



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Tim
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Kelly
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
n/a
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Village of Breckenridge
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
104 E. Saginaw St P.O. Box 276 Breckenridge, MI 48615
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
Breckenridge-Wheeler Township Fire and Rescue Department
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Tim Kelly District 93
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.  
To construct a new fire hall.
9. Attach documents here if needed:  
Attachments added to the end of this file.
10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.  
1000000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Private","Local"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Local unit government

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Not applicable

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Not applicable

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Not applicable

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

n/a

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

FY 25/26

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes



## Breckenridge - Wheeler TWP. Fire & Rescue Dept.

513 E. Saginaw Street  
Breckenridge, MI 48615



March 19, 2025

Dear Local Business/Organization/Resident

I am writing to you on behalf of the Breckenridge-Wheeler Township Volunteer Fire-Rescue Department (BWTFRD).

In 2025, the Department will be constructing a new fire hall facility located in the Breckenridge Industrial Park, centrally located between Breckenridge and Wheeler.

The BWTFRD has obtained competitive bids from local contractors through a general contractor to construct the new stand-alone facility. This project is \$3,131,850.00. The department has set aside funds totaling approximately \$1,130,000.00 and approximately \$1,000,000.00 in additional funds from grants and donations. The department is looking to secure the remaining \$1,000,000.00 in funding through community donations and/or through a municipal bond with repayment terms.

Since 1948, the BWTFRD has proudly serviced Wheeler Township, the Village of Breckenridge, Porter Township, Emerson Township, Lafayette Township and Bethany Township. These service areas are in Gratiot and Midland Counties. Investing in our fire hall will, without a doubt, set our department up for a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable future.

On behalf of Breckenridge-Wheeler Township Fire and Rescue Department, we thank you for being a valued member of our community. This project is imperative to our community to continue to provide outstanding fire and rescue protection services in a safe, effective, and up to date facility.

We ask that you consider a tax deductible donation to the BWTFRD Fire Hall Project. We ask that all donations be communicated to the department by June 1, 2025. If you have any questions or desire detailed information on the project, please contact Bridget McPherson at [bridget@breckenridgemi.com](mailto:bridget@breckenridgemi.com) or 989-842-3109.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Westall".

Jeff Westall  
BWTFRD  
Fire-Rescue Chief of Operations  
989-941-5049



# Breckenridge - Wheeler TWP. Fire & Rescue Dept.

513 E. Saginaw Street  
Breckenridge, MI 48615



## *Breckenridge-Wheeler Township Volunteer Fire – Rescue Department*

The Listed Donation Amounts will be recognized with a donation plaque in the lobby of the new fire hall.

Donation Checks may be made out to: Breckenridge-Wheeler Twp Fire-Rescue Dept-Fire Hall Fund.

For more information on the Project please reach out to Jeff Westall, Fire Chief -989-941-5049, Bridget McPherson, Village of Breckenridge - 989-842-3109 or Maggie Cooper, Wheeler Township - 989-842-3428

