

**Minutes of the Clay Township Regular Board Meeting Held Monday September 15, 2008
in the Clay Township Meeting Hall, 4710 Pointe Tremble Road, Clay Township, Michigan**

Supervisor Manos called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Supervisor Jon Manos, Clerk Michael Pellerito, Treasurer Connie Turner, Trustee Thomas Krueger, Trustee John Makuch, Trustee Jay DeBoyer, Trustee David Dare

ABSENT: None

Citizens: 25

BILLS PAYABLE

Motion by Turner, supported by Krueger, to pay the bills in the amount of \$212,609.86

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Krueger, Makuch, Turner, Manos, Pellerito, DeBoyer, Dare

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Makuch, supported by Krueger, to approved the Consent Agenda as presented with the reading of the notice.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Clerk Pellerito read the notice of close of registration on October 6, 2008

OLD BUSINESS

1. Harsens Island Fire Department Request for EMT Classes

Makuch: Had some discussions with Chief DuPage and other Trustees. Does any of the Board have any questions they would like to ask Daryl directley?

DeBoyer: I need more information; what the step up is and what does it qualify you to do? What the advantages and potential disadvantages?

Lisa White: Looking to do the EMT class. It is called a limited advanced license. The advance would be paramedic, IVs, inhabations, heart monitor drugs. Limited advanced Specialist level is IVs and inhabitations, and a select number of drugs, one or two. If aware of State and Fire service you see a lot of fire departments going medical, there's not fires anymore. Look at Chesterfield and Ira, all getting to medicine. Fires don't pay anymore. Look at white paper put out by government; EMS is going towards the fire department. Harsens Island has quite a few minutes to wait for the ambulance. The specialist level, we can secure an airway, put a tube in their throat, give oxygen, the IV to give fluids. With spinal injuries you have a limited time to get this established. In the Upper Peninsula limited advanced units are very poplar, not so much in the lower, we're a special case. It is 150-hour class. Need to look at liability. I look at complications as minimal. It is not a big life or death with IVs. Inhabitations, there's protocols in place; you miss twice you go to a different airway. You have to decide if it is worth it. I think it is a natural step forward. Give guys credit for wanting to go forward.

DeBoyer: I'm not a firefighter, but one concern is that we are going from a first responder for medical treatment to now becoming invasive.

White: Airways we already do, not inhabitations. Protocol tells you to try twice. With IVs the worst you are going to get is bruising, rarely anything life threatening or permanent damage.

Makuch: When I started to delve into this; when you go to EMT specialist; talked to paramedic in a larger city and I disagree with you. Your opinion on the IVs is a little bit on the easy side, you can have permanent damage. Daughter a phlebotomist at Port Huron Hospital, if she has difficulty she calls in a nurse or anesthesiologist.

White: You are erring on the side of the Township rather than the citizens

Makuch: If you do it all the time you minimize risks

White: That is not true. I do it all the time and I go weeks and not be able to hit one. It's a clinical skill.

Makuch: What about inhabitations?

White: There is a higher risk of injury or detriment to the patient. There are policies and procedures put in place by St. Clair Medical Control. What we carry is less successful and higher risks of aspiration and complications. You have to make the decision. It is higher license and a higher training and it is beneficial especially on the island because we wait longer and have water calls.

Makuch: I understand the island is certified, licensed EMT?

White: Licensed

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Makuch: Mainland is MFR. If you go to basic what does that give you over MFR?

White: Carry eppy pen, for allergic reactions and keen airways.

Makuch: Concerns are several. To show a concern to get everyone certified can be construed to mean they don't want us to have any training. We have nine people at \$375.00 and this is an election year and there are going to be changes on this Board. Where do we go from here, do we want to be more medical? Nowhere has it been mentioned that we have had problems with ambulance service, this is the first I have heard of it, just to justify this claim. We have a limited budget in terms of education. I would like to see the Board decide if that is the policy we want to go with. Have to bring new trainees up to date.

