of a burning building, whether it is Hull or Point or whatever
- ✓ What does matter, Dave Wilz doesn't care who pulls him out if that is the case, but why would he have to wait for Hull to get there when the Stevens Point station is less than 1 mile away

Holdridge – if my neighbor burns a lot and catches his house on fire and he calls 911, what happens?

Kluck:

- ❖ He calls 911
- ❖ On the dispatcher's screen there is a pop up box with their address, their phone number, who their ambulance is and who their fire department is
- ❖ Dispatch would page out Hull FD for a structure fire at whatever address it is
- ❖ Fire fighters come to the station, grab fire trucks and head out to fight the fire

Holdridge – we currently have the Box system. How does that work?

Fritsche:

- ❖ The same way

- ❖ The call comes from the person to dispatch
- ❖ Dispatch reads the screen and dispatches Hull FD
- ❖ Hull FD will respond
- ❖ Once a fire fighter is on scene and fire is sized and find we have a real working fire, that is when the radio is picked up and we ask for a Box alarm
- ❖ This might be 6-7 minutes after the original call came in
- ❖ Hull has trucks in route and dispatch is now paging out for assistance from other areas

Holdridge – would Stevens Point FD come in to assist?

Fritsche – it depends on what Box card it is on.

Kluck – I would have to look at the card, I don't think they are on the original request.

Holdridge – there is a hydrant close.

Kluck – Hull can use that hydrant.

Holdridge – so Stevens Point might not get called.

Kluck – not originally.

Fritsche – not if card 2 is called.

Holdridge – who would be called? What other municipality would come to Hull's assistance?

Kluck – Plover in your area. Dewey would send a tanker.

- ❖ Hull is divided basically in to 2 areas
  - One is a hydrant area
  - The other is a non-hydrant area
- ❖ In the area where there is a hydrant we would probably pull the hydrant card and request Stevens Point be called.
- ❖ Hull is fully capable of running off any hydrant

Holdridge – how would this work in a Metro system?

Kluck:

- ❖ All fire departments would be paged at once

Fritsche:

- When the 911 call came in the dispatcher would look at the screen
- It would say Metro instead of Hull
- Dispatcher would punch Metro and that would set off the pagers for all of the Town of Hull, Whiting, Plover and Stevens Point fire fighters
- All 4 of the departments, depending on how it is set up in the agreement for what equipment you send, each of those departments would sent 1 truck on the initial call

Kluck – in John's area:

- ❖ We would have an engine coming from Point with 3 or 4 fire fighters

Fritsche – using a hydrant area for example, Whiting and Plover would each send an engine and Hull's is coming as well.

- This puts more people on the scene in the beginning
- We have to have a backup team before we can send in an interior crew
- This speeds up the process of getting to the fire
- It speeds up search and rescue

Holdridge – under the present Point would not respond.

Kluck – there is a delay.

- ❖ Hull does not know how many fire fighters we will get on any given day or time (vacations, holidays, people are sick)
- ❖ The rule of thumb whatever your membership is at 9 o'clock on Monday morning you will only get 1/3 of the fire fighters to show up
- ❖ In Hull's case we will get 8 or 9 people
- ❖ That is not enough

Fritsche – Stevens Point has 11 on shift.

Kluck – we would ask for 4 personnel coming on their engine.

Bembenek – on the Metro system if a ladder truck is needed from Point it would be sent.

Fritsche – yes we would get the ladder truck if needed on the initial call.

- Lassa fire on North Second and Florence the closest thing done to get mutual aid
- Called dispatch explaining garage fire and location and Town of Hull needs to be dispatched
- Got off the radio and as soon as dispatch was done punching the tones and telling the Town of Hull what they had, Mark got back on the radio and asked for mutual aid

Kluck – in that case Point happened to have an engine doing fire inspections down town. They were not on the original assistance to come that day, but the dispatcher paged wrong and asked for them to go.

Fritsche – on scene and the first fire engine to pull up on scene was Stevens Point engine 1. This was 12:30/1:00 in the afternoon. Mark explained what wanted to do on scene. When Hull's engine arrived behind it with personnel, Point opened the door they stopped the fire.

Kluck – they only carry 500 to 750 gallons of water in that engine. They held the fire from getting in to the house. That allowed Lassa's to save everything from the kitchen to the bedrooms and living room area. There was water and smoke damage but they did not lose it all. We couldn't have done that without Point being there.

Hoffman – there was a similar situation on Lake View Drive off of Old Wausau Road.

Holdridge – who runs Metro?

Kluck – the Fire Departments manage it, the municipalities own it.

Fritsche – the individual fire chiefs manage it.

Holdridge – where are the political leaders in this process?

Kluck – the political leaders have control over who joins. The letter Hull would send would go to Mayor Halverson, President Schlutter and President Stroik.

Holdridge – talked with Paul Stroik of Whiting regarding the training building Hull was asked to give money to. A group of people in Whiting either don't want the training building or if they want it there they only want it for Whiting. A person against the building ran for the Whiting board and was elected. Paul Stroik of Whiting indicated that board probably would not support other people coming through their streets and using the training facility. They probably will support using it unless the board decides to move it to a different location.

