

OCQUEOC TOWNSHIP BOARD  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2025 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Ocqueoc Township Board was held on September 11, 2025 at the Township Hall. All board members were present - Jerry Counterman, Jerome Isaacs, Joel Jaroch, Shari Pomranke and Pam Schaedig. Also present were Penny Blackwood, Jim Spiker, and Steve Kellar.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Counterman at 7:00 p.m. and began with the pledge to the flag. The agenda was distributed and approved as presented. The minutes of the August meeting were read and one correction was made – the bridge on U.S. 23 over the Ocqueoc River is scheduled to be re-decked, not replaced, in 2027.

Schaedig gave a report on the August 27 Onaway Ambulance Board meeting. They are still expecting an ambulance to be available in spring of 2026. Coordinator Hyde will look into ordering another for 2028, since we are behind in receiving them. The carpet in kitchen area in the crew quarters is over 20 years old, and they could use more cupboards for storage – more of the crew is spending time in the building. The board authorized Hyde to spend up to \$3,000 for flooring and used cabinets. There were 27 Advanced runs, 9 Basic and 23 No-Transports. 1,540.8 miles were logged, with one run to Ocqueoc and zero to Bearinger.

Jaroch gave a report on the Friends of the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center (FOOC). As of August 27, financial balance was \$19,802.21. The Lumberjack Fundraising Breakfast will be held on October 11 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. September 20 there will be a star gazing event and there are 66 people already registered. Joe Libby contacted Dross Landscaping for qualifications for the dock project, which hopefully means they can move forward with the project.

Counterman gave a report on the Fire Board meeting. The Fire Chief reported on the calls they responded to, a memorial plaque for Gary Yaklin, truck repairs, dry hydrant repairs, and training. The MFR Coordinator reported that there were 6 runs – 5 to Ocqueoc, 1 to Bearinger, with Rogers City responding to 4 and Onaway 2, with 2 No-Transports.

A new Fire Protection contract with Case Township for the south 18 sections was reviewed. A motion was made by Isaacs, seconded by Schaedig, to sign the 5-year agreement. M.C.

Sample Cemetery Ordinances were reviewed. A motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Isaacs, to appoint Joel Jaroch and Penny Blackwood to a committee to make recommendations for a Cemetery Ordinance and bring them to the November meeting. M.C.

A lengthy discussion on the transfer site ensued. Jaroch is meeting with Elizabeth Hill from Wolverine Power tomorrow to walk the property of a possible new transfer site. The transfer site job description was also discussed, with Jaroch presenting some possible changes. It was decided that board members should review the changes and be ready to finalize the job description at the October meeting.

Jaroch will talk to David Kowalski from the Road Commission about getting quotes for Perma-zyme for several roads in the township.

There will be an Intermediate School District (ISD) millage election on November 4, 2025. There will be an Election Commission meeting before the next board meeting, October 9 at 6:50 p.m., to appoint election inspectors for the election.

Beginning October 1, 2025, the Earned Sick Time Act will make the transfer site attendant eligible for 1 hour of paid time for every 30 hours she works. She is the only employee in the township who is eligible.

Braeden Szymanski has asked to be able to bid on snow plowing for the township hall for the upcoming season. The board agreed to let him put in a bid.

A motion was made by Schaedig, supported by Isaacs, to authorize Treasurer Pomranke to open a high-interest-rate CD of 6% at AAACU with township funds. M.C.

New checks will be needed by the end of the year, and it was decided to keep the checking account at Huntington Bank.

The expense report was distributed and reviewed.

Treasurer Pomranke has been busy with taxes, and will have her 8-hour day to collect on September 15.

A motion was made by Isaacs, seconded by Schaedig, to pay bills and adjourn. M.C. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Schaedig, Clerk