

**Regular Meeting of the  
Ross Township Board  
12086 M-89  
Richland, MI 49083  
September 11, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Ross Township Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Supervisor Moore at 7:00pm.

Roll Call was as follows:

Present:	Diana Langshaw	Norm Kellogg	Gary Moore
	Cindy Genung	Mike Bekes	

Absent:	Robb Blain	Sid Durham
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Also Present: Rob Thall Township Attorney

A motion to approve the agenda was presented by Trustee Bekes, and supported by Trustee Langshaw and carried unanimously

A motion to approve the consent agenda was presented by Clerk Kellogg, supported by Trustee Langshaw and carried unanimously.

**Reports:**

Ron Kendall – County Commissioner – Mr. Kendall went over a review of budget issues and the county wide PFAS reporting. They are going to hold a forum for School Board candidates in the near future. Please bring any County wide issues to his attention.

Fire Department – Chief Bogema spoke about the second Stafford Farm barn fire and their assistance to Richland Township Fire Dept. A question about the delay in setting off the severe weather/tornado warning sirens during last week’s tornado warning. Chief Bogema said that decision is made by the Kalamazoo County Sheriff’s department. He also stated that YTD runs are down but assisting other local fire departments is up this year. More structure fires than last year.

Parks Department – Supervisor Moore gave this report in Jon Scott’s absence. The Park has had very good attendance this year. Trucks and Tunes were successful but down in attendance from last year. The Park will close on October 1<sup>st</sup>. It will not be attended by Park employees.

Supervisors Report – Supervisor Moore congratulated Rob Baker on the recount of the primary election.

Police Report – The report is enclosed in the minutes from the Sheriff’s Department. Supervisor Moore stated the report is a typical month for Ross Township.

### **Public Comments**

Pat Sager – Concerns about the last 30 feet of 43<sup>rd</sup> Street not completed @ M-89 north. Supervisor Moore noted the concern to follow up with KCRC Monday meeting.

Diana Langshaw – same concern about the road not completed at 45<sup>th</sup> St. and M-89.

Laura Williams – Had a concern about the proposed Park at 38<sup>th</sup> St. and M-89. It is the Linear Trail parking at the N.E. corner. County Commissioner Kendall responded about the approval for the 38<sup>th</sup> St. parking area and talked about property issue concerns. This is a planned extension of the Linear Park Trail system.

### **Old Business**

KCRC - meetings are held every other Monday to discuss Ross Township Road repair issues. (Quality and finish) The 3 year construction plan may become a 2 year plan as they are ahead of schedule so far.

Law Enforcement update – The Richland Village President met with Sheriff Fuller and both decided to wait for the new Ross Township Board to be seated in November before moving forward with any decisions.

Town Hall Meetings – Township Survey results and Law Enforcement issues to be decided by the new Board seated in November.

Ordinance Prep for Medical Marijuana – Trustee Bekes asked about the status of this ordinance. Attorney Thall to draft a new ordinance to be reviewed at the next Board Meeting.

Refund of Medical Marijuana Fees – update provided by Treasurer Genung. We will be refunding 75% of the license fees and unused Planning Commission fees to the parties involved.

PFAS update – Trustee Bekes asked about any testing done in Ross Township yet. The answer is no, not yet. Commissioner Kendall gave a County update from the Cooper Township Meeting. They are unsure about the contamination as testing is still on going. They will test up to the Ross Township western line in the next few months.

### **New Business**

Code of Conduct- Best Practices A survey was provided by Sherri Snyder of our Planning Commission to get ideas from other townships. Supervisor Moore suggested a Best Practice Committee be formed with Board members/PC members and citizens appointed and represented. Look at best practices from other Townships. Ross Township has not had a code of conduct in the past.

Resolution to vacate certain special assessments included on the special assessment roll for the Ross Township Road Improvements Special Assessment District No.1 and other matters related thereto: A discussion ensued about what the 3 parcels were. (Three unimproved parcels) One each from Michigan State University, KCRC and Island Cove (landlocked parcel) Attorney Thall discussed SAD exemptions – government and land locked properties should not be included in the tax roll. \$80,000 is still expected to be paid by MSU as their part of the road assessment. A motion by Treasurer Genung and supported by Trustee Langshaw to remove these 3 parcels from the tax roll was presented. A roll call vote was as follows; Trustee Langshaw – Aye, Clerk Kellogg – Aye, Supervisor Moore – Aye, Treasurer Genung – Aye and Trustee Bekes – Aye. The resolution was carried unanimously.

Household Hazardous Waste – A letter received by the Township to contribute an additional \$1,800 to our original \$3,500 annual payment. The original payment has been used up by our residents. Discussion ensued about who is using this service. The Board would like a breakdown of users. Is it one or two major users? Supervisor Moore agreed to supply the names of the users to make a future decision.

2017/2018 Annual Financial Audit – Clerk Kellogg and Treasurer Genung presented the Board with a Draft copy of our most recent audit. A motion to approve the draft copy of the audit and sign the representative letter to our Auditors, Siegfried Crandall was presented by Trustee Langshaw and supported by Trustee Bekes. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Any Other New Business**

Supervisor Moore states that there were two resignations from our Law Enforcement Committee: Gene McKay, who moved out of the Township and Robb Blain. The committee needs two new members. No new meeting will be conducted until after the November election.

### **Members Time**

Treasurer Genung stated that the Township office will be open Friday September 14<sup>th</sup> to take property tax payments.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was presented by Treasurer Genung and supported by Trustee Bekes and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Kellogg  
Ross Township Clerk