- ✓ John suggested to move the process along you have to get the politicians involved.
- ✓ There is a need for communication and information
- ✓ Dan Kontos indicated in a conversation with John Holdridge that nothing will happen for at least 2 years – Dan is now the Chief Deputy for the Sheriff's Department and later this year will no longer be part of the Whiting FD
- ✓ If Point comes to Hull's assistance, they get called right away and come out, how will they get compensated?

Kluck and Fritsche – there is no compensation.

Kluck – if Hull taps a hydrant for a Hull fire we get the bill from the Water Department and that is passed on to the homeowner – large majority go through the insurance company to have the bill paid. It is a minimal amount.

Fritsche – when there is a structure fire in the city of Stevens Point, they open up a hydrant; the Stevens Point Fire Department gets a bill from the Stevens Point Water Department.

Wilz – there are members of the Metro that brings different things to the party. The concept is safety and enough fire fighters to safely show up and handle the various scenes. Somewhere along the line, you take the Stevens Point FD who has 11 professional fulltime people on duty, if they are in the center of things and they get called a lot more than they have been getting called, they might be running up real expense. Should the Mayor feel the Metro district is not working well for me as it cost more because our people are in the center of things and we've got most of the really good equipment that the other people need. That is where the politics come in, that is where the money comes in. If the Metro would be costly they could opt out, correct?

Kluck – if Hull joined Metro you as the board would have one-quarter say in all of the decisions that are made. You have the escape clause in the agreement. If you opt out of Metro you fall back to MABAS and mutual aid.

Fritsche – each municipality owns their equipment, runs the fires in their areas. The ladder truck agreement between Point and Plover was a side agreement, outside of Metro.

- If there is a fire in Point – Whiting, Plover and Hull would come in. Point officers are running the fire – they are in charge.
- There is a fire in Plover and Whiting, Point and Hull come in to Plover. Plover officers are in charge in running that fire department.



- You don't give up who has command or your jurisdiction.

Hoffman – initially I was not in favor of the Metro as I thought Hull would get the back seat. I have completely done a 180 on it. This is not something set up for the City of Stevens Point. The fact is Point actually in a lot of ways needs us more than we need Point. As a taxpayer in Hull, there is no reason not to join.

Fritsche – the other factor is a structure fire is going to be a Metro type call. The car fire on Hwy 66 is coming in to Hull FD – it will not go out to Metro.

- When an arrangement is worked up with all FD's, you identify which fires you are going to have them call.
- Now, when an alarm goes off at a dorm at UWSP – Stevens Point FD is the only FD that gets paged.
- Automatic alarms do not institute automatic Metro.

Kluck – every municipality retains their own insurance. Example: a Metro call in Hull and a Plover fire fighters slips on the ice and breaks a leg – Plover takes care of that not Hull.

Fritsche – if we have more calls per year because of Metro does that increase our risk of liability? A little. However, on the flip side if we have a couple of structure fires and we have more man power on scene at the beginning due to Metro, we reduce the risk that we have for safety, more personnel on the scene so the fire can be more efficiently fought and out quicker. Exercise a search – this can be done quicker because we have the manpower on the scene. This is all part of the give and take.

Pederson – my concern was if there were any financial entanglements or potential financial entanglements. You keep reassuring us there is no cost

Kluck – I would refer back to the agreement. You are only agreeing to what is in the agreement and there is nothing in the agreement that says you are going to be sharing costs on anything for anybody.

Wilz – that is correct. I have read the agreement.

Holdridge – at Hull's FD there is a lot of equipment. One of the safety things that keep coming up is the fire fighters getting into their equipment they are hitting their elbows on the trucks, etc. Does the Metro mean we need less equipment?

Fritsche – it could spin out that way, there is nothing

Kluck – I wouldn't commit to anything now saying that simply because of the fact Whiting, Plover and Point operate off of fire hydrants. Our problem is we have to carry our water with us. That is why we have so many vehicles. We have no less and no more water in the trucks than we had twenty years ago.

Holdridge – that is a real distinction between us and the other FD's.

Fritsche – Plover also covers rural areas, so they also have tenders (tankers).

Kluck – there are certain things we could do. We have to replace the van next year. To replace it in the capacity and need we have to have it will cost a minimum of \$100,000. If we were accepted in to Metro, Pete has already asked for the van, we could rely on Plover's Command Center as an automatic response. That would take care of a huge part of what we need the van for. We could down size and go with a used ambulance for about \$30,000 saving the town \$70,000 next year. This is a definite scenario if we got into Metro. As for other vehicles, again we have to haul our water.

Kluck – there are options out there. There is nothing that says the Town of Hull couldn't work a deal with the Village of Plover or the City of Stevens Point to pitch in on a tender. Areas the city of Stevens Point covers, using Ox Bow off of Brilowski, the city does not have a hydrant for miles. Maybe they or Plover would be willing to pitch in.

Holdridge – the tea leaves for the next 2 years is nobody has any money. Hull was hit with 26% reduction in shared revenue and our levy limit is frozen. Other municipalities have the same thing.

