To: Members of the Board of Trustees of Walnut Creek Fire Protection District

From: Charles E. Hostetter, District Attorney

Issues:

1. Whether regular district meetings can be held at a location that is closer to Bainbridge and Clinton Township.
2. Whether the website hosting fee will continue to be paid to Nup Media.
3. Who would be responsible for making documents available to the public if the website was not retained.

Response:

1. I have found no prohibition in the law or in our contracts that legally prohibit choosing another location for meetings. Either way continued compliance with the Indiana Open Door Law and its live stream requirement must continue for WCFPD. Practical issues could arise. One is the installation of new hardware at a new location. At present the hardware is owned by all 3 districts. If a new website would be needed that would be a cost for WCFPD and, because of the contract, would not eliminate WCFPD's duty to pay for the Floyd Township installed equipment.
2. See the answer to #1.
3. The District would, by the law imposed, still be responsible for making documents available thereby potentially increasing the Secretary/Treasurer's workload and needed manpower and causing additional expense(s) to the District.
4. There is no legal impediment to the two departments combining. If they are both S-Corporations or LLC's there would be a legal process mandatory to merge them or for one to join the other and use the proper Walnut Creek Fire Department name. I have prepared a new fire district contract for 2026. We (or they) need to resolve the issues of how to handle assets and out-of-pocket costs. Have these costs been tabulated?