

**Mecosta Township**  
**Regular Meeting Approved Minutes**  
**19729 11 Mile Rd. Big Rapids, MI**  
**October 10, 2023**

1. Call the meeting to Order.
2. Pledge to The Flag
3. Roll Call: James Cain, Michele Graham, Mary Quinlan - Present. Lois Brennan and Tyler Huntey- Absent.
4. Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda by Cain, approved by Quinlan. All Ayes - motioned carried.
5. Approval of Minutes from September 12, 2023 - Motion to approve the minutes with the following additions: page 1, #6 correction of milage to millage, and page 2 #11F should read a public hearing, not a public meeting. Moved by Cain, seconded by Quinlan. All Ayes. Motion approved.
6. Treasurer's Report - Payment of General Fund Bills was \$99,487.00. Receipts into the General Fund were \$49,734.87. Fire Bills were \$2,357.71. Balance of Township Accounts as of September 30, 2023:  
General Fund Checking - \$589,009.91  
First Responders - \$3,196.23  
Fire Equipment/Building - \$159,061.14  
Fire Fund Operations - (\$9,918.62)  
CD at Isabella Bank - \$127,879.50  
Total of all accounts - \$869,228.16  
Treasurer's Reports was accepted and placed on file.
7. Approval to Pay Bills & Payroll - Motion to pay bills and payroll in the amount of \$36,354.93 made by Cain supported by Quinlan. Roll Call: Cain - yes, Quinlan - yes, Graham - yes. Absent - Brennan and Huntey.
8. Brief Public Comment: None heard.
9. Kelly Wawsczyk from MCDC was present and updated the board on progress of what the corporation spends funds on and how they benefit Mecosta County and Mecosta Township. Areas of progress include: an increase in earnings in hotels, restaurants, drinking places, and RV Parks/Camping, Funding of college and trades month at Ferris, Project Elephant - Phase 1, Big Rapids Products expansion. The MCDC is asking for a contract to provide services for \$2,700.
10. Reports
  - A. County Commissioner Report - Tom O'Neil - Absent
  - B. Assessors/Supervisor Report
  - C. Clerk - Absent

- D. Cemetery - Jim Scales continues to work on transfer of Fairview Cemetery and foresees no problems as long as Mecosta Township is willing to take it over.
- E. The Planning Commission presented a draft document for verb changes for section 4,5,6 ordinance 2023-1 to accept planning commission's recommendations for text amendments as presented. Moved by Quinlan, supported by Cain. Roll Call: Quinlan-yes, Cain - yes, Graham - yes. Brennan and Huntey - Absent. Motion carried.
- F. **Fire Department:** Chief Peacock reported there were a total of 36 runs - 30 medical and 6 fire. An update on a Michigan Treasury Grant continues to be "Under Review." Continuing education credits for firefighters. The State Fire Marshal, Kevin Sehlmeier, sent an email on October 6th outlining the requirements for fire service members and continuing education. September 30th marks the end of the first year of our 3-year cycle. All firefighters are required to obtain a minimum of 6 hours of continuing education every year, with a total of 36 hours every 3 years. Those who do not could face disciplinary action from the state, up to and including a revocation of any certification or qualifications. Chief Peacock has been approved and accepted by the Mecosta County Sheriff's Fire Investigation Team. Our agency license was renewed with the State of Michigan. Our roster with the State was updated to match our current roster. No issues in renewing and the new license have been posted at the station. Our previously approved set of dual-role gear and wildland helmets have come in. The items have been issued and placed into service. The pulse Ox on E2 is no longer working and a replacement has been ordered.
- Rescue:** Bi-monthly allotment was approved for disbursement at the Chief's meeting. The department received 1 applicant to join as a Medical-Only. Logan Meldrum is a National Registered EMT-B waiting for his State of Michigan Medical License. He has been cleared by Central Dispatch for his background check. He has attended over 3 meetings and has been approved by the members. His employment paperwork has been submitted for Township Board approval. Members went over the RIT pack and Pack Tracker and did a SCBA refresher, RIT pack was placed on E 1 along with the Pack Tracker. A monthly operational check of apparatus and equipment was completed, and no faults were noted. Rope rescue bi-annual rope rescue refresher training was completed. MUSAR instructor was happy with the skills and knowledge of our department. A list of equipment and ideas for layout and storage to help make us more efficient was given. We have a tentative date of the 2024 40-hour initial Rope Rescue class. A tentative schedule of August 2, 3, and 4th and August 10 & 11th. Chief Peacock will begin a 2-week, 80-hour Fire Investigation Academy hosted and instructed by MSP, starting October 16th. Required books have been ordered. Congratulations to Lt. Sam Luce for completing her classwork and internship for the Paramedic Program. Her next step is to take the National Registry. Nice work.

Motion to accept Logan Meldrum as a new EMT contingent approval from State Licensing made by Cain, supported by Quinlan. Roll Call: Cain - yes, Quinlan - yes, Graham - yes. Absent: Brennan and Huntey.

11. New Business:

- A. MCDC - discussion on previous report from Kelly Wawsczyk for services provided by MCDC that help support Mecosta Township. Motion to approve \$2,700 for services by Cain, supported by Quinlan. Roll Call: Cain - yes, Quinlan - yes, Graham - abstained. Absent - Brennan, Huntey. Motion approved.
- B. District 10 Health Department Compliance - Supervisor Graham gave a report on health department compliance concerns from an annual survey (visit) To be compliant with Type II Public Water Supply, Mecosta Township needs to fix the following items. Michele to hire a plumber, schedule inspection, and keep the board posted on progress.
  - a. Put a check valve on the handicap bathroom,
  - b. Attach a hose bibb vacuum breaker on the utility sink.
  - c. Remove the frost-free yard hydrant.
- C. IT Services - VC-3 services have declined in the past year and all offices are frustrated about losing time waiting for support calls. Discussion on a local businessman, Benny Blanzky to provide IT services in the future. Motion by Cain, supported by Quinlan to cancel VC3 services and hire Benny Blanzky for IT services where Blanzky to be called only when VC3 is not available within our 90 canceling contract. Roll Call: Cain- yes, Quinlan - yes, Graham - yes, Brennan - absent, Huntey - absent. Motion carried.

12. Playground Equipment - Graham is having the playground bid updated and a special meeting needs to be held to approve the new bid as the funds must be received by GameTime/Sinclair Recreation in Holland by October 25th.

13. Public Comment- Kelly Wawsczyk added to her previous updates that Ice Mountain has put in an expansion parking lot.

14. Announcements/Correspondence - none heard

15. Adjournment - meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Submitted by,

Mary Quinlan,  
Mecosta Township Treasurer