### Donation Amount

### Donation Level

➤ \$250 - \$499

Bronze

➤ \$500-\$999

Silver

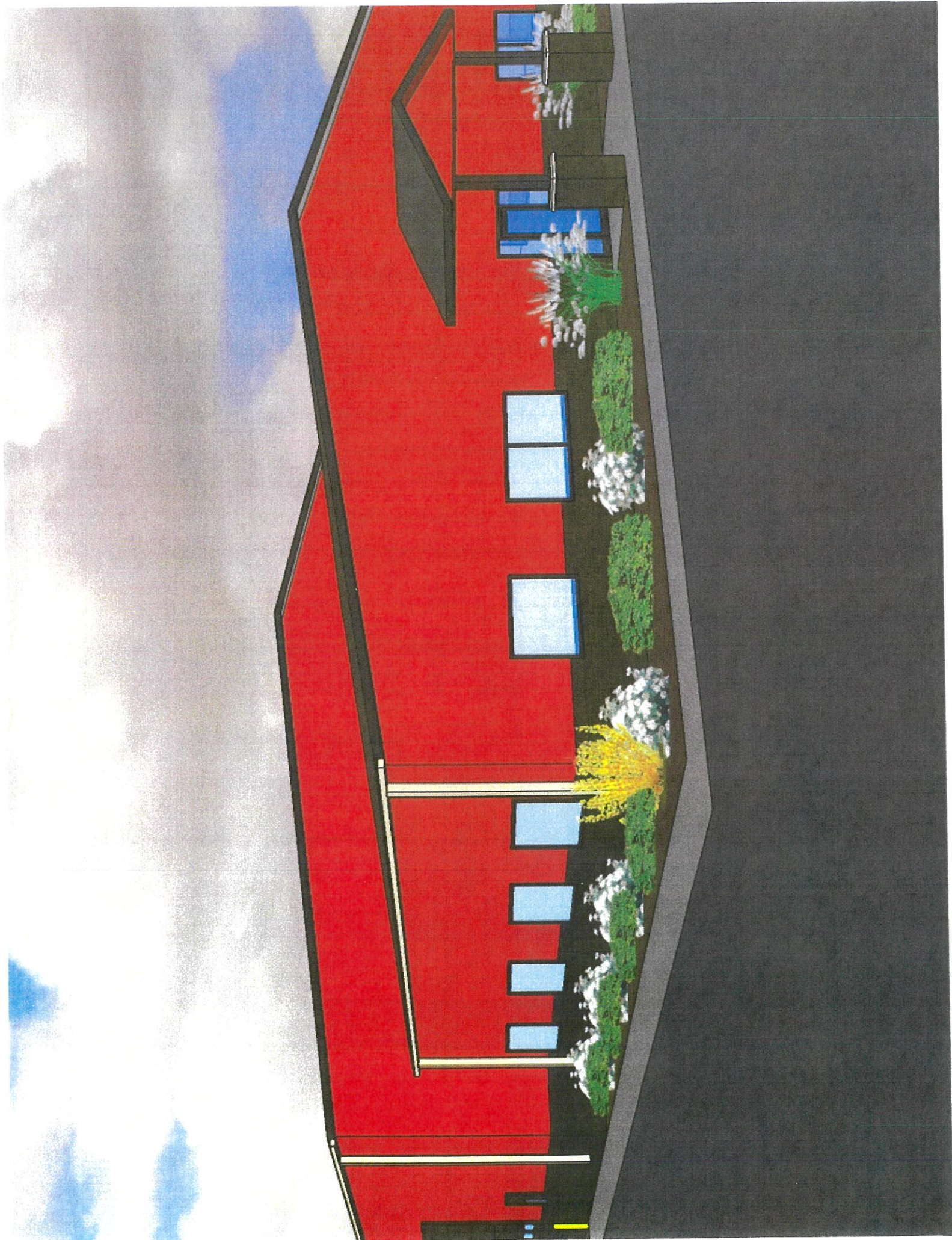
➤ \$1,000 - \$4,999

Gold

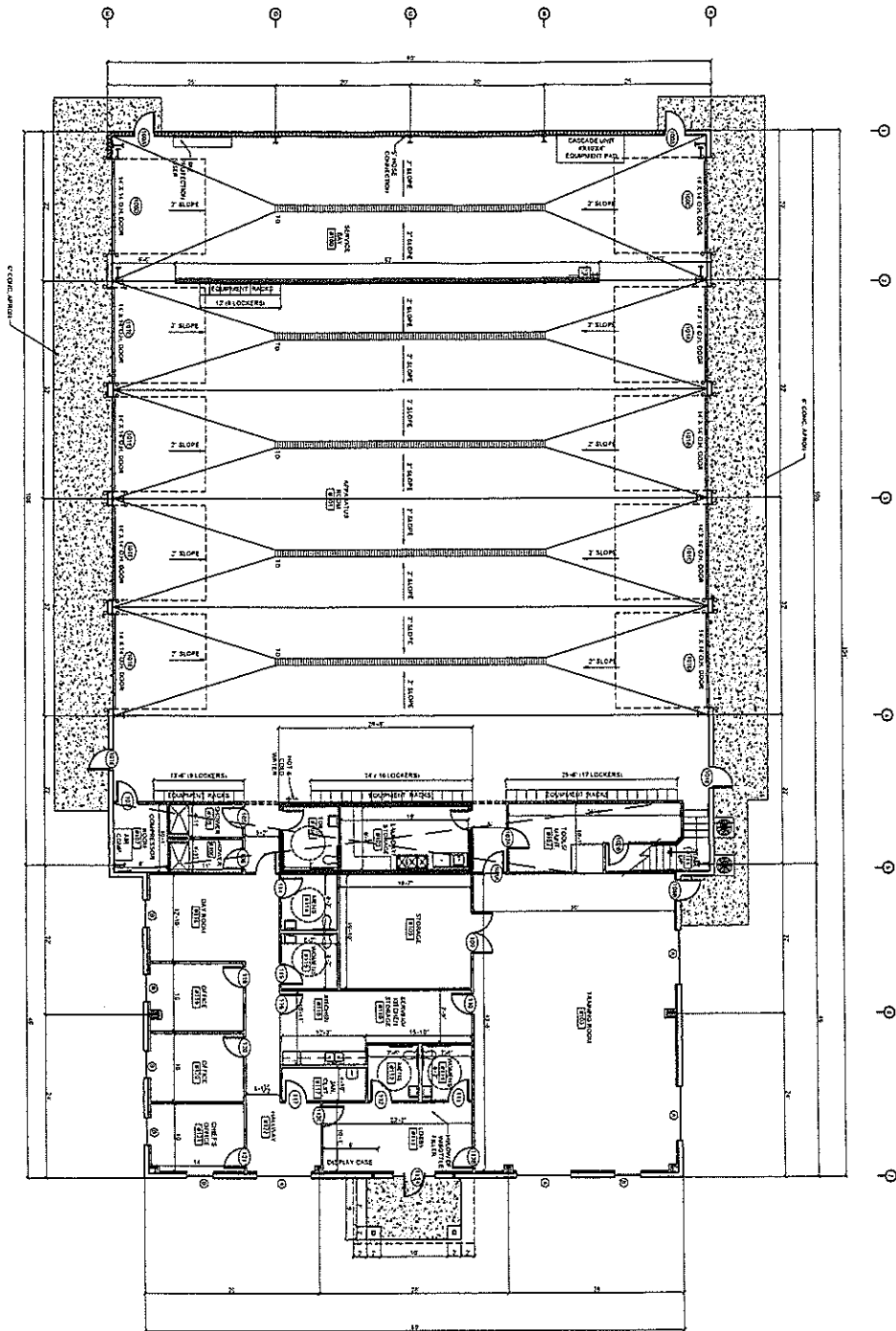
➤ \$5,000 - +

Platinum

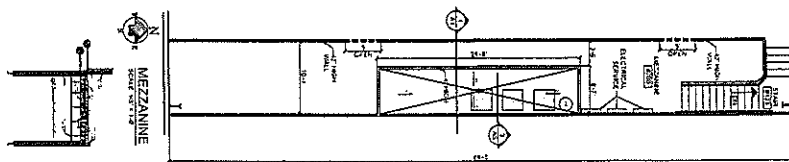








FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



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**JBS Contracting Inc.**

1000 N. W. 10th Ave.  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304  
407.771.7771

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL  
CONSTRUCTION

**BRECKENRIDGE  
FIRE DEPT.**

501 CKI RIDGE, MICHIGAN 48615

JOB NUMBER:  
DRAWING: FLOOR PLAN  
DRAWN BY: JFS  
REVIEWED BY:  
FIELD SUPERVISOR:  
DATE: 1-4-24



## Breckenridge - Wheeler TWP. Fire & Rescue Dept.

513 E. Saginaw Street  
Breckenridge, MI 48615



October 11, 2024

Dear Local Business/Organization

I am writing to you on behalf of the Breckenridge-Wheeler Township Volunteer Fire-Rescue Department (BWTFRD).

The current fire hall is over capacity and outdated with the original structure dating back to the 1980's. The fireboard along with members of the department have been reviewing plans of remodeling the existing fire hall that is aging, non-compliant and in need of additional truck space. The existing fire hall requires upgrades to the ventilation system, restrooms, and facilities to accommodate male and female officers. A decontamination area, as well as more truck space to accommodate the existing fleet of fire and safety vehicles, are much needed space for safety and maintenance.

The fireboard has been reviewing plans and cost estimates of upgrades to the existing fire hall. The conclusion has been made that it will be more beneficial and cost effective for the BWTFRD to build a new facility in the Breckenridge Industrial Park. The BWTFRD has received a cost estimate from JBS Contracting for completion of the new stand-alone facility. This estimate is approximately \$3,000,000.00. The department has set aside funds totaling approximately \$1,000,000.00. The department has written several grants to help with the remaining \$2,000,000.00, but none have been confirmed to date.

The BWTFRD services Wheeler Township, the Village of Breckenridge, Porter Township, Emerson Township, Lafayette Township and Bethany Township. These service areas are in Gratiot and Midland Counties. During the COVID-19 pandemic, our first responders were and always have been a vital resource to our community. Investing in our fire hall will, without a doubt, set our department up for a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable future.

