

Mecosta Township

Regular meeting

19729 11 Mile Rd. Big Rapids, MI.

August 8, 2018/ approved minutes w/changes

Prepared by: Lois Brennan, Mecosta Township Clerk

1. Supervisor Michele Graham, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm
2. **Pledge to the Flag**
3. **Roll Call** – John Johnson, Mary Quinlan, Michele Graham, Lois Brennan. James Cain. All present.
4. **Approval of the Agenda** – Motion made by Lois Brennan to accept agenda. James Cain 2nd. All – aye. Motion carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – Motion made by James Cain to accept minutes, with correction. John Johnson 2nd. All – aye. Motion carried.
6. **Treasurers Report** – Treasurers report was accepted as presented and entered into official record.
7. **Approval to Pay Bills & Payroll** - Motion made by Mary Quinlan to pay bills and payroll in the amount of \$32,122.95. John Johnson 2nd. Roll call: John Johnson – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Michele Graham – yes, James Cain – yes. Motion carried.
8. **Brief Public Comment** – none heard
9. **Reports** –
 - A. **Fire Department** – Chief Ron Palmer addressed the Board with an update. Tender Two truck has a broken line in the gear case, it has been bi-passed and is still operational. Chief Palmer will contact West Shore Services for a quote on repairing the water pump. Assistant Chief Brennan’s pager has been sent in for repair, and the new pagers have been ordered according to approval in June’s meeting. Have not received all the turn out gear that was ordered yet, still waiting on coats and pants. Firemen’s picnic is scheduled for Saturday at Buffalo Park in Stanwood. They have fixed the water ball

court and would like to make this a yearly event with all local fire departments.

B. County Commissioner Report – per Tom O’Neil, brought attention to the schedule of projects that Mecosta County Road Commission is doing throughout the county. Question was posed as to why they are spending less in our Township than in others. MCRC did spend ~~\$80,000.00~~ *\$87,000.00* last year in our township to aid in paving 11 mile/187th Ave. Tom attended a West Central Michigan Alliance meeting last week, informed the Board that Mecosta County should be receiving 1.2 million dollars by October 1st, for roads from the State of Michigan. The Dragon Trail committee has put in for a \$600,000.00 grant to the Fremont Foundation if the grant goes through they will have enough money to do the entire west side of the trail. Also, Jim Sandy has been approached by a hospitality group looking to possibly locate a hotel in the 8-Mile Rd. area.

C. Assessors/Supervisors Report – Assessors report: plugging away, a meeting in Gaylord is set Tuesday August 14th regarding the assessing reform for the State of Michigan. Michele is planning to attend. Michele is considering going for her level 3 assessors’ status, because of this reform program. Supervisors report: Michele has spent the past couple of days going through past fire department bills to prepare for arbitration with Austin Township.

D. Cemetery – nothing new.

E. Budget – everything looks as it should.

F. Planning Commission – Commission did not meet this week due to the election, their meeting is now scheduled for August 14th.

10. New Business –

A. Credit Card Processing- processing credit/debit card payments has been requested by builders that work with the Building and Zoning departments. Treasury department is already using the program

“Point and Pay” which is going very well. It is being requested by Building and Zoning to allow processing of credit/debit cards for permits. Motion made by John Johnson to allow the processing of credit/debit card payments for the Building and Zoning Departments with a 3% charge*service charge does not go to Mecosta Township* to the customer tax payer. Lois Brennan 2nd. Motion carried.

B. Election Results – Thank you to all that came to the polls or returned Absentee Ballots taking part in the election process. The Fire Millage’s did pass for Mecosta Township. The election day process was very smooth, and we had a very good turn out with 592 voters total. The new election equipment is working wonderfully. To see all election results, please go to Mecosta County’s web site. Lois has requested to replace the drivers license scanner as well as to purchase 5 more voter cards for the new VAT system as it is very popular with voters. Michele Graham made a motion to spend up to \$200.00 for supplies needed for elections. James Cain 2nd. Roll Call Michele Graham - yes, James Cain – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, John Johnson – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. Motion carried.

11. Unfinished Business –

A. District 10 Health Department- Karen Repeat came to give results of the surveys her department has done about public smoking. She explained how they gathered their data and different events they had attended throughout the county. Karen said she will be back next month to further inquire about signage in our township. Karen’s department does currently have funding to allow townships in our county to put up signs regarding no smoking and tobacco free areas.

B. Fire Department Agreement – there has been no communication between the two-township board. Mecosta Township has contacted

our attorney to begin arbitration proceedings. The extended contract is due to expire September 30th of this year.

C. Board of Review– We are still searching for members for the Board of Review, we need one Board Member and an alternate. All interested persons should contact Michele Graham at the Township Hall.

D. Correction of Resolution Number - There was an error in recording Resolution 2018-004, changing the time and date of the Board of Review. Resolution number should have been 2018-005. Motion made by John Johnson to correct the number. James Cain 2nd. Roll Call John Johnson – yes, James Cain – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Michele Graham – yes, Lois Brennan – yes. Motion carried.

12. Brief Public Comment – none heard.

13. Announcements/Correspondences – MSU Extension brochure and letter was sent for each Board member. Also, 5 members of Mecosta Township Board and Planning Commission members attended an MTA Planning Commission class on July 24th. The class was very informative.

14. Adjournment - Motion by John Johnson to adjourn meeting at 6:53pm. Michele Graham 2nd. Meeting was adjourned by Michele Graham at 6:53pm.