

**EUREKA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017**  
**Approved**

Supervisor Rod Roy, at the Eureka Township Hall, 9322 S. Greenville Road, Greenville, MI, called the Regular Meeting of the Eureka Charter Township Board to order on May 8, 2017, at 7:00 pm. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Clerk Ruwersma stated all Board Members were present, which included the following: Supervisor Rod Roy, Clerk Linda Ruwersma, Treasurer Cindy Hanson, Trustees Jeremy Austin, Marty Posekany, Elaine Pendrick, and Brad Kelley. These minutes will not be approved until the June 12, 2017 Regular Board Meeting.

Approximately twenty-eight were in attendance including Planning Commission Member Linda Weger, Greenville Councilperson Sylvia Warner, Zoning Official Mark Wilkin, Deputy Rich Ward and County Commissioner Tom Lindeman.

During the first Public Comment, Commissioner Lindeman gave a brief report on County issues and distributed a sheet advertising the Hazardous Waste on Saturday, June 3, 2017, from 9 am to 2 pm at the Montcalm Area Career Center. Deputy Rich Ward introduced himself to the Board and gave a brief sheriff report.

For approximately an hour there was discussion about accusations against the clerk for believed unethical behavior by her before the May 2 Special Election. Clerk Ruwersma had sent a text message from her personal phone to someone identifying herself as clerk encouraging the voter to vote "No" on the Greenville Public School Bond Proposal. There were also complaints about her calling absent ballot voters who had not returned their ballots yet, reminding them to do so. There was also discussion about her husband, Wes Ruwersma, distributing campaign literature, which was printed on behalf of the public school that was altered encouraging people to vote "No", at the Meijer parking lot. The Board listened and agreed to investigate.

Trustee Pendrick moved, with a second by Trustee Kelley to approve the May 8, 2017 Agenda and Consent Agenda. Ayes: 7, Roy, Ruwersma, Hanson, Austin, Kelley, Pendrick, and Posekany. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Approving the Consent Agenda included accepting the April 17, 2017 Board Minutes as written. It also approved the Treasurer's report submitted with an ending balance of \$1,184,729.98 as of April 30, 2017; and the payment of the April bills in the amount of \$32,857.79 covering e-bills 827-837 and checks numbering 15412-15449, voiding check #15442.

Also in the consent agenda was the Flat River Library report, the zoning report from Mr. Mark Wilkin showing 48 hours for April, and the Greenville Transit report showing 151 runs. There were 2 fire incidents reported for the month; but no building report was available.

The sheriff report showed a total of 3,824 patrol miles, with 184 patrol hours, 21 traffic stops, 5 traffic citations, 190 property inspections, and 5 arrests.

Supervisor Roy gave a brief road contract report stating that twelve road projects are scheduled to be completed by fall.

The Township Cleanup Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 13, 2017, 9 am until the dumpsters are full. Five dumpsters will be set up on the Township's vacant lots across Jordan Road; four dumpsters for trash and one dumpster for steel. Tires will be collected for a fee of \$2.00 each. Marty Posekany, Brad Kelley, and Linda Weger volunteered to assist Supervisor Roy during the cleanup.

Supervisor Roy reported that articles for the newsletter are still being collected until May 31, 2017.

The 2016 yearly audit was conducted on April 7, 2017, by Berthiaume & Company audit firm, and they stated that the Treasurer and Clerk fairly presented financial statements in conformity with the U.S. GAAP. Treasurer Hanson will contact the firm and have a representative come at one of the next meetings to give us a report.

The next Montcalm Township Meeting/Dinner will be Tuesday, June 20, 2017, 7:00 pm, hosted by Cato and Belvidere Townships.

After some discussion, Trustee Kelley moved, with a second by Trustee Austin to approve the following amendment to Junk Yard Ordinance 22, Section 4.0 Location, changing the wording one acre of land to five acres of land. Motion carried.

After some discussion, Trustee Kelley moved, with a second by Trustee Posekany to approve for Deputy Assessor Megan VanHoose to be reimbursed \$22.50 per month for the use of her cell phone on the job as assessor; this is approximately 25% of her monthly phone bill. Ayes: 7. Roy, Ruwersma, Hanson, Austin, Kelley, Pendrick, and Posekany. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Trustee Posekany moved, with a second by Trustee Kelley to approve to send the legal draft for Ordinance #79, Section 3.31 Medical Marihuana Dispensaries in Eureka Charter Township to the Planning Commission for their recommendation and for them to hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 17, 2017. Motion carried.

Supervisor Roy reported about a request from a person who would like to pay the Township rate of \$100.00, to be buried next to his parents who are presently buried in the Eureka Township Cemetery, even though he is not a Township resident and would have to pay the non-resident fee of \$400.00. After some Board discussion, it was decided not to make exceptions and he would have to pay the non-resident price.

Mark Wilkin reported about a phone conversation he had with Jared Walker from Gilbert, Arizona, who is interested in moving to Michigan and putting in Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Systems in Eureka Charter Township.

During the Second Public Comment, there was another fifteen minutes of discussion from the audience about the questionable actions of Wes and Linda Ruwersma before the May 2, 2017 Election, stating they want this issue to be under full investigation. Supervisor Roy stated that the Greenville Public School had issued a lengthy FOIA request that he is overseeing and is responding to. The Township attorney is already involved and this matter will be taken care promptly.

During Board Member Comments, it was mentioned about the four trees that need to be removed or trimmed up at the edge of the Township property, about a new flag pole, and about a new

cemetery sign. Roy also reported that tomb stones have been sinking in the Eureka Township Cemetery and he is still in the process of taking care of that.

Mr. Posekany gave a brief Planning Commission report stating they are dealing with a special use permit for Mr. Smith for his business called Southern Motor Works. He also explained the election public test system procedures to the audience.

Supervisor Roy adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:05 pm.

Linda J. Ruwersma, CMMC/CMC  
Eureka Charter Township Clerk  
May 12, 2017