

Wheeling Fire  
Department  
Constitution and  
Bylaws

Sept. 30, 1896

The Working of the Department

to the Secretary of the Department

to the Minister

— 1896. —

# The Wheeling Fire Department Constitution and Bylaws.

Adopted Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> 1896.

## Order of Business.

1. Roll call
2. Reading minutes of previous meeting
3. Hearing excuses of absentees.
4. Reports of Committees.
5. Miscellaneous Business.
6. Adjournment.

## Fire Bell Signals

- a To indicate the following:
- Regular or special meetings - ringing of bell and three strikes of alarm hammer
  - Company practice - ringing of bell and five strikes of alarm hammer
  - Fire alarm - continuous, fast rapping of the bell, then signal for the division of the Village
- B. To indicate the division of the Village:
- (1) From the southern line to crossing of Mr. E. Wagner's residence - ringing of bell and one strike of alarm hammer;



of each company shall assist the  
 Foreman in the discharge of his duties  
 and in his absence take his place.  
 The Secretary shall be present at all  
 the meetings of the department and record  
 the proceedings in a book provided for  
 that purpose.

Article V

Meetings  
 There shall be an annual meeting of the  
 department held on the last Monday of  
 in April of each year for the election of  
 our five members, the first assistant five  
 members and the second assistant five  
 members, and the appointment of the  
 Foreman, Assistant Foreman and  
 members of each company. Each member  
 of the department shall be entitled to  
 one vote and a majority of all the votes  
 cast shall be required to elect the first  
 three (5) officers above named. Quarterly  
 meetings may be held on the second Monday  
 in January, April, July & October, and  
 special meetings on the last of the first-  
 members, as often as the interests of the  
 department seem to require.

Article VI

Attentions

This Constitution may be altered or amended  
 by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the

Department at any regular meeting  
 thereof, by a resolution in writing, which  
 resolution shall be referred to a committee  
 of three (3) members, and that the vote  
 of the regular meeting before being acted  
 upon.

By-Laws

1. Notice of regular and special meetings  
 of the department shall be given by the  
 five members or in his absence, by the  
 first or second assistant five members,  
 by giving the respective signs with the  
 address in manner.  
 2. All officers of the department shall  
 be held amenable to the department  
 for the faithful discharge of their  
 duties, and, if proven in any matter,  
 may be removed from office by a reso-  
 lution of that effect, signed by two-thirds  
 of the members, and presented at any  
 regular meeting. And at that meeting  
 another officer shall be elected or  
 appointed to take the place of the one  
 so removed.  
 3. Each officer of the department shall  
 be entitled to a key to the engine house,  
 and shall deliver the same to him  
 whenever on office.

4. Upon every alarm of fire each member shall immediately repair to the engine house and put on his fire suit, after which he shall proceed to the fire with the fire extinguishing apparatus and in the absence of the fire marshal and his assistants, the member shall arrive at the engine house shall have performed until the arrival of the fire marshal and until the alarm of fire.
5. Any member who shall appear at any meeting of the department, or at any fire investigation, shall be subject to all of the above provisions.
6. At all times or regular meetings, after the election of officers, two (2) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Any member appearing to obey the orders of the officers on duty, or in any way interfering with their duties by giving orders, or otherwise, shall be immediately stricken from the roll by the fire marshal.
7. The fire marshal shall from time to time, at least once every month, carefully inspect the entire fire apparatus, to be sure that every part is in a clean, working condition and ready for instant use, and

8. The officers and members of the fire department accept the foregoing constitution as by-laws and the following are the officers and members of the fire department, to-wit:
    - Fire Marshal: [Name]
    - Fire Captain: [Name]
    - Fire Lieutenant: [Name]
    - Fire Engine Driver: [Name]
    - Fire Hookman: [Name]
    - Fire Hoseman: [Name]
    - Fire Stoker: [Name]
    - Fire Watchman: [Name]
    - Fire Alarm Bellman: [Name]
    - Fire Engine Tender: [Name]
    - Fire Hoseman: [Name]
    - Fire Stoker: [Name]
    - Fire Watchman: [Name]
    - Fire Alarm Bellman: [Name]
    - Fire Engine Tender: [Name]
  9. Any member who shall be guilty of using profane or obscene language to any officer or member while in session, or on duty, or of using profanity, or of neglect of duty, shall be subject to expulsion by a two-thirds vote of the members present, or at any regular meeting of the department.
  10. Each member is advised to acquaint himself, by study and practice, with every detail of the work, in order that in every emergency his services be available and efficient.
  11. These by-laws may be altered or amended by a resolution passed at any regular meeting, subject to the approval of the members of the committee of three members and shall be on the regular meeting. It shall be the duty of the members present to vote in the affirmative, it shall be adopted and become a part of these by-laws.
- The officers and members of the fire department accept the foregoing constitution as by-laws and the following are the officers and members of the fire department, to-wit:

Names:

Christ, F. Metz, - Fire Marshal  
 J. A. Schminke, Asst. Fire Marshal  
 F. Forke, Second Asst Fire Marshal  
 W. R. Munderke, Secretary  
 W. Riewig - Foreman of Co. No. 1.  
 Wm. Farsbender - Foreman of Co. No. 2.  
 Tony Behm, - Foreman of Co. No. 3.

Officers  
1896-97

W. M. Brandt, L. Koebelin, John Stryker  
 Christ. Rollebach, Gotthart Loepfert  
 Herman Kaiser, Wm Metz, Joseph Killion  
 Wilhelm Holz, Henry Kipp, Emil Signatt  
 Chas. Johnson, Jacob Schwingel M. W.  
 Kuttel.

