

OCQUEOC TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

April 10, 2025 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Ocqueoc Township Board was held on April 10, 2025 at the Township Hall. Board members present were – Jerry Counterman, Joel Jaroch, Shari Pomranke, and Pam Schaedig.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Counterman at 7:00 p.m. The agenda was distributed and approved. Due to no lights or heat because of the ice storm, a motion was made by Schaedig, supported by Jaroch, to dispense with the reading of the minutes to shorten the meeting. M.C.

Schaedig gave a report on the March 26 Onaway Ambulance Board meeting. Hyde is still checking into how the new Earned Sick Time Act will affect the Ambulance Service. The employees, through the donation fund, purchased a "Thumper" for \$10,000, which does compressions for CPR. They also purchased new modems for the rigs, so they can send stats ahead to the hospital. Hyde priced vans (\$140,000) vs. trucks (\$250,000), but they are smaller and can hold less equipment. Cheboygan is purchasing one, and he will check it out when it arrives. Hyde will write an article for townships to put in their newsletters explaining the Subscription program. There were 32 Advanced runs, 7 Basic, and 18 No-Transports. 1,644.8 miles were logged, with 1 run to Bearinger and 3 Ocqueoc.

Counterman gave a report on the Rogers City Area Ambulance Service Authority meeting April 9. In February there were 122 calls, with 55 No-Transports and 67 ER runs. Bearinger had no calls and Ocqueoc zero No-Transports and 6 ER runs. March had 150 calls, with 66 No-Transports and 84 ER runs. Bearinger had 2 ER runs, and Ocqueoc had 5 No-Transports and 2 ER runs. The budget committee will meet to work on the budget for the new fiscal year, which goes from July 1 - June 30.

Jaroch gave a report on the Friends of the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center meeting. EGLE will do volunteer work, painting etc., at the Center on June 17. A \$4,000 grant for the dock project was received from Awakon Federal Credit Union. Drost Design Firm from Petoskey will contact Joe Libby about designing the walkway.

A motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Pomranke, to have Northeast MI Pest Management again treat the township hall for flies, paying in advance for a 5% discount. M.C.

Schaedig will contact Allan Berg to see if he is still available to attend our May 8 board meeting to discuss the 30-year Gas Franchise Agreement.

Treasurer Pomranke reported that several CDs are maturing April 25 at Huntington Bank. A motion was made by Schaedig, supported by Jaroch, to authorize Treasurer Pomranke to move the money from those CDs to either Huron Bank or Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union if the rates are better. M.C.

A motion was made by Pomranke, seconded by Schaedig, to have Braeden Szymanski remove the broken and fallen trees at the cemetery, which were damaged in the ice storm, and move them to the gravel pit, at a cost of \$600. M.C.

The County Road Commission is requesting the public's cooperation in not placing vegetative debris and/or other materials downed or damaged by the recent ice storm in the road right-of-way. Michigan law prohibits such encroachments, which interferes with the road commission and utility company's ability to provide service and maintenance. These materials

can clog culverts and cause flooding on private properties as well. Ocqueoc residents can take vegetative debris from the ice storm to the county road commission gravel pit on Cheboygan Plains Highway east of Ocqueoc Road beginning on Saturday April 12 from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and continuing until no longer needed. It will not be open Easter Sunday, but will on Good Friday. There will be an attendant available to open the gate and give directions.

Schaedig attended a meeting with Emergency Services Coordinator Sarah Melching at the Airport Building April 10 at 3:30 p.m. along with other township officers in person, the County Clerk, 3 members of Rubicon, several township officials on Zoom, and Assistant Fire Chief Merchant from the Ocqueoc/Bearinger Fire Department. P.I. County has received local and state disaster declaration, and is waiting for Presidential declaration. They want townships, cities and villages to submit preliminary damage assessments for the state to come up with figures to submit. They would like rough estimates by April 11. The possible figures for Ocqueoc township would include the transfer site attendant for residents to dispose of spoiled food, and cemetery clean-up of the downed trees. If an individual needs help with cleaning up their yard of trees, they are urged to call 211. A motion was made by Jaroch, seconded by Schaedig, to give a figure to Sarah Melching of \$1,080 for 4 days of work for the transfer site attendant and for cemetery clean-up. M.C.

Jaroch suggested talking to Rich Lamb from the Advance about having space for townships to highlight their activities, and he will do that.

A motion was made by Schaedig, supported by Jaroch, to authorize a check for \$3,500 to be delivered to Jerry Counterman when kitchen remodeling is completed and inspected. M.C.

A motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Jaroch, to pay bills and adjourn. M.C.
The electricity came on at 7:30 p.m. and the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Schaedig, Clerk