

Echo Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2025

Derenzy called meeting to order at 7:00pm. Board members present: Hott, Graham, Derenzy & Kucharek; absent: Petrie. Seven guests in the audience. Pledge of Allegiance recited by all. Commissioner Scola arrived at 7:45pm.

January minutes reviewed by the Board. Motion by Hott to approve minutes; supported by Graham. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report reviewed by the Board. Motion by Graham to approve Treasurer's report; supported by Kucharek. Motion carried.

Motion by Hott to approve payment of bills totaling \$19,698.51; supported by Graham. Motion carried.

Guest Speakers: (1) Leslie Meyers presented overview of the role and importance of Dams Operator and Drain Commissioner along with the need and her willingness to assist with completing FEMA forms regarding National Flood Insurance. (2) Lyndsey Eccles introduced herself as the new County Parks Director; and informed the Board that a new dock will be installed at Beal's Lake in the spring.

Public Comment: (1) Sheriff Hoch reviewed January 911 calls for Echo Twp.; updated Board on recent arrests, stating they are currently housing 32 inmates. (2) Resident read letter from new County Clerk regarding voting equipment. (3) Twp Representative for JV EMS Authority, Tim Timmer, updated Board and provided overview of their 2025/2026 budget. (4) Commissioner Scola updated Board on county business – Public Safety Center is moving forward.

Unfinished Business: FEMA – National Flood Insurance Program

New Business: (1) Motion by Hott to adopt the policy regarding Earned Sick Time Act; supported by Graham. Motion carried. (2) Motion by Hott to accept quote from Creative Characters for Township Park sign; supported by Graham. Motion carried. (3) Motion by Hott to replace existing Township Hall lights with LED, dimmable lights; supported by Graham. Motion carried.

Discussion: Preliminary 2025/2026 budget information distributed for review. Budget meeting will be held March 5th at 6:00pm.

Correspondence: Reviewed correspondence. Bryan Graham, current township council, is retiring. Bryan recommended new law firm that will be based in Harbor Springs to assume the legal business of the township.

Supervisor Reports: Reminder that MTA BOR training will be held tomorrow from 4:00pm - 8:00pm at Twp Hall.

Motion made by Graham; supported by Kucharek to adjourn at 9:50pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Kucharek, Clerk