

TOWN OF UNION
Resolution 2024-03

Resolution to Participate in the Wisconsin Service Award Program

WHEREAS, the Towns of Brussels, Union, and Gardner jointly operates the Brussels, Union, Gardner Fire Department and authorizes volunteer emergency medical responders (BUGFD/EMRS) to provide emergency medical services within the boundaries of Brussels, Union, and Gardner towns, and thus utilizes the services of volunteer firefighters and emergency medical responder's; and

WHEREAS, the Towns of Brussels, Union, and Gardner, recognize that volunteers are becoming scarcer. On August 12, 2024 the Town of Union, after having discussions in open public town meetings, recognized the need to simplify the current EMR structure between the three towns of Brussels, Union, and Gardner, and having decided, it is in the best interest of the three towns in order to maintain and fund an Emergency Medical Response Program, to merge the two individual EMR Groups (Brussels-Union EMRS and Gardner EMRS) to form one EMR Group to be known as the **(BUGFD/EMRS)**, and place the new BUGFD/EMR group under the Brussels-Union-Gardner Fire Department Organizational Structure; and

WHEREAS, this merger will provide for multiple operational efficiencies, financial savings, consolidated training, resulting in less meetings and combining our groups of dedicated EMRs with main goals of providing excellent patient care in a timely response in all three towns under one department through working together; and

WHEREAS, the Towns of Brussels, Union, and Gardner having merged the Brussels-Union EMR Group, and the Gardner EMR Group into one Brussels-Union-Gardner Fire Department/EMR Group, will sponsor the BUGFD/EMRs as a single EMR group for the Wisconsin Service Award Program and therefore the Service Award Program accounts will be combined, understanding only one community can act as the Wisconsin Service Award Program Sponsor, the **Town of Brussels** has agreed to act as the Sponsor for the Towns of Brussels, Union, and Gardner on behalf of the BUGFD/Firefighters and BUGFD/EMRS.

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has designed a service award program, which allows private vendors to offer plans that provide benefits to volunteer firefighters and emergency medical responders that render firefighting and emergency medical services to a municipality that participates in the program; and

WHEREAS, the State will match the annual contributions, made by a municipality choosing to participate in the Program on behalf of its volunteer firefighters and emergency medical responders, up to a statutory maximum per individual, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Union, wishes to participate in the Program for the benefit of its volunteer firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and emergency medical responders, and agrees to abide by all pertinent state and federal statutes, regulations, rules and procedures pertaining to the Program, as well as any requirements of the private vendor chosen by the Towns of Brussels, Union, and Gardner; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Union, agrees to develop standards for determining the service required of its volunteer firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and emergency medical responders in order to qualify for an annual contribution; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution shall supersede all previous Resolutions and Ordinances by the Towns of Brussels, Union, and Gardner regarding the Wisconsin Service Award Program and shall become effective January 1, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Town Board of Union, passed the following Resolution: and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Union, hereby declares that it shall participate in the State of Wisconsin Service Award Program and shall abide by all pertinent statutes, rules, regulations, procedures and other requirements of the Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all funds necessary to provide for annual contributions now and in the future under the Program be appropriated and be included in the Brussels-Union-Gardner Fire Department and EMR Group annual budgets, in an amount to be approved by the participating Towns of Brussels, Union, and Gardner.

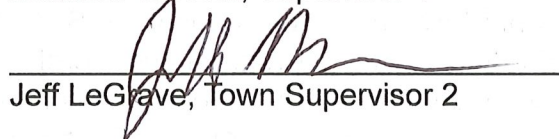
Introduced and adopted this 11th day of September, 2024



Bruce Alberts, Town Chair

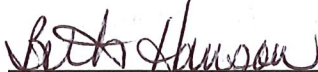


Matthew Tassoul, Supervisor 1



Jeff LeGrave, Town Supervisor 2

I, Beth Hanson, Clerk of the Town of Union hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on this 11th day of September, 2024 by the Union Town Board of Supervisors.



Beth Hanson, Town Clerk