Kluck – rephrasing, maybe they won't have as much money as they would like, and neither will the Town of Hull, but if you have to pay \$30,000 to replace what could cost you \$100,000.

- ❖ The size of an ambulance would fit Hull's needs for hauling manpower.
- ❖ When it is 20° below zero we need a place to put the fire fighters.
- ❖ The last fire engine we bought we spent \$10,000 more than we needed to because we needed to buy a shorter engine to fit in the building.

Kluck – maybe the leaders of Metro fire FD's will decide the timing is not right and they could say Hull we will set you up for 24 months before you can get in.

Holdridge – what are we doing in the meantime, because it seems to me Matt Schneeberg said at a meeting “you guys are trying to kill a fireman”? I don't think anybody here is trying to kill any fireman. What do we do in this 2 year period?

Hoffman – I don't remember him saying that.

Holdridge – if there is a concern about that, not being safe, what do we do for the 2 years?

Kluck – we do the best we can with what we have.

Holdridge – what would that be?

Wilz – the existing system.

Jill Kapla – we continue with the way we have been.

Holdridge – is that adequate?

Kapla – it is what we have today. If my house is on fire and I have to wait for a Hull officer to come to my house, do a walk around and say, there is a flat, blue wooden structure with the Green Circle Trail behind it, and that it is on fire and I am so close to the city and it means for a few minutes less for someone to get there with equipment and people and it wouldn't cost me

as a tax payer or the fire department extra, it's just closing that gap of time. If we do nothing and keep the gap of time we just wait.

Holdridge – right now you would walk around the building.

Fritsche – we may not have to walk around the building, usually when you pull up in front of the scene you can see what you have and then you call for assistance at that point. But if our fire truck arrives on scene and our second truck is 8 minutes behind it, the fire fighters on the first truck are going to get set up but we are not going inside that structure until there is a backup crew there. If it takes an additional 8 minutes of fire, a fire doubles itself in size every second for the first minute and doubles itself in size every minute thereafter.

Holdridge – you are saying that the current system will have to do for 2 years.

Wilz – the current system is a lot better than it was ten years ago.

Fire fighters present – yes.

Wilz – this is just taking MABAS and making it always MABAS.

Kluck – automatic aid.

Wilz – mutual aid all of the time.

Fritsche – on major calls only.

Kluck – right now when Point or Plover calls a MABAS we are going anyway. It's not that we are not going. It's just that there is a gap and we are trying to close that.

Fritsche – if there is another fire going on at the same time, they will radio you and say we are not able to respond.

Wilz – or in Point's case some of their fire fighters are out on ambulance runs. Of the 11 there could be 2 or 3 already gone from Point FD.

Kluck – if Hull is on a Point fire on West River Drive and Hull gets paged for a fire, we can't drop what we are doing there and leave them on their own. We have backup to the MABAS system and mutual aid system for our own area – that would be put in to use right away.

Holdridge – can get the contract and put on the agenda as a voting item?

Wilz – is the next step to sign the contract or to put a letter of intent out there?

Kluck – I would draft a letter for the board to review, make changes as needed. That would be the letter that would go to D Schlutter, P Stroik and A Halverson. That letter would basically say the Town of Hull has reached the point where we are interested at this time to join the Metro.

Wilz – exploring the Metro.

Kluck - In doing so we are requesting the process be moved from a 24 month period to a 12 month period to begin July 1, 2012. The contract states you can request implementation date to be moved up.

Holdridge – where does the contract come in?

Kluck – you would not sign the contract until they will say we will accept this or may indicate it is 24 months.

Wilz – the contract is not in the initiation of the process, it's the finalization of the process. All board members should read the contract if they have not done so.

Kluck – during a conversation with ex-mayor Westcott, Metro is the best use of resources and it tears down the imaginary border line between municipalities.

Wilz – the reason that some of these things work too, is other than municipal elected officials, are not the ones working the agreements out, it's the fire fighters, the road crews, etc. Quite honestly, that is why it works. It works because sometimes politicians or leaders can't always agree. Sometimes they can.

Motion Pederson, second Bembenek, put letter of intent on the agenda Monday, June 20, 2011 board meeting. Motion carried

#### 7. FEMA payment to Fire Fighters

Review of documentation “Disaster Declaration FEMA-1944-WI-DR” and the spread sheet indicating site/ fire fighter name, organization, description of work done, hours worked and hourly rate.

Motion Bembenek, second Syens, reimbursement justly earned by the fire fighters, they want to donate the sum of \$1,637.19 to the large equipment reserve fund. Hull must receive a letter from the Fire Department so indicating that and the fact the donation has been discussed with the fire fighters. Hull will put the letter in the audit file. Motion carried.

#### 8. Report of Fire Department monthly activities

Mark Kluck presented the Hull FD monthly fire report for May 2011. The report indicates date, time, location and reason FD went to scene. There were 13 incidents.

A new form was given to Chief Kluck to input FD activity.

Motion Bembenek, second Pederson, accept the report. Motion carried.

#### 9. Adjournment: Motion Bembenek, second Pederson, adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Janet Wolle, Clerk