

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

The regular meeting of the Ocqueoc Township Board was held on November 13, 2025 at the Township Hall. All board members were present - Jerry Counterman, Jerome Isaacs, Shari Pomranke, Joel Jaroch, and Pam Schaedig. Also present were Penny Blackwood, Greg Jaroch, Steve Kellar, Tim Prichard, and Susan Radka.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Counterman at 10:00 a.m. and began with the pledge to the flag. The agenda was distributed and approved with several additions. A motion was made Schaedig, seconded by Isaacs, to dispense with the reading of the minutes. M.C.

Schaedig gave a report on the October 22 Onaway Ambulance Board meeting. The audit was reviewed and found nothing unusual. Countertops and cabinets are in the crew quarters, they are waiting for flooring, which should cost about \$1,300. The recliners need to be replaced, and Hyde will try to keep the cost within the \$3,000 that was approved. There were 28 Advanced runs, 5 Basic, and 21 No-transport. Ocqueoc had 4 calls and Bearinger 2. Because of the holidays, the November meeting has been changed to the 19th, and December 17th.

Jaroch gave a report on the Friends of the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center meeting October 22. Financial report showed \$21,922.58. The treasurer has yet to figure out receipts/expenses from the Stargazing event and Lumberjack Breakfast. Some bunks have been repaired and a new door on the pump house. The landscape architect's work for the dock project will be presented to the Board of Commissioners at the meeting at 7:00 p.m. tonight. There were some concerns about the scenic aspect of the area, and the architect assured Jaroch that the path from the parking lot to the dock will be designed to minimize any impact to the area. Susan Radka has offered to help with the project, since she was involved from the beginning.

Counterman gave a report on the November 6 Fire Board meeting. The Fire Chief and Medical Coordinator gave their reports on runs, as well as reports on vehicle maintenance, dry hydrant repairs, and crew training. HazMat Training and Fit testing will be done. The ISO rating has been upgraded to 8B again. All the turn-out gear will be expiring in 2029, so they would like to start replacing gradually instead of waiting until the last minute.

Counterman attended the P.I.E&G Liaison meeting November 10, and there was no discussion about natural gas. They are still hoping to get some money from FEMA from the ice storm, since 90% of the 67,000 poles needed to be replaced.

Jaroch had tally sheets for the transfer site attendant to use, as well as a job description. A motion was made by Jaroch, seconded by Isaacs, to give the tally sheets to Suzanne Foster, approve the job description and give her a copy also. M.C. On the tally sheet there are spaces for her to give her comments.

Purchasing land for a transfer site was discussed, and Jaroch did research on clearing land and fencing. He will reach out to the DNR about a possible land swap. The board will discuss the possibility at the December meeting, as well as keeping the transfer site at the current location and pay rent to Todd Curtis. The current lease is for \$1,900 per year for 5 years.

Penny Blackwood and Joel Jaroch will meet at the beginning of next week and hopefully have a proposed cemetery ordinance for the December meeting.

A motion was made by Pomranke, seconded by Schaedig, to have Susan Radka clean the township hall once a month for \$50, and if the cleaning goes more than 2 hours, she would receive an additional \$15 per hour. M.C.

The old tables, benches and orange chairs are stored in the basement of the township hall. It was proposed that they be put up for sale, with the proceeds going to the fire department.

The next P.I. County Township Officers meeting will be December 2, at 7:00 p.m. at the Presque Isle Township Hall, 12635 East Grand Lake Road, Presque Isle 49777. Short term rentals are expected to be discussed.

The November 4 election had 103 Absentee ballots and 60 in-person voters, with the millage being turned down on a vote of 79 yes and 84 no. The millage was also defeated in total votes.

The expense report was distributed and reviewed.

The treasurer's financial report was distributed. Taxes are being prepared for December. A motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Pomranke, to close the remaining account, #16243, at Awakon Federal Credit Union. M.C.

Jaroch discussed using a vehicle counter to monitor traffic at the transfer site. A trail cam was also discussed, and Jaroch will research it.

Tim Prichard introduced himself as the new Emergency Services Manager for Presque Isle County to replace Sarah Melching, who resigned. He has only been in the position for 2 weeks, but is attending township meetings throughout the county to tell of his vision for the office in the aftermath of the ice storm. He will research emergency shelters for future situations, and the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center was mentioned, since the county owns the land.

A motion was made by Isaacs, seconded by Schaedig, to pay bills and adjourn. M.C. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Schaedig, clerk