White: People are willing to do this; retainment is a big issue right now in fire service. You may not have people willing to do this next year. Being on the Island period you are going to add 10 minutes to the wait. The brain dies in 46 minutes without oxygen, the heart dies in 20 minutes without getting advanced care. I understand your concerns but Harsens Island Fire Department was under budget last year by \$14,000.00.

Turner: Any requirement to the training you have to have before taking the EMT training?

White: Have to be an EMT basic, take a state test.

Turner: How many of the firefighters have it?

White: All but the new ones I think

DuPage: We have two members and four probationarys that don't have it.

Turner: So you have basically six people who are not covered under this?

DuPage: Correct. Out of 12 two are higher than EMT, so 10 EMTs, 2 paramedics.

White: This isn't saying if you go to the class you can do it. You have to go to the State and be licensed.

DuPage: You have to go to Med Control and get their blessing and Dr. Mills has to sign it. I discussed this to Dr. Mills in March and discussed it with Med Control and got their blessing. I did that so we didn't take the class, spend the money and then be turned down by Med Control.

DeBoyer: What additional requirements of the fire department is there when you take that step up, is equipment, certifications.

White: Equipment, have to look at State list.

DeBoyer: Once licensed at that level are we required to always someone on scene who has that license?

DuPage: As Basics we are required to have an EMT 24/7

White: That is what we are now

DuPage: If we step up we will be required to have at least one. Whatever vehicle is at that level cannot leave the station unless it has that level person on board.

White: We can always have a Basic unit licensed.

DeBoyer: Is that part of the reason of nine?

DuPage: Required to have six, then you have to show you can do a 24/7, it's tough to do with six.

Manos: Years ago became part of the Ambulance Authority in St. Clair County. We fought to get an ambulance company down here and have personnel available on a 24-hour available. We pay for that so it's the Board's decision whether we want to elevate either the Mainland Fire Department or the Island Department into another status which immediately puts those people on the front line and the people coming now from the ambulance authority either after the fact or how does that effect their lively hood or status in the community. Are we going to eliminate them?

Makuch: I look at as two different issues, do we want to evolve into the next phase of deeper medical care with higher liabilities but a reward as well and using the education budget and going over budget. I would like to see the trainees brought up to the Basic level. And perhaps get some training with highbred.

White: I happen to work for Tri-Hospital EMS that is supposed to be here 24/7 and I will tell you that the last call that I responded to from Harsens Island was from River District. You did not page our hospital to sit here. Every time a call goes out we go to Marine City, every time they take a patient out of River District to St. Johns, or other hospitals, Station four here in Clay goes to Marine City and sits status. We are a status management company. Nobody except Kimball Township pays a fee to have an ambulance serve their area. We receive 911 and County money and we bill.

DeBoyer: One thing I didn't mention is that the crux of what a Township does is supply Police protection and fire protection. I think we need to get a better policy on what direction we want to head with our departments.

Krueger: Is this request to go to EMT specialists in your minds based on need or something that is the next step in natural progression to better service to the community?

White: A little of both. I believe that is where it is going. MedStar is slowly moving out, they lost Ira; go on line and type in "private EMS" and you will see it is on the way out. There is not money in it any more, eventually they are going to say we are done and out of here unless you pay us a hundred grand a year to sit in your Township. I think it's what is best for the residents.

Krueger: You needed to perform these additional services how many times in the last year on Harsens Island as a Fireman not as an EMT person?

White: Quite a few actually, can't give an actual number. Had three broken necks out on the bay this year. Need an IV right away because they lose their blood pressure.

Krueger: What about the inhabitations?

White: Don't think they are as big an issue.

Manos: Will entertain a motion from the Board. No motion or support then no action will be taken on that request.

2. Zoning Ordinance #126 Amendment

Manos: Sent to Mr. McNamee last week; he will have something for us at the next Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATING TO ANY NEW BUSINESS

D. Pellerito, 7279 Dyke Rd: Regarding #8. No a request by Republican Party, request of precinct delegate. Would the Board consider a debate or Town Hall type meeting with the TV equipment used in October? This is still in the conversation process.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution to Vacate Butternut Avenue

Manos: Have had the public hearing, a motion to approve or deny from the Board is in order.