On behalf of Breckenridge-Wheeler Township Fire and Rescue Department, we thank you for being a valued member of our community. This project is imperative to our community to continue to provide outstanding fire and rescue protection services in a safe, effective, and up to date facility.

We ask that you consider a tax deductible donation to the BWTFRD Fire Hall Project. If you have any questions or desire detailed information on the project, please contact Bridget McPherson at [bridget@breckenridgemi.com](mailto:bridget@breckenridgemi.com) or 989-842-3109.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Westall'.

Jeff Westall  
BWTFRD

Fire-Rescue Chief of Operations

989-941-5049



## Breckenridge - Wheeler TWP. Fire & Rescue Dept.

513 E. Saginaw Street  
Breckenridge, MI 48615



September 18, 2024

This letter is a request for funding for the Breckenridge-Wheeler Township Fire and Rescue Department (BWTFRD). The funding request is for the construction of a new fire hall in the amount of \$3,250,000.

The current fire hall is over capacity and outdated with the original structure dating back to the 1980's. The fireboard along with members of the department have been reviewing plans of remodeling the existing fire hall that is aging, non-compliant and in need of additional truck space. The existing fire hall requires upgrades to the ventilation system, restrooms, and facilities to accommodate male and female officers. A decontamination area, as well as more truck space to accommodate the existing fleet of fire and safety vehicles, are much needed space for safety and maintenance.

The fireboard has been reviewing plans and cost estimates of upgrades to the existing fire hall. The conclusion has been made that it will be more beneficial and cost effective for the BWTFRD to build a new facility in the Breckenridge Industrial Park. The BWTFRD has received a cost estimate from JBS Contracting for completion of the new stand-alone facility.

The BWTFRD services Wheeler Township, the Village of Breckenridge, Porter Township, Emerson Township, Lafayette Township and Bethany Township. These service areas are in Gratiot and Midland Counties. During the COVID-19 pandemic, our first responders were and always have been a vital resource to our community. Investing in our fire hall will, without a doubt, set our department up for a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable future.

On behalf of Breckenridge-Wheeler Township Fire and Rescue Department, we thank you for your service. We ask that you consider funding the new fire hall facility. This project will benefit the townships we service for years to come. This project is imperative to our community to continue to provide outstanding fire and rescue protection services in a safe, effective, and up to date facility.

If you have any questions or desire more detailed information on the project, please contact Bridget McPherson, Financial Administrator, [bridget@breckenridgemi.com](mailto:bridget@breckenridgemi.com) or 989-842-3109.

Sincerely,

Charles D. Seeley  
Board Chairman

Neil Jenkins  
Board Vice-Chairman

Maggie Cooper  
Board Treasurer

Nan Clapp  
Board Secretary

Glan Humm  
Board Member





Jerome Rohde  
Supervisor  
jerry@wheelertownship.com

Kelly A. Bushre  
Clerk  
kelly@wheelertownship.com

Marguerite Cooper  
Treasurer  
treasure@wheelertownship.com

Neil Jenkins  
Trustee

Brian Goward  
Trustee

Office

Phone  
989.842.3428

Fax  
989.842.5978

Website  
www.wheelertownship.com

Wheeler  
ship  
Estab-  
**1861**



Town-  
lished in

July 30, 2024

3

Re: Letter in support of Breckenridge/Wheeler Fire/Rescue Department.

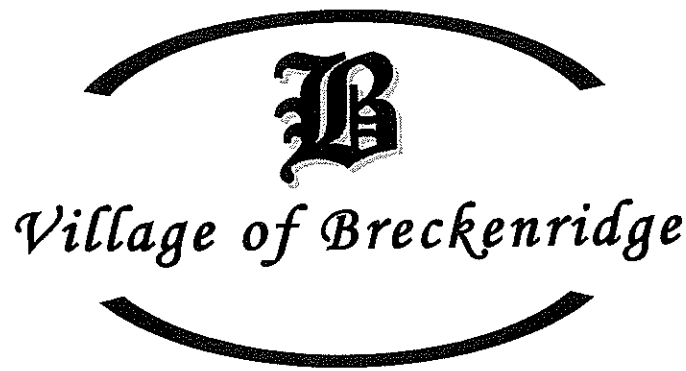
To: Whom it may concern.

