

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 08, 2025, at 7:30 pm
In Office at 2024 Cleveland St. E. Coopersville, MI. 49404
www.wrighttownshipottawami.gov

Supervisor VanTimmeren called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. Board members present include Supervisor VanTimmeren, Clerk Theresa Frank, Treasurer Sharyl Dietrich, Trustee Rick Schoenborn, and Trustee Brad Anderson. The meeting was held at the Township Office, 2024 Cleveland St. E. Coopersville, MI. 49404.

APPROVE AGENDA and ADDITIONS

- Motion made by Schoenborn, to approve the agenda, and this was supported by Anderson. Five ayes, motion carries.

REVIEW AND APPROVE

- Motion made by Anderson, supported by Schoenborn to approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$71,472.63, for September 2025 expenditures, and to accept as information the Treasurer's report as written. Expenditures larger than normal for September 2025 are as follows; Liability Insurance for 2025-2026 \$18,386.00. T. Excavating for easement update for 8,750.00. Five ayes, motion carried.
- Motion made by Dietrich, supported by Schoenborn to approve meeting minutes from September 10th, 2025. Five ayes, motion carried.
- Motion made by Schoenborn, supported by Dietrich to approve meeting minutes from September 16th, 2025. Five ayes, motion carried.
- Motion made by Dietrich, supported by VanTimmeren to approve meeting minutes from September 30th, 2025. Five ayes, motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mary Alt, President of the Historical Commission, reported they were getting close to being done with the renovation of the Old Township Hall. She has had an offer of donation for an old tractor-pulled combine to place on the property and wanted the Boards advise on this. The Board discussed liability, appearance, and precedent; consensus was to decline the offer. Mary also discussed some of the upcoming events for the Historical Commission.
- Resident RJ Graftema was at the meeting with the signed agreement he has with the Township regarding the correction of a drainage problem on his property.

REPORTS

- Ottawa County Commissioner District 11 – Allison Miedema reported that Blendon Township is experiencing controversy over the battery energy storage system and wondered if Wright Township had been approached regarding this system. The Board replied it has not been approached. She also reported that that the County has received awards for communications

(Ottawa Sands Project documentary, podcast). She ended her County update with a Bible verse for inspiration.

- No Fire Report.
- No Town Hall Committee Report.
- Dietrich gave the Senior Services report. She announced that all updates are available online.
- No Planning Commission Report due to lack of business.
- Frank gave the 2026 Election Report. She is having a hard time finding Inspectors. Many are needed because of the new Early Voting Act for State and Federal Elections. There were suggestions to reach out to the High Schools and to post notices.

OLD BUSINESS

- Schoenborn motioned to approve the Resolutions 2025-10-01, 2025-10-02 and 2025-10-03, Frank supported this motion. Roll Call was taken; five ayes, motion carried. Resolutions were approved.
 - 2025-10-01 – Application For Laying Out and Designating a Drainage District In Wright Township for Juniper Drain.
 - 2025-10-02 – Petition For Locating, Establishing and Constructing a Drain In Wright Township.
 - 2025-10-03 – Application For Laying Out and Designating a Drainage District and Petition to Locate, Establish and Construct a Drain, (Juniper Drain), in Wright Township. This project will help eliminate drainage problems in the St. Mary's', Juniper, and 24th Avenue, areas as well as other areas in the Township.
- Frank motioned to approve Resolution 2025-10-04 and 2025-10-05. Anderson supported this motion. Roll Call was taken; five ayes, motion carried. Resolutions were approved.
 - 2025-10-04 - This is in regard to supporting a grass roots effort to request Consumers Energy to forego seeking cost recovery to keep the J.H. Campbell generating plant optionally available, but instead offset those costs by reducing its Net Zero Expenditures and delaying its Net Zero implementation, as well as seriously exploring providing an AI data center with some of the electric provided by the Campbell, in order that residential electric rates can be reduced.
 - 2025-10-05 – This is in regard to Wright Township Board joining together with other Township boards in Ottawa County in setting up an exploratory committee to investigate acquiring Consumers Energy's interest in the JH Campbell generating plant, via local electric cooperative(s), financed with the assistance of a data center that would utilize some of the Campbell's generated electricity and, or Federal Government assistance, and facilitate with the assistance of the Ottawa County Board. It would also investigate the possibility of attaining local control of electric for the part of Ottawa County currently utilizing Consumers Energy as its electric public utility.

NEW BUSINESS

- A discussion was held regarding how to manage the cost of utilities (electric and gas) for the Old Township Hall. There is some question whether the building should be winterized because there is no plumbing. There is also the question whether the furnace should be kept on low

during the winter or if it should be shut off. The Board will get opinions from heating and cooling companies to decide. This will also be discussed with the Historical Commission.

- Discussion was had regarding whether we should replace the engine-braking signs that are missing from 8th Avenue. The Board decided to replace them. Frank will order.
- A letter from the Agricultural Preservation Board was reviewed. The Township already participates with them, so no action was taken.
- Water Drainage around the new hall was discussed. The Board will monitor and consider extending downspouts with pop-up drains if problem persists next spring.
- Township quarterly budget was reviewed. There are a few amendments to the budget to be made for cemetery sign installation, community events, and fire department building maintained.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

- VanTimmeren reported that maintenance is needed on retention pond fence to prevent overgrowth. He will inquire if our current lawn maintenance provider can manage this.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Anderson asked about the leaks in the new roof on the Fire Station. VanTimmeren reported that the contractor (BCI) was addressing this.
- Frank reported complaints have come into the office and on Facebook's Marne Informed regarding free range chickens causing problems in neighbors' yards, and reports of them in the road on 24th Avenue causing near collisions. Wright Township does not have an Ordinance to prevent the problems with the chickens.
- Schoenborn praised the recent easement clearing work done on the Township property.

ADJOURN MEETING

- Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully prepared by Theresa Frank, Wright Township Clerk.

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(Any documents referenced in these minutes are on file in the Clerk's office)