

**Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Special Meeting held October 19, 2021**

Call to Order

Supervisor Popp called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. at the Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, Michigan.

Roll Call of Board Members

Board Members present in person: Benak, Goss, Popp, Vollmuth

Board Members present via Zoom: Popp

Board Members absent: Hubbell

Others present in person: 3

Others present via Zoom: 4

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

There were no adjustments.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Comment (6:34)

Public comment began at 9:03 a.m.

Trustee Paul Hubbell (via 10/18/2021 e-mail read by Goss) announced his resignation from the Whitewater Township Board.

Chris Hubbell, 8055 Angell Road, spoke on board members and the planning commission chair who are biased.

Denise Peltonen, Elk Lake Road, asked the board to consider a special election for a new trustee.

Jason Gillman, Grand Traverse County Road Commission, commented that their chair will not be available for the next several meetings.

Public comment ended at 9:17 a.m.

Agenda Items as Listed in Special Meeting Notice (14:47)**PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #81**

Motion by Benak to adopt Whitewater Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment #81 as proposed by the planning commission; second by Vollmuth.

Board comments and discussion followed.

Roll call vote: Vollmuth, yes; Benak, yes; Popp, no; Hubbell, absent; Goss, yes. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT - ALEX DARROW (22:40)

Alex Darrow is present.

Motion by Benak to confirm the recommendation of the supervisor appointing Alex Darrow to a vacant partial 3-year term position on the Whitewater Township Planning Commission; term shall end 12/31/2022; second by Vollmuth.

Darrow responded to questions from Goss.

Roll call vote: Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Hubbell, absent; Popp, yes; Benak, yes. Motion carried.

CHERRY CAPITAL CONNECTION METRO ACT APPLICATION (35:33)

Motion by Goss to approve the Cherry Capital Connection METRO Act Application and authorize the clerk and supervisor to sign the Bilateral Permit Form; second by Benak.

Board comments and discussion followed.

Roll call vote: Benak, yes; Hubbell, absent; Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Popp, yes. Motion carried.

DRAFT 2021-2025 RECREATION PLAN - NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD/SET PUBLIC HEARING (38:30)

Motion by Benak to post the Draft 2021-2025 Recreation Plan for 30 days beginning 10/20/2021 through 11/18/2021 and set a public hearing at the 12/14/2021 township board regular meeting; second by Popp.

Goss noted the need to change the dates, i.e., change 10/20 to 10/25 and 11/18 to 11/23.

Benak affirmed the change to the motion. Popp seconded the amendment.

Board comments and discussion followed.

Roll call vote: Popp, yes; Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Benak, yes; Hubbell, absent. Motion carried.

POST--COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORTS FOR RECREATION PLAN (44:44)

Motion by Benak to authorize Cheryl Goss, Township Clerk, to sign all four of the Post-Completion Self-Certification Reports; second by Popp.

Board comments and discussion followed.

Roll call vote: Hubbell, absent; Popp, yes; Benak, yes; Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes. Motion carried.

BOARD AND COMMISSION COMPENSATION (53:03)

Motion by Vollmuth to send the “Assistant Compensation Program” concept to legal for review and recommendations; second by Benak.

Board comments and discussion followed.

Vollmuth withdrew the motion. Benak withdrew her second.

Popp will bring back a revision to the Salary/Wage Schedule.

Goss notified the board of a short presentation in November by Patrick Ertel, DNR, regarding the Natural Rivers designation.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL - LAPTOP COMPUTER FOR PC MEMBER (1:10:43)

Motion by Benak to approve capital expenditure of \$1,200 for purchase of two laptops for planning commission members Carl Wroubel and Alex Darrow; second by Vollmuth.

Board comments and discussion followed.

Roll call vote: Popp, yes; Benak, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Goss, yes; Hubbell, absent. Motion carried.

FEMA FLOOD PLAIN MAP APPEAL PERIOD (1:16:59)

The board discussed the topic.

Motion by Popp to post to the website FEMA’s document dated 09/15/2021, Case #13-05-4239S, 10 pages. Popp will supply the document to Goss. Second by Benak.

Roll call vote: Vollmuth, yes; Goss, yes; Hubbell, absent; Benak, yes; Popp, yes. Motion carried.

PROPOSED CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING DISCUSSION (1:27:35)

The board discussed the topic.

Goss will forward the Kingsley letter to the board.

Popp will draft a letter in opposition to the split of Grand Traverse County into separate House districts and forward the final version to the board. If the Senate district is split also, Popp will send a letter in opposition.

C2AE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT - REVIEW/APPROVE (1:57:11)

Motion by Benak to approve C2AE’s agreement for professional services as written; second by Vollmuth.

Board comments and discussion followed.

Benak amended the motion to designate elected officials, zoning administrator, and fire chief as township representatives to discuss facility needs with the engineering firm; second by Vollmuth.

Further discussion ensued.

Goss agreed to deal with C2AE's billing department or principals of the firm to make sure that the work billed for has been done, in case there is a question.

Roll call vote: Goss, yes; Hubbell, absent; Benak, yes; Popp, yes; Vollmuth, yes. Motion carried.

Board Comments/Discussion (2:43:36)

Vollmuth was absent from the board table from 11:43 a.m. to 11:44 a.m.

The process of acceptance of a board member resignation and appointment of someone to fill the vacancy was discussed.

Acceptance of the resignation will be placed on the November agenda.

Regarding the December newsletter, the deadline for articles is 11/15/2021.

Public Comment (2:53:10)

Public comment began at 11:50 a.m.

Brian Kelley, Acme Township, spoke on public water.

Kim Mangus spoke on the meeting.

Public comment ended at 11:54 a.m.

Adjournment (2:57:03)

Motion by Goss to adjourn; second by Benak. Roll call vote: Hubbell, absent; Popp, yes; Goss, yes; Vollmuth, yes; Benak, yes. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Cheryl A. Goss
Whitewater Township Clerk