

OCQUEOC TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

April 9, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Ocqueoc Township Board was held on April 9, 2026 at the Township Hall. All board members were present - Jerry Counterman, Jerome Isaacs, Joel Jaroch, Shari Pomranke, and Pam Schaedig. Also present were Steve Kellar and Penny Blackwood.

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

Schaedig gave a report on the March 25 Onaway Ambulance Board meeting. It was a very slow month, so the billing receipts are down for the month – there were 16 Advanced, 5 Basic, and 31 No-Transports. Hyde is still working on billing for No-Transports. Currently, a “treat --- no-transport” must have a “payable diagnosis” in order for insurance to pay, even though paramedics aren’t allowed to make a diagnosis. And there is still a problem with calls for a “lift-assist”. Several residents have called over 50 times a year. There is an option to try to prosecute for “911 abuse”, but it is a difficult procedure. The board decided to bill \$300 for a treat --- No-Transport, even though insurance may not pay. And the board decided to charge \$100 for a “lift assist”, with the first one of the year being free. The medics would have a brochure available for Onaway Plus, telling the person that after the one “free”, it would cost \$100, and it would be better to subscribe to Onaway Plus for \$70. Ocqueoc and Bearinger each had one run, with Ocqueoc’s being a No-Transport.

Counterman gave a report on the Rogers City Area Ambulance Service Authority meeting April 8. The last quarter had a loss of \$108,035. February had 119 calls with 43 No-Transports and 76 ER runs, Bearinger with zero runs and Ocqueoc with 2 No-Transports and 4 ER runs. March had 130 calls with 50 No-Transports and 80 ER runs, Bearinger had 1 No-Transport and 1 ER run, Ocqueoc with zero. They were going to purchase a new chassis and remount the box, but there was mold between the walls, making the box unusable. They will purchase a chassis and remount from Antrim County, and try to sell their chassis. They are working on wording for an additional .25 mil for equipment expenses to be put on the August ballot.

Jaroch gave a report on the Friends of the Ocqueoc Outdoor Center meeting March 25. It looks like the dock project will be going forward, hoping to have it completed by the end of 2026, using a firm from Alpena. There will be a Stargazing event September 11-13 and the Lumberjack Breakfast October 11.

Jaroch attended the Road Commission meeting. They will be receiving \$750,000 from FEMA for costs related to the ice storm of April, 2025. This last major snowstorm cost \$67,000 in fuel alone. Several township road projects were discussed - .61 miles of River Road for permazyme, at a cost of \$20,112 to the township, and also .20 miles of Cheboygan Plains to the public landing, at a cost of \$11,000 to the township. A motion was made by Isaacs, seconded by Pomranke, to move forward with both projects. On a roll call vote, Schaedig, Isaacs, Jaroch, Pomranke, and Counterman voted Aye. The township would like a drawing with rough measurements and specifications before proceeding. Jaroch will also check with the road commission on the cost of grading, reshaping, and graveling other roads in the township.

Counterman and Blackwood gave a report on the Short-term rental public hearing. A proposed ordinance was presented, but a lot of work still needs to be done. They felt it is a good start.

A motion was made by Schaedig, supported by Isaacs, to have Jaroch send the township proposed Cemetery Ordinance to our attorney, Timothy MacArthur, for review. M.C.

The township is on the list for Shumaker Group to review our website, seeing what the cost would be to make it ADA compliant. The deadline for compliance is April of 2027.

The end of year expenditure report was distributed and reviewed.

Treasurer Pomranke reported that taxes are done.

The board reviewed ballot language from attorney MacArthur for putting a renewal of the Emergency Services millage on the August 4, 2026 ballot.

