

**Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Special Meeting held March 7, 2019**

Call to Order

In the absence of the supervisor, Clerk Goss called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, Michigan.

Motion by Lawson to nominate Hubbell to chair the meeting; second by Benak. There was no further discussion. **On voice vote, Benak, Goss, Hubbell, and Lawson voted in favor, none opposed, Popp absent.** Motion carried.

Roll Call of Board Members

Board members present: Treasurer Benak, Goss, Trustee Hubbell, Trustee Lawson

Board members absent: Supervisor Popp

Others present: Ron Bachi (Deputy Supervisor), Janet Bachi, Hayden Popp

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

Goss stated she has a question for Ron Bachi, and also stated she would like to address compensation of the deputy supervisor first.

Board members agreed to those adjustments.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Comment (6:24)

Ronald Bachi, 6987 Cook Road, deputy supervisor, stated he wants to bring to the board's attention that the notice for this meeting states it will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2019. He stated that date does not exist; there is no such thing as Tuesday, March 7, 2019. It is an imaginary made-up date that will never happen in our lifetime. He stated that is an Open Meetings Act violation. He asked the board to take a look at the meeting that we had on Monday. At the top of the agenda that went out to the public, it says special meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2019. That date does not exist as well. It is an imaginary date, made up; it will never happen. He stated a revised Whitewater Township Board publication just went out and it said that there is a special meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2019. That date does not exist either. He stated the first two dates are in violation. The fact that himself and everybody attending that meeting that was illegally published with the wrong date means that we are all guilty of a violation for even attending that meeting. That can't be changed. He stated the meeting today, he looked at some of Goss's e-mails and postings. He stated he informed her your dates need to be looked at; they are inaccurate; there is an upcoming meeting. He stated he wrote Goss an e-mail stating Cheryl, please check your dates to make sure that you are accurate; March 7 is on a Thursday and March 18 is on a Monday. Politely, nice; information is power. The response is: They are accurate. He stated they are not accurate; they are dates that do not even exist. He stated the supervisor's office is requesting that both meetings be rescheduled with

proper dates to the public. He stated it is unfortunate that this meeting didn't take place correctly when we had every opportunity to correct it.

Goss replied that the day does not matter; it is the date. The dates are correct in all the notices. Goss acknowledged that the days are correct (sic), but it is the date that controls. She stated there is no Open Meetings Act violation. Everyone has been noticed that March 4, March 7, and March 18 are dates. Goss acknowledged that the wrong day of the week is also on the agendas, but the date is what controls.

Benak asked the clerk if legally, when she is posting these, does she have to include the day, or just the date.

Goss said she does not have to include the day.

Bachi stated the fact that the clerk did include the day is extremely misleading. If he is in the public and he gets an agenda notice and he looks at it and it says Tuesday, March 7th, he is going to show up on Tuesday, thinking that that is March 7th. The majority of the people would.

Goss noted that in Bachi's e-mail he did not say the days are incorrect; he said the dates are incorrect. If he had said the days do not match the dates, she would have looked at that. Bachi said the dates are incorrect. The dates are not incorrect.

Bachi re-read his e-mail.

Goss reiterated that she does not have to put the days on there.

Bachi acknowledged that Goss does not have to, but she did and it was incorrect. It is part of the date, clear and specific.

Goss stated it will be up to the board what they want to do.

Bachi stated he cannot attend this meeting.

Benak stated she cannot help but feel that this is being made into a bigger deal than it actually is because the date is there. She stated she does not know what the motivation for it is but said she is uncomfortable being targeted this way. She stated she thinks we need to not have this meeting tonight, stating the end of March is not too far away and it is going to make us all have more scheduling issues, but she thinks we are going to have to cancel.

Board discussion followed.

Janet Bachi, 6987 Cook Road, stated the point is that you are using the day with the date and it should match, and she thinks what is important here is none of you are attorneys and you should be asking your attorney the question before you continue to do something that you are not sure of. It was noticed and tried to get it corrected and that did not happen. It was not being targeted;

it was tried. And there are other people watching their Ps and Qs because they are stepping in for somebody.

Goss said she will be happy to re-notice the meeting, and asked everyone to grab their calendars.

Discussion followed.

There was board consensus that this meeting will be re-noticed to March 13 at 6:00 p.m. The Historical Society meeting will be moved to Popp's office. The March 18 date will be re-noticed.

After brief discussion, it was agreed that the issue of compensation of deputy supervisor will be tabled to the next meeting.

Hubbell stated we will cancel this meeting and our next meeting will be March 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Agenda Items as Listed in Special Meeting Notice

Budget Work Session

This agenda item was not discussed.

Compensation of Deputy Supervisor

See prior comment.

Board Comments/Discussion

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Goss
Whitewater Township Clerk