Wheeler Township and the Village of Breckenridge owns and operates a Fire /Rescue Department that provides Fire/Rescue services to all residents in the Township of Wheeler and four outlying Townships in Gratiot and Midland Counties. Our Fire /Rescue Department is rated as one of the highest in the State. The Fire/Rescue Department is a Volunteer Group comprised of about 30 Firefighters and 6 to 8 Rescue Personnel. We have a five member Board that oversees the operation of the Department. Our Fire/Rescue Department is financed and operated and through local tax millage and through the financial support from the outlying Townships we serve,. Revenue from these sources usually covers most of our operational and equipment cost. We are hoping to build a new fire hall to better accommodate all of our vehicles and equipment and provide additional space for training our current and new personnel. At this time, our Fire/Rescue Department is in need of your financial support and is hoping for a Grant from your Foundation to help us with this project.. Wheeler Township's Fire/Rescue Department would appreciate this help you can provide it to us.

As Township Supervisor for Wheeler Township I am glad we can provide Fire/Rescue Services to our Residents and I am proud to be a part of this operation.

With Best Regards

Jerome Rohde  
Wheeler Township Supervisor



August 19, 2024

RE: Breckenridge/Wheeler Fire and Rescue Department

To Whom It Concerns:

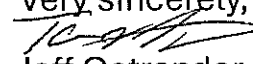
I write to you in support of the BWFRD and their efforts to build a new fire/rescue hall. BWFRD, because of its unique location, provides fire and rescue services and stand-by support for Gratiot, Midland, Saginaw and Issabella Counties. With State-of-the-art equipment and 30 highly trained volunteers the department provides services to thousands of people and millions of dollars' worth of property.

With the growing changes to alternative energy companies and larger farming operations in the BWFRD district, their trucks and equipment have become much larger. The current hall has reached, "beyond maximum capacity".

After exploring all possible options to retrofit and remodel the current facility, it has become apparent that the most economical solution is to build a new hall.

The BWFRD has partnered with JBS Construction for project management, consulting and design to help facilitate this process. With an emphasis on modest, cost, size, and design, BWFRD is ready to embark on the next chapter of fire and rescue services for this area of Mid-Michigan.

As the Manager of the Village of Breckenridge I fully endorse these efforts and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Very sincerely,  
  
Jeff Ostrander  
Village Manager



# Wheeler Township

---

8510 E. Monroe Rd.  
Wheeler, MI 48662  
989-842-3428

August 21, 2024

To whom it may concern,

My name is Maggie Cooper. I am currently the Treasurer of Wheeler Township. I also serve on the Fire board for the Breckenridge/Wheeler Twp. Fire/Rescue Department and share Financial Administration duties for the Dept. with Bridget McPherson from the Village of Breckenridge.

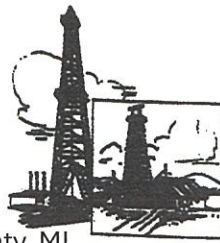
I am writing to indicate my support for the BWTFRD and request your help with our plans to build a new Firehall. Our current Firehall was built in 1984 and with the increased size and amount of equipment required to adequately serve our residents, we are in need of a bigger building. Some of our equipment is currently being stored outside. It was decided that it was more cost efficient to build a new building, rather than expand and renovate the existing building. We are working with JBS Contracting for the project. They have built other firehalls in the area, including for the St. Louis Fire Department.

BWTFRD serves multiple Townships in both Gratiot and Midland Counties. And we also provide mutual aid to other departments whenever we are needed.

We would greatly appreciate being considered for any assistance you could provide to help us better serve the residents of our communities.

Thank you,

Maggie Cooper  
Treasurer-Wheeler Twp.  
Financial Admin-BWTFRD



## PORTER TOWNSHIP MIDLAND COUNTY

Porter Township, Midland County, MI  
August 3, 2024

RE: BRECKENRIDGE-WHEELER TOWNSHIP FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT (BWTRFD)

As a small rural township, Porter Township, Midland County, does not have a large enough tax base to be able to independently afford to run a municipal fire and rescue department. It is because of this we depend on the BWTRFD to protect our little over 1,100 residents (approximately 430 households).

Our township borders Gratiot County along the south side and our next closest option for fire/rescue support lies in Lee Township to the north. Because two of our area rivers cross horizontally between the Lee Township Fire Station and most of our township, the response time from their location is not ideal for many of the residents. We rely on BWTRFD to be able to quickly get to the site of the fire/accident as they have in the past.


We have had a great working relationship with Breckenridge/ Wheeler, Fire/Rescue and plan to continue to count on and support them.

