

GRAND LEDGE AREA EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY
MEETING
HELD JUNE 16, 2025
6:00 p.m.
AT 500 N. CLINTON STREET, GRAND LEDGE, MICHIGAN
48837

- 1.Roll Call: Present: Chairman Willems, Secretary Lantz, Treasurer Schultz Vice Chair Mulder, Chief Roman. Arrived later Stahelin. Also Present were Members of Glaesa, and Oneida Township and the City of Grand Ledge Residents and Mr. Landon Martin of Veridus Group.
- 2.The Pledge of Allegiance was given.
- 3.Audience Participation: Mr. Grathy thanked the Department for assistance in saving some ducks and for their quick response.
- 4.Approval of Consent Agenda, Motion was made by Mrs. Schultz and supported by Mr. Lantz to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion Carried.
- 5.Approval of Regular Agenda: Motion to approve the Regular Agenda was made by Mr. Lantz and supported by Mr. Mulder Motion Carried.
- 6.Committee and Board Reports:
Chairman moved to item:
 - E. Building Committee: Landon Martin of the Veridus Goup was present to discuss a proposal for Owners Representative for the Department to assist with the construction of a new fire station and assessment of the current fire station. He explained that 99% of their work is for municipalities and they work in Michigan and Indiana, He noted that they have Architects, Engineers and construction managers on staff. They will assist the Board in how to move ahead; they will work at risk until the project is actually started. There would be some small upfront costs. They would plan a program and do the RFPs and help decide what would be needed, and make a plan.

Mr. Lantz said that the proposal from Veridus was for a 20-million-dollar project. Now we are looking at a more modest project and possibly two buildings. Would Veridus still be interested. Mr. Martin said that they would. Mr. Lantz asked would we start with an analysis of the current building? Mr. Martin said he thought that they would start with a program first and facilities assessment second.

Mr. Mulder said we need someone to help us move forward. There was a discussion on the approximately \$40,000.00 at risk costs. Mr. Martin said it would be included in the bond amount. Mr. Martin said they might need some funds to work with up front. Probably under \$20,000.00. Mr. Lantz asked the Chief if this was budgeted for. The Chief said that it was. After all discussion, Chairman moved to Item 1. Maner Costerian Financial Analysis update. Chief Roman had met with Bethany from Maner -Costerian and our Bookkeeper and they are trying to get things changed so they are all working on the same page. This will mean a change in how the Budget looks, salaries will not be listed separately. There will be a total figure and the Budget will be more condensed. Also, the reports from the Bookkeeper will match the audit. Chief Roman noted that Bethany is working on the 5-year projections

7. Fire Chief/Staff Reports:

A. Monthly run activity. EMS 171 calls, Fire calls 86.

1. Full Scale Avi Exercise in Mason August 5, 2025.

8. Old Business:

A. Open Meetings Act. At the last Meeting it was noted that we need to be careful to abide by the open meetings act. Chief Roman contacted our attorney Mr. Revere for direction. Chief Roman said we are in compliance except we need to post our Agenda and Minutes and post the Agenda at the Building. Which will be done from now on.

B. Resolution 04-2025 Purchase of Custom Pumper Truck. Was offered by Mrs. Schultz and supported by Mr. Lantz. Mrs. Schultz asked Mr. Spalding of the Vehicle Committee how many pumper tankers had they reviewed. He said three. Spencer at a cost of 1.5 million, Sutphen at a cost of 1.5 million and Toyne at a cost of 1.3 million, they found that the Sutphen met all the needs of the Department and they toured the factory and were impressed with the people and their willingness to be of service.

Mr. Lantz asked how much of the decision was based on the size of the building. He noted that in the 29 months it will take to build this truck we could have a new building. Chief Roman noted that this truck was a double purpose engine and pumper and if we have two buildings, we are going to need another engine, which this truck is both and engine and a pumper. He also noted that commercial tankers don't last as long. Custom tankers are built better. Commercial grade tankers last about 10 years, custom tankers last 25 years.

Mr. Lantz asked if the Toyne at 1.3 million would be adequate. Mr. Spalding said it did not carry as much water and more equipment with the Sutphen. Mr. Lantz again asked about the size of the building. Mr. Spalding said it was not only the size of the building. There are a lot of long driveways in the service area and the Sutphen would navigate those better. He noted it would

carry 1000 more gallons of water. Mr. Mulder noted that that was significant. Chief Roman noted that it mattered in the ISO count. The City is currently a 3 and the Township an 8. This will be reassessed soon.

Mr. Lantz asked about putting the cost of the tanker into the bond for the buildings.

The Chief asked the Board to wait on the tanker purchase because the grant that has been applied for will be awarded in July. After discussion, Mrs. Schultz moved to rescind her support of Resolution 04-2025. Support was given by Mr., Lantz.

c. Resolution 05-2025 No action.

d. Resolution 06-2025 contract with Veridus Group as our owner's representative> Offered by Mr. Lantz and supported by Mrs. Schultz. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Mulder, Mr. Lantz, Mrs. Schultz, Mr. Stahelin, Mr. Willems. Nay: None. Resolution Adopted.

e. Resolution 07-2025 No action.

f. Resolution 08-2025 adopting the Annual Budget and appropriations measure for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and the tax levies and rates. Was offered by Mr. Lantz and supported by Mr. Stahelin. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Mulder, Mr. Lantz, Mrs. Schultz, Mr. Stahelin, Mr. Willems. Nay: None. Resolution Adopted.

9. New Business:

A. Meeting Dates and times for GLAESA Fire Authority Board July 2025 thru June 26, 2026.

Motion to
and

approve the Meeting dates was made by Mr. Lantz supported by Mr. Mulder. Motion Carried.

b. Financial Transactions and Bills. Motion to

approve

payment of the Bills for May 1 thru May 21st was made by Mrs. Schultz and supported by Mr. Stahelin. Motion Carried

Audience Participation: Eric Hafner addressed the Dewitt Township emergency service change. Mrs. Goschka thanked the Board for their service to her family and noted the importance of the pumper tanker to the area. Keith Weaver thanked the Board for moving forward and hiring Veridus.

Also discussed planning way out for future needs and pushing Veridus hard on planning. Don Atwood of the local 2627 Union discussed the lack of man power for a new building, and noted that the current call volume will continue to grow because of planned growth in the area. He discussed the current condition of the current building, and that the current pumper tanker is a 2001. And the cost of repairs to it. He also noted the DDA funds that come out of the fire budget. He thanked the Board Members and assured the Public that GLAESA will always be there for them.

11. Communications from the Board. Mrs. Schultz was glad to see some progress towards the future. Mr. Mulder assured those present that the Board supports the Department and the best interests of the community. The Board tries to do what's best. Mr. Stahelin thanked the Chief for all the things he does for the Department. Mr. Lantz discussed the Dewitt Township EMS service. Mr. Willems said it was a good Meeting and noted that we will get through this.

12. Closed Session: There was none.

13. Adjourn Meeting: Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. in a motion made by Mr. Stahelin and supported by Mr. Mulder.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jan Schultz.
APPROVED:

Mr. Don Willems, Chairman
Lantz, Secretary

Mr. Rick

