



# **TOWN OF GRIFFITH PUBLIC SAFETY BOARD**

111 N. Broad Street, Griffith, IN 46319

## **Meeting Minutes June 5, 2025**

The Griffith Safety Board was called to order by Chairman Goral at 6:31 P.M. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Those in Attendance**

Elizabeth Goral	Griffith Safety Board Chairman
Sue Katona	Griffith Safety Board Vice Chairman – <b>Absent</b>
RoAnn Purgert	Griffith Safety Board Secretary – <b>Absent</b>
George Jerome	Griffith Safety Board Member
Philip Vechey	Griffith Safety Board Member
Rick Ryfa	Town Council Police Department Liaison
Melissa Robbins	Town Council Fire Department Liaison – <b>Absent</b>
Albert Tharp	Chief, Griffith Police Department
Roy Schoon	Chief, Griffith Fire Department
Michael Andree, Jr.	Deputy Chief, Griffith Fire Department
James Sibley	Commander, Griffith Police Department
Curtis Burrow	Commander, Griffith Police Department
Paul Sines	Lieutenant, Griffith Police Department

The following items were discussed:

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approval of May 1, 2025 Meeting Minutes  
PSB Member Jerome made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2025 Public Safety Board Regular Meeting as presented.  
PSB Member Vechey seconded the motion.  
Motion carried 3 – 0.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Announcements made at tonight's meeting.

### **COMMUNICATIONS / REPORTS**

1. **Griffith Police Department**  
Chief Tharp read the monthly report for April 2025. Chief Tharp stated on June 19, 2025, the Police Department will be hosting a "Coffee with A Cop" event from 9:00 AM – 11 AM at the Broadstreet Tavern, located at 108 N. Broad Street, Griffith, IN.

2. **Griffith Fire Department**

Fire Chief Schoon read the monthly report for April 2025. Chief Schoon advised the Fire Department's calls are 32 calls higher than they were this time last year.

3. **Griffith F.O.P. Lodge #161**

There was no representative present tonight from Griffith F.O.P. Lodge #161.

4. **VEST**

Corporal P. Ghrist read the monthly VEST report for May 2025. Total Volunteer hours for Year 2025 are 3,246.75. Top Volunteer for May 2025 was Mike Andree, Sr. The VEST members worked the following special details in May: Griffith Youth Baseball Parade (5/3), Central Market (5/16, 5/23, 5/30), and Memorial Day Service (5/26).

5. **Town Council Liaison**

Liaison R. Ryfa reminded the Public Safety Board members effective July 1, 2025, all meetings held in the meeting room will be live streamed on YouTube.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There were no matters of "Old Business."

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Griffith Police Department's administration of the Oath of Office to Probationary Officers:
  - a. Emmanuel Figueroa #89
  - b. David Moran #90

Chief Tharp stated tonight he would like to introduce the Police Department's newest two (2) officers, Emmanuel Figueroa #89, formerly of the Gary Police Department, and David Moran #90, formerly of the East Chicago Police Department. Chief Tharp advised both officers were already sworn in by the Town's Clerk-Treasurer on May 5, 2025.

Chief Tharp advised Officer Figueroa brings with him 23 years of service from the Gary Police Department, where he most recently served in the Crime Scene Investigation Unit. Officer Figueroa speaks Spanish, is certified in Crisis Intervention, and serves on the Northwest Indiana Peer Support Team. He is also actively involved in his church and community, reflecting the values we strive to uphold here in Griffith.

Officer Moran brings a well-rounded background in both law enforcement and healthcare. He holds an associate degree in nursing from Purdue University and comes to us from the East Chicago Police Department, where he served since 2014. During his time at ECPD, Officer Moran served as both a patrol officer and a detective. As a detective, he was assigned to the Lake County Homicide Task Force and received advanced training in crime scene investigations.

Chief Tharp then welcomed both officers to the Griffith Police Department. Both officers then introduced their family members who were in attendance.

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

There were no questions or comments received from the floor.

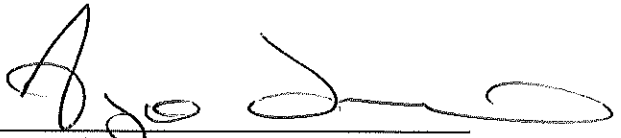
**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

  
Elizabeth Goral, Chairman

  
Sue Katona, Vice Chairman

  
RoAnn Purgert, Secretary

  
George Jerome, Member

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Philip Vechey, Member

Minutes Prepared By:

  
Joan Kolodziej, Recording Secretary