

**Minutes of the Sparta Fire Board Meeting
August 21, 2025**

Present: Cumings (village), Goodfellow (twp), Van Patten (village), Anderson (twp), & Chief Olney. Bergman (twp-chair), Peoples (village)

Absent: none

Bergman called the meeting to order @7:00 pm.

Additions to Agenda: Add the annual audit report.

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion: VanPatten to approve the agenda with addition.

Second: Peoples

Motion Passed: 6-0

Public Comment: None

Approval of the Meeting Minutes July 17, 2025:

Motion: Made Anderson to approve July 17, 2025, minutes.

Second: VanPatten

Motion Passed: 6-0

Finance Board Update:

Cumings stated that the finance board has met twice since the last board meeting. They reviewed and approved all department invoices of \$33,777.30. Cumings stated that the department's operational budget was at 26.8% for the first 5 months of the year. We've accumulated \$4438 in monthly interest and have a fund balance of \$1,225,845.

Approval of the bills:

Motion: Made Anderson to approve bills through August 19, 2025

Second: Cumings

Motion Passed: 6-0

Old Business:

The USDA grant update:

Andrus Architectural submitted required items to USDA

Audit engagement letter with SiegfriedCrandall for a single audit for the USDA funds was completed.

Zoning Variances were approved by the Village on August 29, 2022 will need to be sent to USDA.

Verification for funding: Village has signed letter of commitment; the township has just approved a budget which included funding.

Deed: The deed for the fire department property had been sent several months ago but they somehow lost it and they were resent on 8-17-25.

Attorney's opinion: the contact information for our attorney has been sent to USDA.

Andrus Architectural: we're still working on getting a new contract with Andrus for the on going work.

Audit Contract with SiegriedCrandal for a single audit including the audit for the USDA Funds.

Motion: Anderson to approve the contract with SiegriedCrandal annual audit and a single audit for the USDA funds for new building.

Second: Cumings

Motion Passed: 6-0

Fire Authority: The board reviewed and made changes to the Fire Authority agreement prepared by your attorney. Goodfellow to make the recommended changes the board suggested and return to our attorney for corrections or clarifications.

Audit Report: The firm of SiegriedCrandal presented to the board the annual audit report. The report was excellent and required no changes moving forward.

Chief's Report: Chief Olney presented the **Chief's report**. (attached) There were 697 runs YTD. There were 3 mutual aid calls and 1 structure fire last month. There were 6 accidents, with 2 minor injuries this past month with several alarms and hazardous conditions.

Verizon Modems: The Chief requested the purchase of (4) 5G R980 modem for the department Mobile Data Computers located in departmental vehicles. Verizon has a rebate of \$500 per modem once they are activated. The cost of the modem is \$2400 but with a \$2000 rebate.

Motion: Peoples to approve the purchase of the new modems provided the monthly fees don't increase over 10%

Second: VanPatten

Motion Passed: 6-0

Next Meeting Date: September 18th, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the fire station.

Next Finance Meeting Dates: September 2nd and September 16th at 4:00 PM at the fire station.

Cumings stated he will not be attending the September 18th meeting.

Public Comment: none

Adjournment:

Motion: Van Patten to adjourn at 8:26 PM.

Second: Goodfellow

Motion Passed: 6-0

Minutes by Goodfellow 8-23-25.



Sparta Fire Department

36 Elmwood Street
Sparta, MI 49345
Telephone: 616-887-0900

Chiefs Report August 21, 2025

Previous meeting information and updates:

1. Station Project Update
2. Audit
3. Fire Authority

New Business:

1. Monthly report
 1. Fire calls (NFIRS 100 classifications)
 1. 4612 Moffett Rd – auto aid to Alpine Fire (cancelled)
 2. 6158 George Ann Ct NW – mutual aid on a 2nd alarm to Plainfield for a large residential structure fire
 3. 6481 N. Division – auto aid to Alpine Fire for an unattached garage fire (cancelled upon our arrival)
 4. 12582 Vergennes – mutual aid to Lowell Fire (sent E3 with three of our department and 3 from Alpine FD) assist on a plane crash into a storage unit
 5. 4501 6-mile – auto aid to Alpine Fire with Tender 8 on a garage fire
 6. 371 E. Gardner – with auto aid from Alpine and Kent City Fire on a house fire; fire was out upon my arrival and the auto aid units were discarded
 2. Explosions calls (NFIRS 200 classifications)
 3. Rescue calls including accidents (NFIRS 3- classifications)
 1. 12025 Sparta Ave: motorcycle vs deer (one with minor injury)
 2. Fruit Ridge and 12-mile: reported as an unknown accident – motorist assist
 3. 12816 Sparta Ave: unknown accident (cleared by ALS prior to arrival)
 4. 12-mile and Kenowa: iphone crash alert (nothing located)
 5. E. Division and River: three vehicle accident (one with minor injuries)
 6. M37 and 8-mile: assist to Alpine Fire on unknown accident
 4. Hazardous Conditions (NFIRS 400 classifications)
 1. 2 – powerlines down calls
 2. 2 – carbon monoxide alarms
 5. Service calls (NFIRS 500 classifications)
 1. 1515 10-mile: lock out of a vehicle
 2. 8944 Sparta Ave: Smoke investigation
 6. Good intent calls (NFIRS 600 classifications)
 1. 9 - cancelled call after being dispatched
 7. False alarms (NFIRS 700 classifications)
 1. 3 – smoke detector/alarm activations
 8. Severe Weather incident (NFIRS 800 classifications)
 9. Special incidents (NFIRS 900 classifications)

