

DEC 30 2024

LORI GUMMOW

Introduction

The German Valley Fire Protection District (GVFPD) is a volunteer fire department located in German Valley, Illinois. The Decennial Efficiency Committee, established under the Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act, evaluates the efficiency of local government units, including fire protection districts.

Pursuant to 50 ILCS 70/1 et seq., the Decennial Efficiency Committee of the German Valley Fire Protection District respectfully submits to the administrative office of Ogle, Stephenson, and Winnebago counties report as follows:

On June 16th, 2023, the Board of Trustees of the Board of trustees of the German Valley Fire Protection District formed the committee required by 50 ILCS 70/10. The committee was comprised of the members of the Board of Trustees of the District, the District's Fire Chief, and two residents of the District.

The committee met on the following dates: August 21, 2023, September 18th, 2023, December 16th, 2024. All meetings were held pursuant to the notice requirements of 50 ILCS 70/20 and public input was solicited at each meeting of the committee. Meetings were conducted in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Committee Findings

The Decennial Committee reviewed GVFPD's operations, governance, and resource management. Key areas of focus included:

- **Operational Efficiency:** Assessing response times, equipment maintenance, and training programs.
- **Governance:** Evaluating the structure and effectiveness of the governing board.
- **Resource Management:** Analyzing budget allocation, funding sources, and financial sustainability.

Recommendations

Based on their findings, the Committee made several recommendations to improve efficiency and accountability:

- **Enhance Training Programs:** Implementing regular training sessions to ensure firefighters are well-prepared for emergencies.
- **Upgrade Equipment:** Investing in modern firefighting equipment to improve response capabilities.
- **Streamline Governance:** Simplifying the governance structure to enhance decision-making processes.
- **Optimize Budget:** Reviewing and optimizing the budget to ensure efficient use of resources.

- **Recruitment Strategies:** Developing innovative strategies to attract and retain volunteer firefighters, such as community outreach programs, offering incentives, and collaborating with local schools and organizations.

Conclusion

The Decennial Committee's report highlights the strengths and areas for improvement within the German Valley Fire Protection District. By implementing the recommended changes, GVFPD can enhance its efficiency and better serve the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane Boonsgarden President

Susan Boonsgarden

[Signature] - Fire Chief

Alison Zetta Secretary

[Signature] Secretary GVFPD

Victoria L. Coffman

Being all of the Members of the German Valley Fire
Protection District Decennial Efficiency Committee

Dated: December 14, 2024

German Valley Fire Protection District
P.O. BOX 46
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Decennial Committee Report

FILED - CO. CLERK

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