DeBoyer: Based on the information from our Attorney, the result will be Circuit Court one-way or the other.

Motion by Turner, supported by Krueger, to deny the resolution to vacate Butternut Avenue

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Makuch, Turner, Manos, Pellerito, DeBoyer, Dare, Krueger

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

2. Resolution #4 – Martz Drive to Confirm the Roll

Motion by Makuch, supported by Turner, to adopt resolution # 4 to approve the assessment district for Martz Drive Road Repair & Maintenance

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Turner, Manos, Pellerito, DeBoyer, Dare, Krueger, Makuch

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

3. DRC Request for Final Installment

Motion by Turner, supported by Makuch, to approve the request for the final payment in the amount of \$20,000.00

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

4. Police Chief Request for Re-appointment to Central Dispatch Board

Motion by DeBoyer, supported by Pellerito, to approve the reappointment of Chief Drake to the Central Dispatch Board

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

5. Police Chief Request for Reserve Officer Pay Increase

Motion by DeBoyer, supported by Turner, to approve the pay increase for Reserve Officers from \$10.00 to \$10.50 per hour

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

6. MLCC – Lega’s

Motion by Makuch, supported by Turner, to approve the request to transfer the liquor license from Johnnie Legas, Inc. to Lega’s Pearl Beach, LLC

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Manos, Pellerito, DeBoyer, Dare, Krueger, Makuch, Turner

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

7. Resolution to Apply for Road Funding

Motion by DeBoyer, supported by Krueger, to adopt the resolution making application to the St. Clair County Road Commission for funding to improve LaCroix Road

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Pellerito, DeBoyer, Dare, Krueger, Makuch, Turner, Manos

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

8. Request by SCC Republican Party to use Meeting Hall for Meet the Candidate

Pellerito: Think should make the building available for all parties with the use of the audio video equipment

Motion by Pellerito, supported by Krueger, to allow Meeting Hall to be used for Meet the Candidate and pay for video operation

Manos: Including County offices?

Pellerito: Open to all on ballot

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

9. Request to Hire Expert Witness – Clay Twp vs. BMJ

Motion by Makuch, supported by DeBoyer, to allow Attorney to hire the recommended expert witness

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

10. Request to Purchase Voting Tabulator

Pellerito: Since 2004 Precinct 2 was created, had to move AVCB tabulator to that precinct, now need additional tabulator. We have no choice in type of tabulator, State designated.

Motion by DeBoyer, supported by Makuch, to approve the purchase of a Sequoia Insight Tabulator at a cost of \$6,500.00

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

D. Pellerito, 7279 Dyke Rd: Questions on meeting residency requirements

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Pellerito: There is going to be a fireworks display in Marine City and Great Lakes Fireworks would be off-loading the fireworks at Olson Marine. Spoke to Chief Edler about it. This is not a government-sponsored program. When they came to see me, because the Fire Chief said it was out of his jurisdiction, we said if the private concern were to pay for the fire personal to standby thereby not costing the Township any money it could possibly be acceptable means to do it. Don’t want to see the Marine City event shut down because they could not off-load the fireworks. Just asking what the Boards thoughts are. All ordinances and insurances are to be in place.

Turner: What about Marine City’s fire department?

DeBoyer: What would be the difference between the inter-governmental cooperation with the City of Algonac and Marine City on the same issue?

Pellerito: Believe we have something here that has to do with tax revenues generated through tourism to both our communities. We share our fire & police through mutual aid and this is a generation of revenue.

Makuch: How long?

Pellerito: Depends, could be two to four hours.

Manos: Be done here, not going to Marine City?

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Pellerito: It would be done here. Need to know the Board's opinion.

Manos: My consensus would be if they were willing to pay for the service so be it.

Pellerito: Are we okay with this?

Consensus: Yes

Krueger: Regarding EMT classes, would like to think about it and bring it back.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Makuch, supported by DeBoyer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Michael P. Pellerito
Clay Township Clerk