Members  
1896-97

Emil Signatt, John W. Atting  
 H. A. Rinz, R. Schmeider  
 Henry Lips, Adolph Herrmann  
 Am. J. Brown, Fritz Pfeiffer  
 B. F. Stryker

Substitutes

# Minutes.

Village of Wheeling

Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> 1896.

The Wheeling Fire Department met upon the call of the Fire Marshal.

A constitution & By-laws, were presented, read and unanimously adopted, the officers and members of the department signing their names.

Upon motion of Mr. J. A. Schminke, seconded by Mr. Jacob Schwinzel the department ordered the secretary to cause fifty (50) or more copies of the constitution & By-laws to be printed for distribution among officers & members.

The following division and appointments were made:

1. Division = Engine

Mr. Rieswig - Foreman, - W. Brandt. Asst.

2. Division = Pump & Supply Cart.

Wm Fassbender - Foreman - G. Koebel. Asst.

3. Division = Ladder Truck & Hooks

Tony Behm, Foreman; - J. Stryker. Asst.

Members were assigned as follows:

J. P. Haysam = Engine

Emil Sigwalt

J. Jarnak

W. A. Benz

Chr. Wendling

= Pump & Supply Cart.





Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1898

Upon call of the Chief Fire Marshal the W. F. D. met in the Village Hall at 8 o'clock p.m. The object of the meeting, as stated by the Chairman, was to consider the advisability of arranging for a harvesters picnic. The matter was fully discussed upon motion of Mr. Henry Stepp, seconded by Mr. Reinhold Schneider, it was resolved to vote by ballot, whether to hold a picnic or not. It was so voted; the result was no picnic.

Adjourned sine die.  
W. R. Munnshenke Sec.

Oct. 14, 1898

The Whelling Fire Department met in the Village Hall at 8 o'clock p.m. The Chief Fire Marshal presided upon roll-call the following members were present: - Wm. Brandt, Tony Behm, Wm. J. Brown, Frank Forke, Henry Stepp Jr., Herman Kaiser, Adolph Leuschner, Henry Lips, W. R. Munnshenke, B. J. Stryker, J. Stryker, A. Schuissler, C. F. Metz, Chr. Hollendash, Joe Killian, Fr. Pfeiffer.

The minutes of the meetings held Jul. 15 '98 and Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> '98 were read and approved.

The matter of disposing of the dancing floor or putting the same intact was brought up and fully discussed.

Mr. Frank Forke moved, seconded by Mr. Wm. Brandt that said floor remain and that it be oiled. The motion carried.

Upon motion of Mr. Frank Forke, seconded by Mr. Wm. Brandt, it was ordered that the Dept. turn out for practice on Saturday Oct. 29 '98 - rain or shine.

Adjourned sine die.  
Attest: W. R. Munnshenke Sec.

April 24<sup>th</sup> 1899

The Whelling Fire Department met in the Village Hall at 8 o'clock p.m. Mr. ~~Henry Stepp~~ <sup>Wm. Brandt</sup> 1st Assistant Chief Marshal occupied the Chair in place of Mr. C. F. Metz, Chief Fire Marshal, deceased. A quorum being present, the object of the meeting was announced to be the election of officers and appointment of Doormen.

The election of officers is as follows:

Henry Lips, Chief Fire Marshal.  
Frank Forke, 1st Assistant Fire Marshal  
Tony Behm, 2<sup>nd</sup> " " "

W. R. Munnshenke, Secretary  
Herman Kaiser, Treasurer.

Upon motion of Mr. J. Schuissler the Department voted to donate the secretary \$500 for his services of the last year. The donation was made and accepted with thanks. The Department took a recess.

Whelking, Ill. Dec. 10. 1906.

The Whelking Vol. Fire Dept. met at a regular monthly meeting in the Village Hall at 8 P.M. The chief in the chair. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance in the treasury Dec. 10. of \$129.69. Report was accepted. The dept. discussed the proposition of keeping a dance. Mr. Jay B. J. Stricker, Sec. by C. Meyer that the dept. give a dance, providing they can make satisfactory arrangements for fair prizes. Carried. The chief appointed Anton Von Hermann, C. Meyer & Geo. Dicka as a committee, to see what arrangements they can make with the various hotel keepers to report to the dept. Mon. the 17th at 8 P.M. meeting adjourned. R. Schmitz Sec.

Whelking, Ill. Dec. 17. 1906. The Whelking Vol. Fire Dept. met at a special meeting in the Village Hall at 7:30 P.M. The object of the meeting was to hear the report of the dance committee. Mr. A. Von Hermann, chairman of the

Whelking, Ill. Sept. 17. 1906.

The Whelking Vol. Fire Dept. met at a regular meeting in the Village Hall at 8 P.M. the chief in the chair. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance in the treasury of \$132.79. The chief advised buying new lanterns. The chief also gave night the 1st for company practice at 6 o'clock. Adjourned. R. Schmitz Sec.

Whelking, Ill. Oct. 8. 1906.

The Whelking Vol. Fire Dept. met at its regular monthly meeting in the Village Hall at 8 P.M. The chief being absent, Mr. Knueger took his place. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Mr. Anton Von Hermann, John Kol & Fred Dickmer made applications for membership in the dept. Mr. by Geo. Dicka, Sec. by Mr. Kol that the applicants be accepted as members of the dept. The coat chief set Mon. the 15 for practice at 7:30 P.M. Adjourned. R. Schmitz Sec.