

**Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting held September 22, 2015**

Call to Order

Supervisor Popp called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, Michigan.

Roll Call of Board Members

Board members present: Benak, Goss, Hubbell, Lawson, Popp

Board members absent: None

Others present: MMR Director of Operations Matt Holtcamp and 6 others

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

No adjustments.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Comment

None

Correspondence

Benak inquired whether it looks like Green Lake is going to change their opinion concerning leaving Rural Fire.

Brief discussion followed.

Goss referred to the letter from Steve Mangus regarding video recording of meetings and requested this matter be put on a future agenda.

Goss also referred to the letter from Kim Mangus regarding approval of the draft master plan by the Planning Commission and requested this matter be put on a future agenda.

Public Hearing

None

Reports/Presentations

None

Unfinished Business**Review Ordinance 22 Pension Plan**

The board had no questions on this agenda item.

Review Whitewater Township Planning & Zoning Fees

The board had no questions on this agenda item.

New Business**WESA Request to Use Ambulance/Fire Station for Annual Halloween Event and Closure of Old M-72**

Motion by Benak, seconded by Lawson, to support the WESA request for use of the ambulance/fire station. Brief discussion followed. **Roll call vote: Benak, yes; Goss, yes; Hubbell, yes; Lawson, yes; Popp, yes. Motion carried.**

Resolution #15-15 Adoption of Grand Traverse County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan 2015

Popp apologized for this agenda item. Gregg Bird (Grand Traverse County Emergency Management) requested it be put on our agenda.

Discussion followed.

There is no support for the resolution. There is consensus that Whitewater Township needs its own emergency operations plan.

Resolution #15-16 Request for State Disaster Contingency Fund Grant

Popp noted this resolution will allow the clerk and the supervisor to petition the state for grant money to make repairs to public land damaged in the August 2 natural disaster.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Popp, seconded by Lawson, to adopt Resolution #15-16 Request for State Disaster Contingency Fund Grant. There was no further discussion. **Roll call vote: Hubbell, yes; Lawson, yes; Popp, yes; Benak, yes; Goss, yes. Motion carried.**

Draft Ambulance Contract (as presented by Attorney Fahey)

Popp invited questions or comments on Fahey's document.

Goss stated she did a word-for-word comparison on the Ambulance Service Agreement only. Fahey added some things, reworded some things. Goss stated she does not have a problem with any of it, but it will be up to the attorneys to negotiate it.

Referring to Page 1, under Designation of ALS/BLS Provider, Popp would like to put a period after "ALS."

Goss noted MMR will be providing BLS as well.

Popp stated MMR may not be the township's sole provider of non-emergent ambulance service, stating there may be other people, for example, disabled vets who get rides from their unit.

Discussion followed.

Holtcamp stated they are not building any model around doing any non-emergent business here at all. This is all pre-hospital 911 coverage. He stated he does not have a problem striking “non-emergent” from the sentence.

Referring to B under Section II, Popp asked what the time frame is for this no-compete clause.

Brief discussion followed, with board comments indicating the time frame would be for the length of this agreement.

Referring to Page 2, Section III-A, Popp originally stated he would eliminate the “emergency and non-emergency care service” language, but then modified it to eliminate only the “non-emergency care services” language.

Brief discussion followed, with board comments indicating this paragraph does not state that MMR is the sole provider of non-emergency care services.

Referring to Section IV, Service District and Mutual Aid, and the language “MMR agrees to honor the terms of existing mutual aid agreements,” Holtcamp stated he would have to see what the existing mutual aid agreements are.

Goss agreed to provide those agreements to Holtcamp.

Referring to Page 6, Section XV Default, Popp noted he does not want to leave our successors in a default situation.

Brief discussion followed, with comments indicating that the document spells out in Section VI Subsidy what would happen in the event of nonpayment of the subsidy.

Referring to Page 7, Section XX Term, Popp would like the contract term to end in 2017, the same year the ambulance millage will be up for renewal.

Brief discussion followed, with other board members indicating they agree with a five-year contract.

Referring to the same paragraph, Popp would like to remove the reference to automatic renewal of the contract.

Brief discussion followed, with other board members indicating they agree with the automatic renewal language.

Moving on to the Real Estate Lease Agreement, Popp noted the address of the leased premises is wrong.

Goss stated it should be changed to 8380 Old M-72. Goss also noted that under paragraph 3a, Base Rent, rent checks should be sent to P.O. Box 159, Williamsburg. Goss would prefer to strike the words “at the above address.”

Holtcamp noted they typically pay an entire fiscal year's rent at one time. Partial years would be prorated.

Referring to Page 10, paragraph 5, the last sentence, Benak confirmed that there are no property taxes at 8380 Old M-72.

Brief discussion followed.

