

MECOSTA TOWNSHIP BOARD
19729 11 MILE RD. BIG RAPIDS, MI 49307
April 11, 2023/UNAPPROVED MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
PREPARED BY CLERK, LOIS BRENNAN

1. **CALL Meeting to Order:** Supervisor, Michele Graham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**
3. **Roll Call:** James Cain, Mary Quinlan, Lois Brennan, Michele Graham, Tyler Huntey – all present.
4. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion made to approve the agenda as presented by Mary Quinlan, Lois Brennan 2nd. All aye, motion carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion made to approve the minutes from March 14th and two sets of minutes from March 27th made by James Cain, Tyler Huntey 2nd. Motion carried.
6. **Treasurers Report:** Per Treasurer Mary Quinlan reporting for the month of March 2023, fund balances are as follows: General fund checking \$746,698.92, First Responders: \$4,148.61, Fire-Equipment/Building (mileage account) \$154,078.35, Fire Fund -Operations \$1,727.74, Total funds \$906,653.62. General fund checking new CD. \$125,000. The interest is 4%, last month interest was \$367.00. this is a 14-month CD.
7. **Approval to Pay Bills & Payroll:** Motion to pay bills and payroll in the amount of \$14,899.01 by James Cain, Mary Quinlan 2nd. Roll Call: James Cain – yes,

Tyler Huntley – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

8. **Public Comment:** no one heard.

9. **Reports:**

A. **County Commissioner Report:** Per County Commissioner Tom O’Neil- receiving a lot of questions on Gotion in Green Township. Nothing else to report.

B. **Assessor/Supervisor Report:** Per Supervisor Michele Graham –
Assessors Report: The assessing roll was rolled on Monday, so she is now working in 2024. She also scheduled a class in Ottawa County. Working on a few zoning calls, minor calls regarding fencing.
Supervisors Report: Michele has attended meetings for the Dragon Trail, as well as with Consumers Energy. Consumers Energy has postponed making a decision on the dam.

C. **Clerk:** Per Clerk Lois Brennan the office is quiet, will know in May if there will be a local election. Clerk Brennan also informed the Board that she will be resigning her position in the future. Clerk Brennan will stay in her position until a new Clerk is found and will also aid in training the new Clerk.

D. **Cemetery:** Per Supervisor Michele Graham, nothing to report. The annual contribution for the Stanwood Cemetery will be written.

E. **Budget:** one issue with an extra expenditure, Clerk Brennan will research to understand what the account is being debited when it shouldn’t be.

F. **Planning Commission:** Per Trustee James Cain, the planning commission did not meet as they were waiting to hear from Consumers regarding the dam before going forward with the Master Plan. Going forward the Planning Commission will now resume

discussion the Master Plan with knowing the Dam will still be here for some time.

- G. **Fire Department** - Per Chief Anthony Peacock – There were 33 total runs. Multiple mutual aid calls.

Updates: Monthly NFIRS reports have been turned in. Payroll report for fire for the months of December 22-March 23. The new pay rate has been added to Emergency Reporting.

The department continues to have issues with semi-trucks using the fire department parking lot/apron to do U-turns onto 8 Mile Rd. They are looking at some ideas to deter future incidents.

The new front door lock was purchased and installed by Asst. Chief Vredenburg. Lt. Luce spent time installing everyone's personal door codes. It is working great and is liked by all that are using it.

2 sets of structure turn out gear were delivered. Another 2 sets of Wildland/dual purpose have been delivered as well. Sizing for this year's order of structure and wildland/dual-purpose gear is being scheduled.

Training Report: Asst. Chief Vredenburg had a special instructor stop at our station to present on Traffic Incident Management. Morton Township and Morley Area Fire had personnel attend as well.

John Hodson and Blake Gulick passed their EMT academy. John also passed his National Registry and has applied to the State of Michigan for Licensure.

Chief Peacock is to get documentation of out-of-pocket expenses for firefighter Gulick regarding his class. The Township reimburses costs up to the cost of an MFR class.

Rescue Report: Nothing to report. All is well.

10. New Business:

- A. Ulrich Park Drive:** The driveway is in very bad condition. This is a chronic problem. Supervisor Graham did get a quote from Morningstar's to correctly repair the driveway. The Board raised questions on whether Morningstar's would be willing to guarantee the work for a period of time. Discussion amongst the board leads to getting at least one other quote before a decision is made.
- B. Permit Refund:** A refund is being requested for a permit pulled to set a tank by Crystal Flash, the tank was never set. The resident was told that the application fee could not be refunded but other costs could be by Board decision. It is also requested that future decisions for refunds be made and issued by Treasurer Quinlan and Supervisor Graham, they are the responsible parties for running the Building/Zoning department that issues permit. Motion to refund the \$80.00 fees for the permit request. And all future refund decisions are to be made by Treasurer Quinlan and Supervisor Graham made by Tyler Huntley, James Cain 2nd. All aye, motion carried.

11. Unfinished Business:

A. **Roads:**

-Dust Control: Motion to accept the Mecosta County Road Commission bid for dust control in Mecosta Township. Three applications are approved. \$140.00 per mile for each round of brine, made by Lois Brennan, James Cain 2nd. Roll Call: Lois Brennan – yes, Mary Quinlan – yes, Tyler Huntley – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes. Motion carried.

-Road Paving: discussion amongst the board regarding using Arpa funds that we currently have and what we will be receiving. The discussion also included the desire to develop a playground at the Township Hall. Roads were discussed as to bids provided by the Road Commission for the roads discussed during February and March

meetings. Motion to approve Park/Tanglewood/Heights Circle Dr. road for pave/overlay and 11 Mile- 220th Newcosta for chip and fog seal. Made by Mary Quinlan, Lois Brennan 2nd. Roll Call: Mary Quinlan – yes, Lois Brennan – yes, Tyler Huntey – yes, James Cain – yes, Michele Graham – yes.

* Special note is to be made that during the discussion of the Arpa funds, the roads approved will be paid for with these funds as well as the \$62,500 left from last year from the County Commissioners and that \$100,000.00 would be ear marked for a playground at the Township Hall.

12. Brief Public Comment: no one heard.

13. Announcements/correspondence: nothing currently.

14. Work Session: discussion with the members from the Fire Department personnel, the discussion pertained to duties of officers, working as a team, concerns with changes in personnel was made. The fire department is 100% dedicated to our area and all efforts are being made to help ease the transition of the Chief position.

15. Adjournment: Motion made to adjourn at 7:16pm by James Cain, Tyler Huntey 2nd. All aye, motion carried. Supervisor Graham adjourned the meeting.

**Lois Brennan, Clerk
Mecosta Township**