

Approved – Minutes for the Galesburg Charleston Fire Board Meeting March 18, 2026

Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m. In attendance: Chief Roomsburg, Chris Balkema, Josh Balkema, Roger Frazee and Josh Raney. Carol Wortinger was absent. No Public in attendance.

Approval of Minutes for January 21, 2026. Motion to approve as written by J Balkema, seconded by R Frazee. All in favor, motion carried. Note- There were no minutes for February due to no quorum.

Run Report: Charleston - 25
 Galesburg - 18
 Mutual Aid - 2

Currently 127 calls compared to 104 last year.

Motion to approve Run Report by C Balkema and seconded by J Balkema. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer Report – February balance in all accounts of \$175999.02. CD \$126,305.64. Motion to accept report and pay February's bills for checks #7375 to #7381 by R Frazee and seconded by C Balkema. All in favor, motion carried.

Current (March) balance in all accounts of \$157,415.30. Motion to accept report and pay March's bills for checks #7382 to #7402 by C Balkema and seconded by R Frazee. All in favor, motion carried.

J Balkema will investigate the best way to handle the CD to ensure the funds are available to be used towards the payment of the new fire truck chassis.

Chiefs Report:

Fire Academy is going well. Holding class at our station this coming Monday.

2 of the 3 Firefighter have completed the MFR class. 1 is waiting on National Registry test.

Kalamazoo County Consolidated Dispatch Authority is planning to transition to the 800 MHz system.

This is part of a Communications Readiness Study they completed. This will require the department to replace its current radios. KCCDA has received a grant through the state to assist in these purchases.

Chief Roomsburg will be working with them to determine how many radios we are allowed to purchase through the grant and cost.

We hired 1 new Firefighter, Wesley Hoffman. We have one applicant to interview.

Motion to approve the Chief's report made by J Balkema and a second by C Balkema. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

Grant update: Nothing new to report on current grant. Chief Roomsburg met with the other fire chiefs about a countywide SCBA grant. At this time, we will not be participating due to our SCBA are only 5 years old. We will also not be applying for radios due to the KCCDA grant.

Captain Josh Ranes found a grant opportunity through Senator Slotkin's office. The board approved the fire department to apply for a grant to replace the tanker. They discussed making a 25% match to try to improve our chances. This must be submitted by the end of the month. Motion made to apply for the grant with a 25% match by C Balkema seconded by R Frazee. All in favor, motion carried.

Website Update: Nothing to report.

Budget Update: Line item for rent has been changed to Building Maintenance. An account was created in the financial report to show balance of Building Maintenance funds. Discussion about the letter from the city identifying yearly fees for security features, insurance, and HVAC equipment maintenance. One furnace and air conditioner services both fire department and city offices.

Building update: Discussion about the results of the Mediation findings that will take effect in July. Fire department will start prioritizing items to be repaired or replaced.

Legal update: Nothing to report

Equipment Update: New truck is still on schedule for October completion.

The department continues to work on the tornado sirens. Currently 2 out of the 5 are working. The one at the township hall and Fort Custer. Josh Ranes is working on getting a technician to come to do an evaluation on whether they can be fixed or not. We have done everything that we knew to try to get them operational.

New business: Discussion on a replacement for Ann Nieuwenhuis's open position. The board will search for someone to fill the rest of her term.

Chief Roomsburg made a request to the board to assist with purchasing materials to build new gear lockers for the Firefighter's turnout gear. Most of the Firefighters leave their gear at the station and the metal racks we are currently using are not made for the weight we are putting on them. The Department is requesting that the Fire Board pay for the wood for the lockers, which is estimated to be \$2300.00. The Firefighters association will pay for the paint, hooks and all hardware to build them. The Firefighter will also donate the time to build them.

Motion was made to pay for the wood for the lockers by C Balkema and seconded by R Frazee. All in favor, motion carried.

Public comment: None

Members Time: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.