

OCQUEOC TOWNSHIP BOARD
FEBRUARY 13, 2025
10:00 A.M.

The regular meeting of the Ocqueoc Township Board was held on February 13, 2025 at the Township Hall. Board members present were – Jerome Isaacs, Joel Jaroch, Shari Pomranke, and Pam Schaedig. Absent was Jerry Counterman, who was attending Board of Review training.

The meeting was called to order by Clerk Schaedig, in the absence of Supervisor Counterman, at 10:00 a.m. and began with the pledge to the flag. A motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Isaacs, to have Joel Jaroch chair the meeting in the absence of the Supervisor. M.C. The agenda was distributed and approved as presented with several additions.

A motion was made by Isaacs, seconded by Schaedig, to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the January meeting. M.C.

Schaedig gave a report on the January 22 Onaway Ambulance Board meeting. The agreement with Cheboygan County for the millage for Forest and Waverly was signed, for payments to them on April 1 for 10 months, instead of monthly as was previously done. Still waiting on word about a new ambulance. It had been ordered last spring. There is the possibility of raising the Onaway subscription plan cost from \$65 to \$70, but is dependent on Cheboygan. There were 27 Advanced runs, 10 Basic, and 18 No-Transports, 1547.3 miles logged, with 1 run to Ocqueoc and Bearinger 2.

Jaroch gave a report on the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center meeting January 22. Balance on hand is \$16,221.43. They are in the process of updating their brochure for 2025, including the projects completed in 2024. On January 28 a committee met with the County, letting them know that, since the County owns the property, they have to be in charge of the project. The County will have to hire a professional designer for the pathway and picnic pods. The Committee has applied for a \$5,000 grant through Awakon Federal Credit Union for the picnic pods.

Jaroch attended new officials training in Gaylord on January 15. He said there were over 200 officials in attendance, and he said it was very informative.

Schaedig reported that the Bureau of Elections has a grant available for \$1,000 toward a new electronic poll book laptop, since our current one can't be updated to Windows 11, but it must be purchased before February 28 to be eligible for the grant. Schaedig has a quote from 1010 Technology in Alpena for \$1,557.27, and is more comfortable getting it through them, so we have technical

support. A motion was made by Isaacs, seconded by Pomranke, to authorize the clerk to order the laptop through 1010 Technology. M.C.

Todd Curtis has signed and returned the 5-year lease agreement for the transfer site property.

The proposed Onaway Ambulance budget was discussed, and the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT ONAWAY AMBULANCE
BUDGET FOR 2025 – 2026

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Onaway Ambulance Board to submit a proposed 2025 – 2026 budget to the townships for approval before the beginning of the fiscal year commencing April 1, 2025, and

WHEREAS, according to MCL 41.812, it is the responsibility of the Township Board to review and adopt the proposed budget for the Onaway Ambulance before the beginning of the fiscal year commencing April 1, 2025,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the proposed Onaway Ambulance budget for 2025 – 2026 in the amount of \$654,500, being reviewed at a regular Ocqueoc Township Board meeting, was approved and adopted at the regular Township Board meeting dated February 13, 2025.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Board Member Pam Schaedig
Second offered by Board Member Jerome Isaacs

Upon roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Jerome Isaacs
Joel Jaroch
Shari Pomranke
Pam Schaedig

The following voted Nay: None
Absent: Jerry Counterman

The Clerk declared the resolution adopted.

Pamela Schaedig, Clerk

The next P.I. County Township Officers meeting will be March 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Posen Community Center.

The Tri-Board (Ocqueoc Township Board, Bearinger Township Board, and the Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Board) will meet on March 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall to adopt the proposed 2025 – 2026 Fire Department budget. The Board reviewed the proposed 2025 – 2026 budget, and will be prepared to discuss and approve at the Tri-Board meeting.

The Board received a 30-year Natural Gas Franchise Agreement from P.I.& Gas. CEO Allan Berg is available to attend the May Ocqueoc Township Board meeting to discuss it and answer any questions before we sign it.

The township must now pay their payroll taxes by an automatic transfer from the township checking account, and P.I. Electric & Gas prefers electronic funds transfers from the checking to pay for phone, internet, and electric bills, and offers a discount for doing that. In order to do that, the township must have a policy. After getting a sample through MTA, the following policy was adopted:

**OCQUEOC TOWNSHIP POLICY FOR AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE (ACH)
ARRANGEMENTS AND ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS OF FUNDS**

WHEREAS, Public Act 738 of 2002, effective December 30, 2002, authorizes townships to make electronic transactions involving public funds by electronic payment, debit or credit transfer processed through an automated clearing house, and

WHEREAS, PA 738 authorizes a township treasurer to enter into an ACH arrangement for a national and governmental organization that has authority to process electronic payments (ACH), including, but not limited to, the national automated clearing house association and the federal reserve system, and

WHEREAS, the Ocqueoc Township Board deems that it is in the best interest of the township to make certain township financial transactions by electronic payments as described in PA 738.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Ocqueoc Township Board authorizes the township to utilize electronic transactions in compliance with the written procedures and internal controls developed and adopted by the Treasurer

as the Township's ACH policy and presented to the township board on February 13, 2025.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Pam Schaedig
Second offered by Board Member Jerome Isaacs

Upon roll call vote the following voted "Aye": Jerome Isaacs
Pam Schaedig
Shari Pomranke
Joel Jaroch

The following voter "Nay": None
Absent: Jerry Counterman

The Clerk declared the resolution adopted.

Pamela Schaedig, Clerk

The expense report was distributed and reviewed. The figures will be studied in detail at the March meeting in order to create a proposed 2025 – 2026 township budget. A budget hearing will be set for the end of March to finalize. A motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Isaacs, to stay with the IRS rate of \$.70 per mile, as has been the policy, beginning April 1, 2025. M.C.

Treasurer Pomranke reported that taxes are coming in steadily. She will be at the township hall February 28 for the last day of tax collection before they are sent to the county. She requested that she be allowed to process taxes through March 1 without a penalty. A motion was made by Isaacs, supported by Schaedig, to allow Treasurer Pomranke to process taxes through March 1 before turning them over to the county. M.C.

A motion was made by Isaacs, seconded by Schaedig, to pay bills and adjourn. M.C. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Schaedig, Ocqueoc Township Clerk

