

WHEATLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
7:00 P.M. March 17, 2025
MINUTES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance being recited by all present.

ROLL CALL:

Tom VanSyckle X Julie Sellers X Kim Thiel X Ethan McNeal X Lee Carte X

Others present: Chief Kevin Thiel, Commissioner Chris Zimmerman, Amy Noggle DDA, Becky Kurtz Library, Jeanette Aldrich Library, Robert Cook, Jennifer Balcam Mid MI Library League, Christopher Decator Barryton Area Libraries, Marsha Laughlin Barryton Area Libraries.

SUPERVISOR REPORT: Supervisor VanSyckle reported that everything running smoothly. VanSyckle said that John, our maintenance man, has banners switched out. Burnips were out for a recall on township tractor hydro stat braking system.

Trustee Lee Carte stated he was contacted by citizen and caused concern on some issues in township.

- 1.) The surge protector does not work for the lights downtown. Surge protector located behind the corner "old bank"
- 2.) A fuel tank buried next to white township shed with a contaminated well.
Supervisor VanSyckle will be looking into these matters and reporting to board.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Lee Carte to accept the minutes as written for the February 17, 2025 Board Meeting, Ethan McNeal supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

BOARD MINUTES- February 17, 2025

TREASURER REPORT: A motion was made by Lee Carte to accept the Treasurer Report and payments as presented for February 17, 2025 Board Meeting, Tom VanSyckle supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report-February 17, 2025

LEPRINO REPORT: Supervisor VanSyckle reported that there is no new news. They are discharging water down to bare minimum by end of month. Supervisor stated that Nate from Allendale Plant confirmed that Leprino will cover the maintenance on the ponds. Supervisor VanSyckle said that Kevin Thiel (old operator at treatment plant) will be assisting Michigan Rural Water Circuit Rider, Matt Lumbert, in accessing the work needing done to the ponds. Supervisor VanSyckle reported that he contacted Attorney Steve Lobert to check over the contract with Leprino and said that Leprino's has to give a six month notice, if any repairs being done turn over to Leprino to pay.

FIRE REPORT: Chief Thiel reported the fire department has person in Firefighter I class. Thiel stated that there was a training on "flash-over" effects over the weekend that four members attended, including a special speaker/motivator, Chief Laskey out of Chicago at high school. Thiel stated that they received a 1984 Chevy Suburban for free from DNR excess property, which they will make a new brush truck out of it. It needs to be added to insurance.

LIBRARY REPORT: Becky was present and handed out a flier with library information that they are having published in paper for election purposes. Jennifer Balcam, Mid MI Library League was present with Becky. Jennifer said that they are working with Becky on becoming MALCATT automated, and they will be able to be linked to numerous other libraries on trading books, ideas, etc. Also two individuals from the Barryton Libraries (Fork and Chippewa Townships) Christopher Decator and Marsha Laughlin.

DDA REPORT: Amy Noggle stated that the DDA has amended their budget. They are working on finishing the disc golf course, the hole signs are being made by high school students. Remus Farm & Garden Easter Egg Hunt on the schedule. They are looking to get grant and MET monies for their next projects. Amy said that Nila has contacted Charles Smith on doing the flowers this summer again. Some new projects they are looking into are Veteran's Memorial Park, Pickle Ball Court and Playground area at the park. Amy said she attended the grand opening for Skin Deep along with members of the DDA and a member of Chamber of Commerce for Mecosta County and Clerk Kim Thiel.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Chris Zimmerman was present and stated that he is strongly working on county efficiency.

