

**Whitewater Township Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting held April 10, 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, Fire Captain Arbenowske and 8 others.

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as adjusted, adding: Volunteer Clean Up/Storm Damage

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

Public Hearing

None

Public Comment

Cheryl Walton, 11623 Topview Dr

- Distributed documents to the board members re: NWMCOG & ICLEI
- Stated NWMCOG is implementing sustainability and Agenda 21

Dean Bott, Mayfield Township

- Current Interim County Administrator spoke and stated he is running for County Treasurer in the August Primary election.

Reports

County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Inman updated the board on the following:

- Split vote on Soil Erosion/Drain Commissioner position
- Drain Commissioner will continue to be an elected official
- Still interviewing candidates for County Administrator
- Fred Keesler retired from the Health Department Director position
- Commissioners have received letters from Townships re: calling of Septage Bonds
- Inman stated he is going back to Elaine Wood/NWMCOG to verify information re: affiliate membership in ICLEI
- NWMCOG budget is used for Michigan Works, unsure where local planning fits in their budget

Lake asked Inman to state the County Commission's policy on reading letters into the record.

Inman stated the County has received legal advice indicating that it is not necessary to read letters into the record; it is up to the discretion of the board.

Consent Calendar

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

Receive and File:

1. Treasurer's Cash Balance & Investment Reports for July 2011-February 2012
2. Supervisor's report for March 2012
3. Clerk's report for March 2012
4. Planning/Zoning Administrator's report for March 2012
5. Battalion #3 Fire Captain March 2012 activity report
6. Ambulance Coordinator March 2012 activity report

Correspondence:

1. Grand Traverse County Road Commission minutes of 02/23/12 regular and 03/14/12 special meetings
2. Grand Traverse Sheriff Department Service statistics for March 2012 & 1st Quarter of 2012 YTD Totals
3. 03/1/12 letter from Karen L Ferguson, PC re: proposed changes to Master Plan
4. Northwest Michigan Council of Governments March 2012 update
5. The Grand Vision March 2012 update

Minutes:

1. Approval of minutes of 03/13/12 and 03/27/12 regular; 3/20/12 and 04/03/12 special meetings

Bills for Approval:

1. Approval of Alden State Bank vouchers #35413-35463
2. Approval of Alden State Bank Miami Beach vouchers #1120

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

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Administrative Policy Discussion

Recent e-mail from Cheryl Walton regarding length of time information is maintained on township website was discussed. It was noted that the current website software is not user friendly and has limitations. Hockin will get information on software update and bring information back to the Township Board.

Emergency Operations Plan

Due to the recent storm it has become evident that the emergency operations plan for the Township needs to be addressed. Meyers was instructed to reactivate the Disaster Mitigation Committee and also to include Grand Traverse County Emergency Coordinator Dan Scott on the committee.

Board Comments/Discussion

Volunteer Clean Up of Storm Damage

Hubbell stated he was perturbed with Hockin's handling of the volunteer efforts; feels she should have thanked the volunteers for what they had accomplished instead of asking if the work was complete and questioning why the work was not done as she had indicated it should be done.

Hockin stated she was attempting to determine if more of the work was still going to be completed by the volunteers or if they had completed what they would be doing. She also stated frustration that the logs had been piled in an area other than the area designated for efficiency in park staff completing the work to be done. Stated she was thankful for the work that was done and had asked for a list of the volunteers so she could send personal thank you notes to each volunteer. Hockin apologized to the board and volunteers for her handling of the situation.

Boyd stated Bob Rauch's company had donated time and equipment in the clean-up effort and they should be considered for any additional work that needs to be done.

Hubbell feels the trees at the cemetery previously considered to be taken down should be left.

Boyd stated two brush piles were left at "Hi" Pray Park and they will be burned by the firemen.

Hubbell and Boyd feel the trees at the fire station should not be taken down. Hockin responded that the firemen had made the request to have them removed to avoid damage to the building.

One stone (Clow plot) at the cemetery was noted to be damaged. The cemetery sexton will be contacted to make repairs.

Boyd offered thanks for the opportunity to serve the community.

Public Comment

Lois MacLean, 5919 Linderleaf

- Volunteer cleanup was great! Pictures were taken that will be posted on the Community Events bulletin board. Food was served by the Emergency Services Auxiliary.

Announcements

- Clean Up Day is May 5th
- Lake noted that Mary Wittbrodt, Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee member, has resigned due to moving out of the township. He will be seeking new applicants, looking for a female to fill the position.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Hockin, Clerk

