

BLOOMINGTON BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

The Bloomington Board of Public Safety held a Regular Session on **Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 10:30am**, in the McCloskey Room, Room 135, City of Bloomington located at 401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, Indiana.

CALL TO ORDER

Board President Timothy Brinson called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m. Board Members Russell Kitchner, Philip Amerson, Barbara McKinney and Stephen Walker were also present.

Also in attendance were:

- Police: Police Chief Michael Diekhoff, Police Captain Myrick Williams, Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham;
- Fire: Assistant Fire Chief Tania Daffron, Deputy Fire Chief Max Litwin; and,
- Staff: Assistant City Attorney Christopher Wheeler, City Risk Administrator Jazmyn Forte Plunkett, and Police Department Office Assistant and Outreach Specialist Sarah Shahnava

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Board President Timothy Brinson asked if any members of the board wanted to discuss or object to any items on the consent agenda. These items included the minutes from the July 17th, 2025 Board of Public Safety regular session, Claims for dates of 08/01/2025 and 08/15/2025 and Payroll from dates 07/25/2025 and 08/08/2025. None of the board members had questions or objections, all items were approved.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**Report on Monthly Statistics and Training:**

Monthly Statistics and Training were presented by Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham.

Letters of Appreciation:

Letters of Appreciation were presented by Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham.

General Business

General Business was presented by Police Chief Michael Diekhoff.

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements were presented by Police Chief Michael Diekhoff.

CIRT/ARV REPORT

Per Police Chief Michael Diekhoff, there were no deployments.

Personnel Issues:

Personnel Issues were presented by Police Captain Myrick Williams.

Board Member Philip Amerson asked if the police department would have anyone retiring soon. Police Captain Myrick Williams stated they had at least one confirmed retirement coming up at the beginning of 2025.

President Timothy Brinson called for the motion to promote Officer First Class Connor Bryan to Senior Police Officer, effective August 18, 2025. Board Member Philip Amerson so moved, Board Member Barbara McKinney seconded. No discussion was held. The vote to promote Bryan Connor passed unanimously.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Fire Report on Monthly Statistics and Training:

Monthly Statistics and Training were presented by Assistant Fire Chief Tania Daffron.

Board Member Barbara McKinney asked if the fire department knew about a program at the library where anyone can go and get canes and wheelchairs. Assistant Fire Chief Tania Daffron answered yes and that a member of the fire department staff helped out recently.

Letters of Appreciation

The Letters of Appreciation were presented by Assistant Fire Chief Tania Daffron.

General Business:

General Business was presented by Deputy Fire Chief Max Litwin.

Personnel Issues

Personnel Issues were presented by Deputy Fire Chief Max Litwin.

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Purchases: Expenditures and Procurements were presented by Deputy Fire Chief Max Litwin.

Board Member Barbara McKinney asked where Station 3 was located. Deputy Fire Chief Max Litwin stated it was located on the Indiana University campus.

Board Member Philip Amerson mentioned that he appreciated seeing the firefighters engaging with the public downtown. Deputy Fire Chief Max Litwin affirmed and then mentioned a few casual activities the firefighters do for the public. Discussion was held.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposal for updated standards regarding the Promotions, Hiring and Discipline

Assistant City Attorney Christopher Wheeler presented the updated standards for promotions, hiring and discipline.

Assistant Fire Chief Tania Daffron mentioned that the Fire Merit Commission can recuse themselves from discipline. Assistant City Attorney Christopher Wheeler agreed and stated that, for now, he is keeping in the rules that the Fire Merit Commission handles all discipline. Assistant City Attorney Christopher Wheeler elaborated more on what that rule means to the Board. Discussion was held.

Assistant City Attorney Christopher Wheeler asked the board if there were any questions about the new standards. There were no questions asked.

Board President Timothy Brinson asked the board for a motion to approve the updated standards, effective August 21, 2025. Board Member Barbara McKinney so moved. Board Member Stephen Walker seconded the motion. No discussion was held. The vote to approve the standards passed unanimously.

Board Member Philip Amerson asked both the police and fire departments about the outcome of the arrests at Seminary Park and Crawford Homes. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff stated that the drug dealing stopped in the park, and there was a drug investigation at Crawford Homes. He explained that it's cleaned up a bit, but the issues are still there.

Board Member Barbara McKinney asked about the use of tasers and how often they are deployed. Police Captain Myrick Williams stated that, within the first year of using tasers again, they are still under 20 probes being launched. Board Member Barbara McKinney expressed concerns around proper training of using a taser. Police Captain Myrick Williams explained that every officer follows taser best practices, which includes an 8 hour course annually. Discussion was held.

Board Member Philip Amerson mentioned how great the police department is with deescalation.

Board President Timothy Brinson asked if officers are shocked by tasers in the initial training. Police Captain Myrick Williams explained that they do not. Discussion was held.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President Timothy Brinson adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jazmyn Forte Plunkett, Risk Administrative Assistant
City of Bloomington Risk Department
Board of Public Safety

The minutes of the August 21, 2025 Board of Public Safety Meeting were approved this ____ day of September, 2025.