CORRESPONDENCE: Trustee Lee Carte read a letter from the Old Settler's Reunion Website, Marsha Stewart Sanders, it was in rebuttal to Diane Green's request of scatter garden for Morgan/West Wheatland Cemetery-February 17, 2025 mtg. Supervisor VanSyckle wanted to make the record clear that he was mistaken when he said that COVID monies was used at Wambold Cemetery scattered garden. The wall was paid for by general fund and the landscaping was taken care of by DDA. Supervisor also stated that he contacted Attorney Steve Lobert on content of letter and we are still looking into this. Mostly making it clear that Wambold Cemetery is not a "white" cemetery and Morgan/West Wheatland is not a "black" cemetery. There were questions and concerns from the audience that was addressed.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Republic Services Derek Morris and Natalie Klop. **RECYCLING**
Clerk Thiel requested a recycling presentation for our township. There is a state mandate coming 2027...Part 115 all counties are to have own recycling.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Leprino's:** Supervisor stated that Nate from Allendale Plant confirmed that Leprino will cover the maintenance on the ponds. Supervisor VanSyckle said that Kevin Thiel (old operator at treatment plant) will be assisting Michigan Rural Water Circuit Rider, Matt Lumbert, in accessing the work needing done to the ponds. Supervisor VanSyckle reported that he contacted Attorney Steve Lobert to check over the contract with Leprino and said that Leprino's has to give a six month notice, if any repairs being done turn over to Leprino to pay.

2. **Cemetery Policy:** Clerk Kim Thiel revising policy and adding new things, work in progress. Met with new sexton Randy Berger. It was discussed whom would pay Berger for his service and he thought it to be the township. The township only sold the cemetery plots and the funeral home paid the sexton services. Further follow up to come.

3. **Office Computers:** Clerk Kim Thiel stated the new computers are running still working on some glitches. Did run into some hurdles may have to increase budget of \$8000.00 due to new server and hard wire from server to computers. Board did not increase budget wait for final bill and bring to board for approval.
4. **Park Ball Field Fencing:** Clerk Kim Thiel was mistaken on the increase of the bill. It was only a "bid" for pickle ball courts. Still awaiting completion of project and final revised bill.
5. **School Contract:** Supervisor VanSyckle stated had meeting with school and signed 1 yr lease agreement. (Clerk Thiel will retrieve copy of this contract) Supervisor asked if the school could use the hall during the week of April 8th for testing the students due to school being closed the rest of year. The board approved no charge for the week involving students. Clerk Thiel had a request from Dawn Hawley on renting the hall on April 19th for a music jam with dulcimers, board requested payment for this event.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Drain Maintenance Notice:** Letter of notice to work being done on the Cummins/Pine Lake Drains starting Spring 2025.
2. **Repairs and Maintenance Hall:** Clerk Thiel requested upkeep on hall: needing paint job and repairs to soffett, fire dept. block wall is falling in on the parking lot; possibly extending the wall to encompass the fire department entry door. Clerk Thiel will be seeking quotes.
3. **MI-MABAS:** Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Association Agreement presented by Chief Thiel. Chief Thiel explained the agreement to the board as making it for members of fire department getting paid for assisting on a "Declaration of Emergency" for a natural disaster call, out of their jurisdiction after the 1st 8 hour evolution the state funding would go into effect. This is same for our department also if Wheatland had a natural disaster it would pay for departments aiding ours and getting paid by state after 8 hrs. The state is mandating to have a resolution. After discussion Lee Carte motioned for a resolution# **2025-1** supported by Tom VanSyckle. Roll call vote: Lee Carte Yes/Ethan McNeal Yes/Tom VanSyckle Yes/Julie Sellers Yes and Kim Thiel Yes.
4. **Granger Waste:** Granger informed township that there would be a charge for the dumpster service as of April 1, 2025. Granger will charge \$128.52 monthly for weekly dumps. Board decided to check around for quotes. Trustee McNeal received quote from Kings Disposal \$90.00 monthly weekly dumps 2 yard dumpster. Board approved on the lowest amount by April 1, 2025. Republic Services was asked to give quote also present at meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

(3 MIN NOT ON AGENDA 5 MIN ON AGENDA)

ADJOURN: Trustee Lee Carte made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Supervisor Tom VanSyckle supported the motion all in favor the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly S. Thiel
Wheatland Township Clerk