RESOLUTION OF OCQUEOC TOWNSHIP BOARD AUTHORIZING
PLACEMENT OF A FIRE PROTECTION
AND EMERGENCY SERVICES MILLAGE RENEWAL
PROPOSITION ON THE BALLOT
FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION ON AUGUST 4, 2026
RESOLUTION NO. 4-9-2026

WHEREAS, the Township Board of Trustees of Ocqueoc Township, Presque Isle County, Michigan has been advised that the current voted fire protection and emergency services millage that said township levies expired in 2025 and that said township is without sufficient funds to pay for fire protection and emergency services absent a millage renewal; and

WHEREAS, the Ocqueoc Township Board of Trustees has considered whether it should place a fire protection and emergency services millage renewal proposition on the ballot for the primary election to be held on August 4, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Ocqueoc Township Board of Trustees has determined that the original fire protection and emergency services millage rate of 1.00 mill has been reduced by required millage rollbacks to .9731 mills; and

WHEREAS, the Ocqueoc Township Board of Trustees has determined that a fire protection and emergency services millage renewal of 1.00 mill would be sufficient to pay for fire protection and emergency services within the township; and

WHEREAS, the Ocqueoc Township Board of Trustees has determined that said fire protection and emergency services renewal millage proposition should be levied for a period of five (5) years, 2026 through 2030, inclusive; and

WHEREAS, the Ocqueoc Township Board of Trustees has determined it would be appropriate to place the fire protection and emergency services millage renewal proposition on the ballot for the primary election to be held on August 4, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ocqueoc Township Board of Trustees does hereby authorize that a fire protection and emergency services renewal millage proposition with an increase to the original voted 1.00 mills be placed on the ballot for the primary election to be held on August 4, 2026 with said millage being levied for a period of five (5) years, 2026 through 2030, inclusive; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ocqueoc Township Board of Trustees does hereby approve the following fire millage ballot question language:

"RENEWAL MILLAGE PROPOSITION
FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Shall the previous voted increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes within Ocqueoc Township, Presque Isle County, Michigan, of 1.00 mill (\$1.00 per \$1,000.00 of taxable value), reduced to .9731 mills (\$.9731 per \$1,000.00 of taxable value) by the required millage rollbacks, be renewed and increased up to the original voted 1.00 mill (\$1.00 per \$1,000.00 of taxable value) and levied for five (5) years, 2026 through 2030 inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds to be used by the Township for fire protection and emergency services within said Township and shall said Township levy such renewal millage, or any portion thereof, during such period, which renewal millage will raise in the first year of said levy an estimated \$79,476.00?

YES _____
NO _____”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ocqueoc Township Board of Trustees hereby directs the Ocqueoc Township Clerk to send a copy of this resolution and the ballot proposition to the Presque Isle County Clerk in sufficient time for the proposition to be placed on the ballot for the primary election to be held on August 4, 2026.

It was moved by Jerome Isaacs and supported by Pam Schaedig, that the above Resolution be adopted.

Those voting aye:	Pam Schaedig Jerome Isaacs Joel Jaroch Shari Pomranke Jerry Counterman
Those voting nay:	None
Those absent:	None

The Supervisor declared the above resolution adopted by vote of the board members present.

CERTIFICATE OF TOWNSHIP CLERK

The undersigned Clerk of the Township of Ocqueoc hereby certifies that the foregoing resolution constitutes a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the township board of Ocqueoc Township, Presque Isle County, Michigan, held on April 9, 2026, and that the

foregoing is a true and accurate excerpt of the minutes of said meeting at which meeting five (5) members of the township board were present and voted as indicated in said minutes, and that said meeting was held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of the State of Michigan.

Pamela S. Schaedig
Ocqueoc Township Clerk

A motion was made by Counterman, seconded by Isaacs, to authorize Clerk Schaedig to take an online election class through MTA. M.C.

A motion was made by Schaedig, supported by Isaacs, to authorize Pomranke to purchase kitchen utensils and supplies for the township hall kitchen. M.C.

Jaroch is willing to work on removing the standing water in the basement from the recent snow melt. A motion was made by Schaedig, seconded by Isaacs, to pay him for his time. M.C.

Pomranke distributed brochures on activities of the P.I. District Library.

A motion was made by Isaacs, seconded by Schaedig, to pay bills and adjourn. M.C.
The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Schaedig, Clerk