

**LAKE TOWNSHIP, HURON COUNTY**  
**Board of Trustees Board Minutes**  
February 17, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those in attendance: Valerie McCallum, Dorothy Fischer, Claren Russell, Dale Hartsell and Clay Kelterborn. Guests in attendance: 13

**Agenda:** Russell added a correspondence, and McCallum added to old business phone call from Thumb Industries recycling service received today. Kelterborn made a motion to accept the agenda with two additions, Hartsell seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Review of December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Board minutes . No additions or corrections. Hartsell motioned to accept both minutes as presented, Kelterborn seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Petitions/Public Comments:**

*Guests: Commissioner John Nugent, Representative from Emterra Environmental-Angelo Caramagno, John Walker and Peter Malovich with Waste Management.* Questions opened to the public. Guest Lou Colletta asked if the 17% rubbish acceptance from Canada (as quoted in the paper) meant here (Huron County)? Mr. Nugent said that Canadian waste can be dumped at our Bad Axe site owned by Emterra, but, as he understands it, there has been no Canadian waste here since 2009 or 2010. That does not mean it never will...it is still an option. Emterra Corporation is mainly a recycling business, and this is the only landfill they own. They deal only in inert materials (non-hazardous waste). The floor was turned over to Emterra's Michigan general manager, Angelo Caramagno who gave a history of the company, giving a view of Emterra's main focus as recycling. At this time they are in the business of recycling expired alcohol products into sterno and windshield washing products, and recycling rubber and metal from old tires, and doing curbside pickup in some communities with a share of the profits being given back to those communities. When they purchased the landfill in Bad Axe from Richfield in 2012 they also purchased their transfer station, and 3 hauling companies. They tore down the building at the transfer station, and rebuilt it with half of it being dedicated to recycling, which was not the case previously. Currently recycling is transported to Averill, Mi. Per Caramagno, they have hired local employees at good rates of pay, with good benefits. The company is Canadian based and owned by Emmie Leung; the Michigan assets are a United States corporation. He stated the company is looking into establishing a recycling plant hopefully to be based somewhere in Michigan. At present the landfill accepts trash from Sanilac, Huron County, Tuscola and Lapeer, and it is currently the backup landfill for St. Clair if anything should go wrong there. After much conversation about recycling and its availability here, discussion came around to the current issue of expanding the landfill to 40 more acres. Again, Mr. Caramagno explained that it was necessary to meet the mandates of Huron County that require a 10 year future plan of adequate capacity and, at this time, the current landfill has only about one year left. If it were to stay in business, Emterra had to purchase the extra land. The landfill also had recently prepared 6 acres to add to the existing landfill and it is ready for licensing which will extend approximately 4 years. Still, this 40 acre expansion will meet the 10 year mandate of the Michigan requirement of a 10 year plan. The owner has been willing to upgrade when asked, and is open to working with the area. John Nugent interjected that Huron County has already approved the plan, and so has Bad Axe. It is necessary to get 67% approval of the expansion from the cities and townships, and that is why they are here tonight, to answer questions and hopefully encourage the Lake Township Board to approve it. Mr. Caramagno stated that Emterra has a yearly payroll in Huron County exceeding a million dollars, and pays over 8 million dollars to vendors within Michigan. It also has donated to local

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charities such as His Hands, and is open to finding charities to work with in the community. It is a policy within the company to participate in local charities, so if there is anything in the area of this nature please contact John Walker who runs the landfill, and he will contact the people at Emterra. John Nugent was then given the floor who discussed the ecoli testing, and lack thereof, for our area. Basically the State and federal government say they are running out of funds to implement the tests. Kelterborn suggested we have Terry Brown (who has expressed his priorities for clean water) come up to meet with us. A guest asked what the cost of testing was in Huron County? Mr. Nugent stated that his understanding was there are several types of tests, and the cost is about \$2-3000 weekly. It must be done by a trained person, not a volunteer, to be official. A guest suggested we could do it on our own and at least the local Lake Township residents would know the readings, even if the beaches wouldn't be shut down.

**Carl Brunni, Assistant Fire Chief, Caseville Fire Dept.** On behalf of the firemen of Caseville, he donated a framed picture of the fire department and stated they have also donated one to Caseville Twp. We will hang it in the township hall.

**Reports from Board Officers:** Nothing mandatory to discuss. Treasurer report is in the packet and available for inspection.

### **Correspondence:**

CAFPA Minutes- Enclosed with the packet. No discussion.

Building Inspector's Report-Is in the packet and available for inspection.

Planning Commission Minutes-Dec. 2013 & Jan. 2014 are also in the packets and available on the entry table for review.

Comcast re: channel additions can be inspected at the Township by anyone who is interested.

Huron County EDC letters re: Solid Waste Plan amendment-agreed to post on the Township website.

Huron County Road Commission Annual Meeting Notice-It is scheduled for March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Huron Co. Road Commission Office.

Wilkinson Letter : Dust control report is included and McCallum will compare mileages

Due to the dangerous weather we will table the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget Review, and the Landfill Resolution (not due until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014).

