## Echo Township Regular Meeting Minutes September 6, 2023

Derenzy called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Board members present: Hott, Graham, Derenzy, Petrie & Kucharek. Three guests in the audience. Pledge of Allegiance recited by all.

August minutes presented by Kucharek. Motion by Hott to approve minutes; supported by Graham. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report reviewed by the board. Motion by Petrie to approve Treasurer's report; supported by Graham. Motion carried.

Motion by Graham to approve payment of bills, as presented, totaling \$17,618.35; supported by Petrie. Motion carried.

**Public Comment: (1)** Sheriff Bean reviewed the Sheriff's report, gave an update on new hires at the department, and updated the Board on the progress of the Public Safety Center. Dan's last day is September 8<sup>th</sup>. The Board thanked him for his many years of service and wished him well in his retirement. Kevin Hoch has been sworn in as the interim Sheriff and his Under Sheriff is George Lassiter, Jr. (2) Resident wanted to let the Board know that he was mistakenly listed as a representative of Echo Township when he attended a meeting regarding Hazard and Mitigation Planning. He attended the meeting on his own and was not serving the Township in any capacity.

**New Business:** (1) Motion by Hott to extend the AT&T Metro Act extension through December 31, 2028; supported by Graham. Motion carried. (2) Motion by Hott to accept the proposal of \$16,500.00 from TAP Services to install a Ballot Drop Box and to construct a 12-foot roof over the south-side door and Ballot Drop Box; supported by Derenzy. Motion carried. (3) Motion by Petrie to accept the proposal of \$3,641.60 from Trend Window & Design for the purchase and installation of vertical blinds in the Hall; supported by Graham. Motion carried.

**Discussion: (1)** Clerk gave update on recent seminar regarding new election laws; there are still a lot of unknowns. **(2)** Jordan Township's 17 voters (in CLPS district) will be joining Echo Township on the November 7<sup>th</sup> election for the Central Lake Public School Bond Proposal. **(3)** Board has agreed that the nine-days of early voting beginning in 2024, will be held as a single municipality; voters will cast their votes at the Township Hall. **(4)** Township audit was received. **(5)** Clerk submitted 2023 Work Comp Audit. **(6)** Clerk to contact Morrison Electric for general maintenance on the Generac generator.

**Supervisor Report: (1)** Updated Board on a Kidder Road incident with fallen tree limbs. **(2)** Spoke with South Arm Twp Supervisor regarding wake boats. They are not considering an ordinance – leaving enforcement up to the DNR and Sheriff's Department.

Motion made by Hott; supported by Petrie to adjourn at 9:10pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Kucharek, Clerk