

**Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting held March 13, 2012**

Call to Order

Supervisor Lake called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, Michigan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Board members present: Benak, Boyd, Hockin, Hubbell and Lake

Board members absent: None

Others present: Planning/Zoning Administrator Meyers, County Commissioner Inman, Ambulance Coordinator Martin and 16 others.

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as adjusted, adding Budget Amendments, Budgeted Transfer and Ambulance Coordinator's February 2012 activity report to the Consent Calendar.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Hearing

None

Public Comment

Jim Snider, 8316 Old M72

- Voiced concern re: stockade fencing not being allowed; asked: why was it banned?
- Stated village district zoning is restrictive
- Asked how Commissioner Inman can represent Whitewater Township when he also represents Acme Township (one of the G5) on the Septage issue.

Lake responded that he has no definite recollection of the fencing change.

Hockin stated she recalls the change to fencing standards was made out of concern for health, safety and welfare of residents.

Lake stated we will look at fencing and village district zoning.

Reports

County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Inman updated the board on the following:

- Reviewing applications for County Administrator; received 70 applications, 20 are not qualified. Human Resources states 9 have surfaced to the top. Commission will discuss the process of how to narrow down applicants. Interview in April, hope to have employed by mid-June.
- Review of Drain Commissioner/Soil Erosion position
- Discussion of Animal Control; have provided funding for cremation of animals.

- State of Emergency was declared during storm.
- Due to storm the brush drop off site may open early.
- Explained the role of the County Commission regarding the Septage Treatment Plant for Mr. Snider; County Commission acts as a fiduciary only for the bonds.
- Inman stated he is not personally in favor of a special assessment for management of the Septage Treatment Plant.

Hockin asked about disaster funding for storm cleanup.

Inman suggested speaking to Dan Scott, Grand Traverse County Emergency Coordinator.

Land Use Policies Presentation

Cheryl Walton, 11623 Topview gave a video and verbal presentation on Agenda 21/Sustainable Development. She encouraged the board to boot out the regulations that are infringing on property rights. She stated that elected officials must protect property rights and remove any agendas in our documents. She provided materials and asked the board to "Review & Remove".

Ambulance Coordinator Demonstration

Ambulance Coordinator Martin demonstrated the LUCAS2 Automatic Chest Compression machine recently added to both ambulances owned by Whitewater Township.

Consent Calendar

Moved by Hubbell, supported by Boyd to approve the consent calendar items as follows:

Receive and File:

1. Supervisor's report for February 2012
2. Clerk's report for February 2012
3. Planning/Zoning Administrator's report for February 2012
4. Battalion #3 Fire Captain February 2012 activity report
5. Ambulance Coordinator February 2012 activity report

Correspondence:

1. Grand Traverse County Road Commission minutes of 01/12/12 organizational, 01/12/12 regular and 01/24/12 special meetings
2. Grand Traverse Sheriff Department Service statistics for February 2012
3. Grand Traverse County Health Department Annual Report for 2011
4. Northwest Michigan Council of Governments 3-News of 02/15/12

Minutes:

1. Approval of minutes of 02/14/12 regular , 02/14/12 closed and 02/23/12 special meetings

Bills for Approval:

1. Approval of Alden State Bank vouchers #35268-35366
2. Approval of Alden State Bank Miami Beach vouchers #1118

Budget Amendments

Budgeted Transfer

Revenue & Expenditure Report

Roll call vote: Lake, yes; Benak, yes; Boyd, yes; Hockin, yes; Hubbell, yes. **Motion approved.**

Unfinished Business

Budget Work Session Date

It was the consensus of the board to schedule a budget work session on 03/20/12 at 7:00 p.m. to finalize the budget for presentation at the Budget Public Hearing on 03/27/12.

New Business

Historical Society Transition to 501 (c) 3 (non-profit) Status

The board discussed the Historical Society request to proceed to 501 (c) 3 status. Points of discussion were:

- Housing in a new facility or renovation of township hall
- Files moving to new facility
- Financial status when non-profit
- Separation from township budget/funding
- Freedom of Information Act compliance
- File cabinets currently owned by Township

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee By-laws

Hockin presented an amendment to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee By-laws that would change the regular meeting date from the second Wednesday to the second Monday of each month; she stated it would be easier for both the Planning Commission and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to schedule special meetings if both bodies did not meet on the same night. The board reviewed and had no problem with the change.

Moved by Boyd, seconded by Hubbell to approve the change of meeting day from Wednesday to Monday for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. **Motion approved.**

Storm Damage Assessment

Hockin presented information from the township insurance agent and a consulting forester on cleanup of the storm damage at the Township Hall, Williamsburg Cedar Rapids Cemetery, "Hi" Pray Park, Fire Station and Whitewater Township Park. She stated that it appears that it would be too costly to have the consulting forester involved and suggested that a bid package be prepared for review by the board.

It was the consensus of the board, to have Hockin prepare a bid package, to be reviewed at the next board meeting.

Board Comments/Discussion

Lake announced the newsletter deadline is March 16th.

Hockin suggested a contingency line be added to each of the township budgets and asked the board to consider the suggestion prior to the budget work session on 03/20/12.

Public Comment

Jason Gillman, East Bay Township

- Stated a security camera is available through his business. Consultation for the security camera would be at no cost.

- Supportive of Cheryl Walton's presentation on Agenda 21

Jim Snider, 8316 Old M72

- Walton's presentation was great. Zoning in Whitewater Township is a lot of that.
- Commented on lawsuit against him. Helps people infringing on his rights.

Steve Mangus, 1214 Cerro Dr

- Historical Society-suggest scanning documents for storage.
- Fence situation-is needed for health, safety and welfare.
- Village district regulations make it difficult to use property. Suggest a look at the regulations and lifting them.

Tim Shaffer, 5309 Moore Rd

- Fire Department is interested in looking for a water safety inflatable boat.

Lake stated that Rural Fire is working on this.

Announcements

Newsletter articles are due on March 16th.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Hockin, Clerk