Proposal by Tory Geilhart for handling Site Plans-To be discussed within the Old Business re: Zoning Administrator Position.

### **Old Business:**

**MTT Appeal.** Per McCallum, Valuation Disclosure is due by April 14th in the pending tax appeal. McCallum will work with Frischman Appraisal in preparation of defending the appeal.

**Zoning Administrator Position**-We had two applicants, plus Tory Geilhart, our Bldg. Inspector, who proposed a blending of the Zoning Administration and the Bldg. Inspector job. The proposal was read. There was a statement that we had several problems with keeping our Zoning Administrators in Tory's letter, and that was explained that we haven't had problems before this time. Our recent ex- Zoning Administrator had worked for a year and a half and had now gotten another job. We think that he thought he could handle this job and his regular building job, but it was more than he had expected. Before this time we had a Zoning Administrator for quite a long time. Tory also wants to only do the Site Plans, and not the enforcement of other ordinances. In discussion, we agreed that we needed the combination of Site Plan review and enforcement of ordinances, so Tory's proposal was not accepted. The two applicants are Tracey Swift and Jerry Pobanz. The question came up as to how would the Z.A.

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be trained? McCallum suggested we hire Arnie Russell, a previous Zoning Administrator, to work a couple months with the new hire. The wages of Zoning Administrator could be shared until the new Administrator was on their own. McCallum also suggested we let the new Z.A. work a year before investing any schooling into the position. After much discussion, McCallum motioned that we hire Tracey Swift as the Zoning Administrator. Hartsell seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried. McCallum motioned to hire Arnie Russell as trainer for Tracey Swift for a maximum of 3 months (at the Board's discretion) and to reduce the time if not needed. Hartsell seconded it. Claren Russell abstained as Arnie is her husband. All others said "Aye". Motion carried.

**Copy Machine**-We received no bids. Agreed to hold on to it, and advertise it for sale in the Summer Newsletter.

**Curbside Trash Pickup Survey update**-So far, 50 would approve curbside pickup, and 106 do not want that service. We will review it for the final time at the April Board Meeting.

**Recycling Information**-We received a letter from Thumb Industries that there will no longer be a recycle trailer at the transfer station for cardboard and paper. The cost has gone up to \$50 per month to haul the trailer. Their profit last time was only \$21, so there is not enough profit to warrant 4 trips to and from the transfer station. It was asked if we could get it less often since the trailer has been only half full. We could take the paper products monthly and stockpile them in the transfer station in boxes until we have enough to haul. It would save Thumb Industries coming up once to leave the trailer and go back to wait until the trailer was ready to be picked-up at the end of the day, thus having 4 trips. It was suggested that we could look into that possibility and talk about it at the next meeting that we are going to have. Hartsell motioned to table the Thumb Industries recycling issue to the next meeting. Kelterborn seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

**Poverty Exemption Guidelines Resolution (#2014-1)**-Hartsell motioned to accept the Poverty Exemption Guidelines Resolution, Kelterborn seconded it. Roll call vote: McCallum-aye, Hartsell-aye, Fischer-aye, Kelterborn-aye, Russell-aye. Motion carried.

**Zoning Administrator Computer**-Previous Zoning Administrator, Mark Treder, thought it was his so it has personal information on it. He is offering to buy it for what the Board paid for it. The auditor suggested if Treder is willing to pay for it, he sees no problem with it. Kelterborn asked about programs on it and McCallum stated there is only Microsoft Office. The computer is about 2 years old and cost the Township \$1000 at the time. It was agreed that we must make it understood with the new Zoning Administrator that this is company equipment. We would want to have the old computer brought in to remove the Microsoft program since it is registered in Lake Township's name. Kelterborn motioned to accept \$1000 for the purchase of the used lap top computer with the removal of the Microsoft program. Hartsell seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Election Expenses for meals**-Russell asked to designate money to provide meals for the election board for the Special Election on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Fischer opposed as she was only allowed \$100 for 4 days at the MTA convention in Traverse City for her and her deputy and she felt other Board members go to training for a day at Frankenmuth and don't have to buy their meals. It was explained by the Clerk that the meals at those training sessions were included in the cost of the training session. Whether you eat it or not, it is included by the MTA. Kelterborn motioned to allow \$50 maximum for the upcoming election out of the Election budget. Hartsell seconded it. All in favor (including Fischer). Motion carried.

**2014-15 Budget preparation**-Third quarter budget review and Budget Preparation workshop and the Thumb Industries Recycling will be covered at a special meeting to be held March 5<sup>th</sup> at 2 P.M.

**Tabled/Pending Items:**

**Portable Toilet Ordinance**- A correspondence was read expressing support for a port-a-john ordinance, and also expressed support for the residence lighting ordinance issues being reviewed. This letter will also be passed on to the Planning Commission.

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**Fireworks Ordinance:** Nothing at this time.

**Payment of Bills:** McCallum made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Hartsell seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Public Comments:** None offered.

**Adjournment:** Hartsell motioned to adjourn. Kelterborn seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Claren Russell, Clerk