

**Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting held July 11, 2017**

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Popp called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, Michigan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Board Members

Board Members present: Goss, Lawson, Popp

Board Members absent: Benak, Hubbell

Others present: County Commissioner Carol Crawford

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

There were no adjustments.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Comment

None

Public Hearing

None

Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments

County Board of Commissioners Report

Carol Crawford gave the following report:

- At a meeting a couple weeks ago, they talked about the research the prosecutor and planner have done on the assets they hold. Unless it is a vacant lot on which nothing is happening, they cannot do anything. Recreation properties have to remain in recreation in perpetuity. Regarding the Pavilions, the building authority owns the building until the bonds are paid off. The DHHS board runs the Pavilions itself. The county board has no jurisdiction over anything that goes on over there; they cannot sell it. They cannot sell the Civic Center, except to the city. Peninsula Township is very interested in acquiring Power Island; the county may just give it to them to run. Twin Lakes and other parks properties are restricted to the point that the county can only do what they are currently doing. Regarding one piece of property off Keystone near the soccer fields, a necessary access easement made the property smaller. There was an interested party who wanted to buy it, but the parks department took it back and now has control over that piece of property.
- They decided not to go to the taxpayers for a millage to help with the pension debt. They felt that would take away the incentive to be a leaner government and to do better with the money they are already given. They will try to find efficiencies. A millage may be necessary later, but they should prove that they are better stewards with the money before

they ask for more. Bonding is still open. She is still not in favor of bonding, but is also not in favor of saying that they won't. She thinks that needs to be an option that is open.

- Next Wednesday they are interviewing three candidates for county administrator.

There was brief discussion of the pension issue.

County Road Commissioner Report – No one is present from the Road Commission.

Mobile Medical Response Report – No one is present from Mobile Medical Response.

Planning Commission Report

Lloyd Lawson reported that he was not able to attend the last meeting.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Report

Cheryl Goss gave the following report:

- The monthly meeting of the PRAC was last night, which Goss attended.
- Chuck Decker has prepared a Rotary Good Works grant request to try to recoup some money spent on the Hi Pray Park playground equipment. That will be submitted soon.
- There was discussion about getting the used playground equipment set up at Whitewater Township Park. Goss will be checking with a couple rangers to see what help they can offer and when. Josh Melton has the bearing for the merry-go-round and is looking into the cost of replacement. Goss hopes to get a quote from CRM soon for sandblasting and powder-coating of the merry-go-round.
- There was a lot of discussion of improvements that could be made at BCNA. The viewing platform called for in the BCNA Management Plan is not really an option right now because of no access to the water. The committee would like to get some directional signage, a couple benches, and a picnic table installed near the pond. There was discussion of moving the bench with Eagle Scout Alex Aseritis's name on it to the pond area. It is near the water currently, but this area is not accessible right now without great difficulty.
- In September or October, the committee is planning to walk the Lossie Road Nature Trail.
- The committee would like to purchase four benches for Hi Pray, one near the tennis courts, one near the basketball courts, and two near the new playground area.
- Chuck Decker has prepared a grant-writing checklist, which was briefly discussed.
- The committee would also like to put signs up marking the entrance to Lossie Road Nature Trail at both ends and one for Petobego Natural Area.

There was brief discussion of the incomplete trail to the water.

Consent Calendar

Receive and File

1. Supervisor's Report for June 2017
2. Clerk/Park & Recreation Administrator's Report for June/July 2017
3. Zoning Administrator's Report for June 2017 (no report)
4. Mobile Medical Response June 2017 Activity Reports

5. Grand Traverse Rural Fire Chief's Report June 2017
6. Approved 06/07/2017 Planning Commission Minutes

Correspondence

1. Grand Traverse County Sheriff Department Statistics for June 2017 and 2nd Quarter 2017 Totals
2. Grand Traverse Rural Fire Board 05/17/2017 Approved Minutes
3. Grand Traverse Rural Fire Board 05/24/2017 Approved Minutes
4. GTRFD Officers' Meeting Overview 06/07/2017
5. Letter 06/19/2017 Michigan Township Participating Plan Approving Dividend Distribution
6. Letter 06/19/2017 Charter Communications re: Changes to Channel Lineup
7. Springfield Township Resolution Approving Withdrawal from Rural Fire Department – Mailed to Clerk

Minutes

1. Recommend approval of 06/06/2017 and 06/12/2017 special meeting minutes and 06/13/2017 and 06/27/2017 regular meeting minutes

Bills for Approval

1. Approval of Alden State Bank vouchers # 41756 through 41835
2. Approval of First Community Bank Miami Beach voucher # 1190
3. Approval of First Community Bank WMDLS vouchers # (none)

Budget Amendments (none)

Revenue & Expenditure Report (none)

Motion by Lawson to approve the Consent Calendar as presented; second by Popp. There was no further discussion. **Roll call vote: Benak, absent; Goss, yes; Hubbell, absent; Lawson, yes; Popp, yes. Motion carried.**

Unfinished Business

Emergency Services Building Renovation/Addition Project

Goss reported the following:

- Mark Pressell provided three sets of signed and sealed plans to Richter Construction's office yesterday. Richter Construction is headed to the county for a building permit.
- The fire department has done a really nice job cleaning out the west end of the building. All the vehicles have been moved over to Hi Pray Park. Tim Arbenowske attended the pre-construction meeting last week, which was quite helpful because he was able to answer a number of questions about the building.
- Kal-Gas Propane set a tank today and Bridgeway converted the backup generator to propane in advance of the gas service being moved.
- Richter has asked if the township would like to have a groundbreaking ceremony once the construction phase begins. Goss will bring it up again with the full board present.

- Charter Communications moved the fire department's Internet and phone connections to the apparatus room last Friday. Nick Carpenter will obtain a magnetic mount antenna for movement of the Rural Fire radio.
- The Professional Engineer Agreement has not been received back from Pressell yet, despite two or three requests from the clerk.

Zoning Administrator Job Posting Update

Goss stated she will update the job posting with the number of hours and get it posted.

New Business

None

Tabled Items

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

This agenda item will remain tabled.

Review Ordinance 22 Pension Plan (tabled 10/25/2016)

This agenda item will remain tabled.

Review Whitewater Township Planning & Zoning Fees (tabled 02/28/2017)

This agenda item will remain tabled.

Board Comments/Discussion

None

Announcements

Next meeting is July 25, 2017. Popp stated he will not be here.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Motion by Lawson to adjourn; second by Goss. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Goss
Whitewater Township Clerk