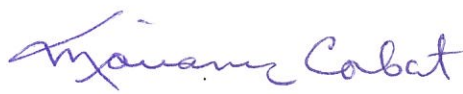
With equipment and operation costs increasing yearly, understandably our standby fee for fire and rescue coverage has increased and the board made the difficult decision to go to our residents to ask for, and hopefully pass, a 1 mill increase in property tax to cover this standby fee. If this millage does not pass the board may have to impose a special assessment to cover these costs. Still, these options are far less expensive for our residents then starting our own fire and rescue station. We need to be especially conscientious of increases to the cost of our residents because approximately 10 percent of our senior residents are already considered at the poverty level of income.

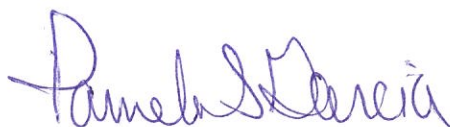
We understand how important it is for equipment to be upgrade for the safety of the first responders we count on when we need them. It is critical to be in compliance with all the ever-changing technologies needed to keep the public safe. We hope you will consider granting funds to the Breckenridge-Wheeler Township Fire and Rescue Department to help sustain a robust public safety program.

Sincerely,

The Porter Township Board

  
Tom Corbat, Supervisor

  
Marianne Corbat, Clerk

  
Pamela Garcia, Treasurer

  
Nancy McCallum, Trustee

Duane Wayer, Trustee



AUG 10TH 2024

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

MY NAME IS NEIL C. JENKINS, A LIFE TIME RESIDENT OF WHEELER TWP. I HAVE SERVED MY COMMUNITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMM. TRUSTEE ON THE WHEELER TWP BOARD AND HAVE BEEN ON THE FIRE BOARD AS CO-CHAIRMAN.

THE TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OWN AND OPERATE A FIRE/RESCUE DEPT. THAT PROVIDES A MUCH NEEDED SERVICE TO OUR TOWNSHIP.

OUR FIRE/RESCUE DEPT. IS FINANCED AND OPERATED THROUGH LOCAL TAX MILLAGE AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM OUTLYING TOWNSHIPS THAT WE PROVIDE SERVICE TO. AS TIME PROGRESSES AND OUR EQUIPMENT GET BIGGER, WE ARE IN NEED OF A LARGER FIRE HALL THAT WILL BETTER ACCOMMODATE ALL OF OUR VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR TRAINING OUR CURRENT & FUTURE PERSONNEL. OUR REVENUE USUALLY COVERS MOST OF OUR OPERATIONAL AND EQUIPMENT COST. AT THIS TIME WE ARE IN NEED OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR OUR NEW VISION AND ARE HOPING FOR A GRANT FROM YOUR FOUNDATION TO HELP WITH THIS PROJECT.

AS A MEMBER OF THIS GREAT FIRE/RESCUE  
DEPT. I AM PROUD TO BE A PART IN PROVIDING  
THIS SERVICE TO OUR TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS.

ANY SUPPORT THAT YOUR FOUNDATION CAN PROVIDE  
WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

THANKS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION,

Phil C. Jenkins

Breckenridge-Wheeler Township  
Fire-Rescue Department

2025 Fire Hall Project

Total Project Cost	3,131,850	as January 15	
Restricted CD Funds	1,546,131	committed	
Sale of Current Hall/Property	350,000	committed	
Rollin Gerstacker	50,000	committed	12/10/2024- Received letter
Charles Strosacker	150,000	potential	Due by April 1st - Award in May
Gratiot County Community Foundation	7,117	committed	Final Report Due 3/4/2026
AgroLiquid/Liquid Cares Grant	10,000	committed	Submitted ACH information 4/16/25
Local Private Donations	14,688	committed	
	<u>1,003,914</u>	remainder needed	

Breckenridge - Wheeler  
Fire-Rescue Department

2025 Fire Hall Project

Income/Funding	Status
Department Funds	1,546,131 committed
Sale of Current Hall/Property	350,000 committed
Rollin Gerstacker	50,000 committed
Charles Strostacker	150,000 potential
Gratiot County Community Foundation	7,117 committed
AgroLiquid/Liquid Cares Grant	10,000 committed
Local/Private Donations	14,688 committed
State Budget Earmark/Bond Financing	<u>1,003,914 potential</u>
<b>Total Income/Funding</b>	<b><u><u>3,131,850</u></u></b>

**Project Expense**

General Conditions	159,875
Sitework	865,134
General Construction	1,017,969
HVAC/Plumbing/Electrical	624,271
Other Furnishings	246,100
Construction Management	<u>218,501</u>
<b>Total Project Expense</b>	<b><u><u>3,131,850</u></u></b>