

Blue Lake Township

Kalkaska County, Michigan

Minutes

Township Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 6, 2023
14 Present

- I. Meeting Call to Order at 7:05 pm by Nichol.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance – Nichol
- III. Roll Call of Officers - Almose, Shaw, Shoemaker, and Nichol all present. Shearer absent.
- IV. Call for Conflict – Roll call, Almose, Nichol, Shaw, and Shoemaker all stated no conflict of interest.
- V. Adoption of Agenda – **Motion** by Shaw to adopt the agenda with additions to Old and New Business, supported by Nichol. Motion carried.
- VI. Minutes of last meeting – **Motion** by Almose to accept the August 5, 2023 budget minutes with corrections, support by Shaw, motion carried.
- VII. The Treasurer's report was accepted. BS&A credit card issues are being addressed (showing ACH, which is incorrect). Arlette Papcun was appointed the new Kalkaska County Treasurer (she was the Deputy Treasurer). Cashed in two First National CD's from the Township Improvement fund and moved to savings with a 4.5% interest rate. Discussed Canadian checks.
- VIII. Clerks Report – Nichol
 1. **Motion** by Shaw to pay the August 2023 expenditures in the amount of \$56,861.97 supported by Shoemaker. Roll Call: Shaw, Shoemaker, Almose, and Nichol all yeas. Motion carried.
 2. Nichol submitted a grant through the State of Michigan to the County for Proposal 2022-2; the 9-day early voting which passed last year. Reimbursement for a new required tabulator, election official's wages and other reimbursements. The State will decide what portions of the requests will be reimbursed, as funds allow.
- IX. Correspondence and Guests
 1. KCSO –. An email received from the Sheriff's Office showing 11 incidents in the township including 2 liquor inspections for the month of August.
 2. Kohn Fisher – County Commissioner – not present
- X. Public Input – none
- XI. Township Reports – written reports are available in the Clerk's office.
 1. Assessor's Report – Sheneman –
 - a. For the month of August: 10 deeds, 5 transfers, 3 death certificates, and 2 electrical easements for GLE were processed.
 2. Fire Department Report – Brierley
 - a. 7 runs for the month of August; 3 fire related, and 4 medical runs
 - b. Old Business: The propane tank was taken by the party who wanted it, the \$300 check was sent to the Treasurer. The regional grant to the Feds was approved for \$84,304. Our responsibility is 5% (about \$4,215). A new bid has been requested taking off the extras not needed by the department. The savings this provides will allow us to purchase Rapid Intervention or more masks. This will be determined when the new bid comes back (keeping the amount requested the same).
 - c. New Business: The annual BLT Fire Department BBQ is Monday, September 11th, 6 pm at the fire station. Bear Lake Township is switching from Frederick EMS to Kalkaska. Discussion between Bear Lake, Blue Lake FD's and Kal EMS to go over plans to have BLS cover Blue Lake as well, how that will look for both townships.
 - d. Training: Training for the month consisted of truck checks, fire fighter MayDay with

radio talk groups, medical went over LUCUS device donated to us and placed into service, and lastly, fire fighter driving rodeo at the township hall parking lot.

- e. Truck/Equipment maintenance: The Engines onboard air compressor went out. This is being repaired in house. The Engines air horns are not working and will send this issue to CSI once the air line hook up is complete.

3. Planning Board Report – Shaw

- a. Next meetings: Jan/Mar/Jun 2024 1st Tuesday at 7 pm. Aug 2024 is Saturday the 10th at 9 am. All meetings take place at the township hall.
- b. STR (Short Term Rentals) still an issue and the public reiterated their concerns over 35 total STRs, grandfather clause (original STR was a zoning ordinance not police power). This is a police power ordinance. Renewals due December 1st of each year. 45 days prior notice in the paper and on our web site.
- c. A new Application for STR and a waiting list is needed. Update fee/fine schedule.
- d. A yearly report was created showing the accomplishments. Shaw: the PB did a tremendous job while Southworth keeps all on focus. Secretary: Pros/Cons made meetings more effective and efficient. The Ordinance book is updated. 20 more color copies will be available after receipt of and ok of pending bid.

4. Zoning Board of Appeals – Buttermore: No Meeting

5. Zoning Administrator's Report – Schuhart

- a. For the month of August: 5 building permits were issued and 3 complaints received.

6. Hospital Report – Nichol –Due to the hour, the hospital report was shortened. The main points, MRI on schedule for roll out in October and the new acute care/emergency department is still on schedule and under budget. The Talking Points are available in the Clerk's office.

7. Road Committee Report – Shoemaker

- a. Shoemaker states the roads will be updated in the matrix for the township. The committee meets Friday and will discuss how we can make our roads last longer. **Motion** by Shoemaker to pay KCRC a \$6,600 invoice to replace the snowmobile crossing ripped out by road repair. Motion supported by Shaw. Nichol reiterated the concern that this Board requested the crossing be put back. This board thought the KCRC would be receiving their monies to replace the crossing by the State through the licensing and permitting process. Blue Lake did not receive a quote, just an invoice. KCRC should be billing the State through proper channels. If those channels are not known, Nichol then questions if the KCRC is losing dollars paying for crossing that could be reimbursed by the State. Roll call vote on the motion: Shoemaker, Shaw, and Almose all yeas. Nichol, no. Motion carried.

XII. Board Member Comments and Input –

XIII. New Business –

- 1. **Motion** by Almose to pass Resolution #962203 approving the Blue Lake Townships Fire and Rescue Department's application to the Michigan Township Participating Risk Reduction Grant Program for front and rear camera's to be installed on the Rescue Truck to improve driver visibility to the rear and record on scene actions. Supported by Nichol. Roll Call: Almose, Nichol, Shaw, and Shoemaker all yeas. Motion carried.
- 2. Nichol discussed the increase in cost for Audits. The board was in agreement; we will stay with the Gabridge firm and the 3 year contract presented (2023 \$7,040).

XIV. Old Business –

- 1. ARPA – nothing new to report
- 2. Kitchen – still no bid specifications.
- 3. After much discussion and public input ranging from a waste of dollars for such little time (Newberry, Mrs. Southwell, Dan D.) to public safety concern stated by Shaw. Nichol reiterated the concerns were known during budget but the Board moved to end the contract.

Nichol stated this contract price will only be good until December 31, 2023 and the Board is reminded a new contract is issued each calendar year. The amount may increase. **Motion** by Shaw to contract with the Kalkaska County Sheriff's Office for their minimum amount of \$7,660/year (\$42/hour) and 3.5 hours/week, supported by Shoemaker. Roll call: Shaw, Shoemaker, and Almoose all yeas. Nichol, no; motion carried.

XV. Adjournment – Next meeting Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 7:00 pm

1. **Motion** to adjourn at 9.59 pm by Shaw, supported by Almoose, motion carried.