

CROCKERY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
HELD ON MARCH 10, 2014

1. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Stille at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
3. Roll call: Present: Stille, Buchanan, VanBemmelen and Suchecki. Absent: Constantine. Others present: Fire Chief Gary Dreyer and Attorney Mark Nettleton.
4. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Suchecki to approve the minutes of February 10, 2014 as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
5. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by VanBemmelen to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2014 Special Meeting as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by Suchecki to approve disbursements as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.
7. Supervisor's comments/correspondence was heard. The Township closed on the Hatfield/Garzelloni property on March 7, 2014 for the North Bank Trail. The Jablonski property closing should be next week. The Township has been served with an Amended Complaint that was filed in the Ottawa County Circuit Court by Homesales, Inc. The lawsuit concerns the property located at 10692 Garfield, the north part of which is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Mark Gleason and the remainder of which is now owned by Chase Bank. Homesales is acting on behalf of Chase Bank in the lawsuit. Ron Redick of Mika, Meyers, Beckett and Jones will represent the Township in this matter. A copy of a letter from Vicki Weerstra of MDOT has been received. This letter acknowledges that the North Bank Trail will utilize the area under I-96 from 120<sup>th</sup> Ave to Murphy Street. Supervisor Stille stated that he has received copies of easements from the Spoonville Gun Club, Jack and Vicki Fisher, and Jackie Fisher for the Spoonville Trail. There was no cost involved for these easements. A letter was received from Tamara Jorkasky with the Michigan Natural Resources Trust fund. She is the one who is overseeing our MNRTF grant application. She stated that she needed information on the completion of a grant the township received in 1990. Jean Copeland was aware of that grant and was able to complete the required report. The easement from the Greenberg Trust has been signed and notarized and will be recorded by the Trust Officer and will then be sent to the Township. Supervisor Stille stated that a recent tragedy occurred due to a weather related accident. Former Township Supervisor Bob Schmidt and his wife Erica were killed in a car accident that occurred on Apple Drive. The Township made arrangements to get the cemetery roads cleared.
7. Treasurer's Report was offered. None was heard.
8. Clerk's Report was offered. None was heard.
9. Public Comment was offered. Supervisor Stille was asked where the Spoonville Trail will be and how long it will be. Supervisor Stille stated that it will come from the Grand River and run along 120<sup>th</sup> Ave out to M-104. He explained that it is the County that is taking the lead on this trail project. There were no further comments

10. Fire Chief's report was given. The department has been very busy this past month with weather related accidents. Firefighter Katie Lasich is expecting to return to active duty in the near future after an extended leave of absence. Firefighter Brittany Renchen will be resigning due to a future move to Grand Haven Township. 4 firefighters have passed the National Registry for Medical First Responders. Those firefighters are Roy Bronnekant, Mike Brewer, Eric Erhorn, and Forest Whipple. The fire department has received a donation of 15 portable radios from Kentwood.
11. Committee Chair reports were offered. None were heard.
12. Board Member Committee reports were hearoffered. None were heard.
13. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by Suchecki to approve 4 bond payments to Ottawa County.
  1. 2014 Annual Infrastructure Improvements - \$42,175.83
  2. 1,275,000 Bond Payment (sewer plant) - \$16,606.88
  3. \$420,000 Bond Payment (Garfield & metering station) - \$6,511.25
  4. \$275,000 Bond Payment (water Leonard & 138<sup>th</sup>) - \$2,500.00All in favor. Motion carried.
14. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Suchecki to authorize the Supervisor and the Clerk to sign the easements with Spoonville Gun Club, Jack and Vicki Fisher, and Jackie Fisher on behalf of the Township. These easements are for the Spoonville Trail and are at no cost to the Township. All in favor. Motion carried.
15. Discussion was held on the proposed library contract with Spring lake. The Township has received a letter from the Spring Lake District Library Board. which outlines the library's contract proposal. The Board can agree with all points of the proposed contract with the exception of turning over to Spring Lake District Library all the escrowed penal fines in one lump sum. In attendance were several members of the group who have been working to get Crockery residents full access to the Spring Lake Library. The Board explained why we want to have these escrowed funds paid out over the life of the contract. Any contract with the library would be contingent on voters approving a library millage.
16. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Suchecki to authorize the Supervisor to work with Angela Hyde on further negotiations with the Spring Lake District Library Board. All in favor. Motion carried.
17. Motion by Buchanan, seconded by VanBemmelen to appoint Rich Hyde as Crockery Township's representative on the Spring Lake Recreation Committee SLARA (Rich currently serves as a Member at Large). All in favor. Motion carried.
18. Melissa Koster who is our current Assessor has given notice that she will be leaving Crockery Township. She is willing to stay for a while until a replacement can be found but she would like it to happen as soon as possible. She wants to become more involved with her family business.
19. Discussion was held concerning the possibility of contracting with the County for assessing services and possibly a financial advisor. A meeting has been set

for the Supervisor and Treasurer to meet with Keith VanBeek to explore the options with the County.

20. Discussion was held regarding a possible tax sharing agreement between the Corridor Improvement Authority regarding the millage for fire protection services. No action was taken.
21. Public Comments were offered. Amy Dupont on Wilson Road stated that a 250 person migrant housing is being built across the street from her house. There were four other residents in attendance who all shared their concerns over how this happened without any input from the surrounding property owners. They are very concerned over the placement of the septic system on top of a ravine along Merkins Drain which runs into Crockery Creek. They are asking the Township to help them. Supervisor Stille stated that we have no jurisdiction in another township. He can make a call to Sullivan on behalf of the Crockery residents, and suggested they call the Water Resources Commissioner about the concerns over the affect this could have with Merkins Drain.
22. Motion by VanBemmelen, seconded by Buchanan to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Submitted by

Kathy Buchanan, Clerk  
Crockery Township