Referring to Page 12, at the bottom, Goss noted that it calls for a legal description of the premises to be attached. There should also be a diagram of the space MMR will be using.

Moving to the Motor Vehicle Lease Agreement, under Section 1, Popp would like to change the exhibit label from Exhibit 1 to perhaps MV-1, to avoid duplication with Real Estate Lease Agreement Exhibit 1.

Popp also noted there was no ambulance replacement cost in the agreement.

Goss pointed out Section 23 Equipment.

Referring to Page 16, Miscellaneous, paragraph 22b, Goss noted the language "running with the land" may not be appropriate in this agreement. The same language appears on Page 12, Miscellaneous, paragraph 17b, in the Real Estate Lease Agreement. She will bring it to Fahey's attention.

Also under Miscellaneous, paragraph 22c, of the Motor Vehicle Lease Agreement, Goss questioned the language which says "provisions or provisions" This language also appears in the Real Estate Lease Agreement.

Goss noted she will provide the year, make, model, and VIN numbers of the vehicles.

Popp stated an inventory list of hardware should also be provided.

Brief discussion followed.

A joint inventory will be done after the contracts are signed.

Brief discussion followed, with comments indicating the two attorneys will now hash out the agreements. It is hoped that final documents will be ready for the October 13 meeting.

Storm-Related Discussion – Possible Section 19 Funding

Popp noted this agenda item should have come before Resolution #15-16; we have already had this discussion.

Draft Audit Review/Discussion

Popp stated he has questions for the auditors.

Benak stated she has questions for them about the amount of money in certain banks and will come back to the board about purchasing insurance for the money.

Regarding the special assessments, Benak believes an independent audit should be done. She cited a flaw in the special assessment program.

Brief discussion followed.

Popp stated he has 10 or 12 questions that he can forward to Lynn.

Rural Fire Budget Discussion

Popp stated what they believe is happening is that there will be five member townships moving forward as of session B of the alternative dispute resolution meetings. Those townships are Grant, Union, Fife Lake, Springfield, Paradise, and Whitewater. Two budgets were developed, one by Chief Weber and accountant Dave Milliron and one by the Rural Fire board.

Lengthy discussion was held concerning the following:

- the budgets,
- a motion by Long Lake and Green Lake to depart, each station keeping the equipment in their station with no money exchanged, and dividing the cash on hand and cash from the sale of unwanted equipment,
- the upcoming expiration of the chief's contract,
- general discussion, including comments from the audience.

Consensus was reached that the Whitewater Township Board agrees with raising the amount of levy to the townships.

Ambulance Housing

Popp inquired if it is time to begin development of the 11 acres.

Lengthy discussion was held on the following topics:

- working with the tribe,
- request from Benak for a survey to see what the citizens want to do,
- the attempted agreement with the tribe,
- an ambulance facility on fire land,
- the town hall meeting in June 2014,
- placement of a portable building at the current EMS building,
- remodeling of the current EMS building,
- suggestion of purchasing a house and erecting a pole barn.

Consensus was reached that the supervisor will look into the cost of a temporary portable building.

Tabled Items**Review Administrative Policy Section 5 (tabled 10/14/2014)**

Not discussed.

Review Graded Wage Scale (tabled 04/14/2015)

Not discussed.

Rural Fire Station Lease (tabled 08/11/2015)

Not discussed.

Board Comments/Discussion

Goss stated she has brought up to the board Dawn Martin visiting the fire station on two occasions, one time for at least a half hour and leaving with a piece of paper in her hand. Goss is looking for an explanation of Martin's business at her former workplace and inquired whether any board member has information on these visits.

Lawson stated he does not know anything about it, and inquired if there is a policy for former employees.

Benak stated she does not know because she has not talked to her but has no problem with her stopping there.

Hubbell stated he has no knowledge other than what he has been told.

Popp stated he has not talked to Dawn since she left, so he has no knowledge, other than probably personal visits. Popp stated she may be trying to recruit people over to Kalkaska, which she is allowed to do.

Goss then stated she had a call from a gentleman last week who wanted to know about duck-hunting the shoreline of Battle Creek Natural Area. The sign for the beach has not been put up. Is there any objection?

Popp stated we agreed he would be accessing it by the water and would be on the water.

Hubbell stated he has no problem with it as long as he is on the water.

Lastly, Goss noted the park is ready to close on September 30. If anyone is interested in bags of ice, they can be purchased for \$1.05 per bag.

Announcements

The next board meeting is October 13.

Public Comment

Rod Kuncaitis, 6204 Elk Lake Road, stated the church, the school, and the Masonic Lodge have meeting rooms.

Adjournment

Motion by Hubbell, seconded by Lawson, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Goss
Whitewater Township Clerk