



## WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 20, 2024

**Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance:** Supervisor Walter Ruhl called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 pm in the Whiteford Township Office, 8000 Yankee Road, Suite 100, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267. Board members present were Donald Sahloff, Timothy Hill, Bernice Heidelberg, Christine Bischoff and Walter Ruhl. Attorney Alex Drescher was present. There were approximately 11 guests present. Zoom was available to view the meeting.

**Approve Agenda:** Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Christine Bischoff to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 5 – 0.

Supervisor Walter Ruhl made the following statement regarding the resignation of Road Advisor Bob Schnipke: *“Bob Schnipke has resigned. He is responsible for all township roads being paved. He was Supervisor for over 20 years. He has attended 580 meetings. For the last 20 years he has served as road advisor and been the envy of the other townships. Several have tried to get Bob to be advisor to their township. I would like to thank Bob for his years of service to the township. I hope he will be available to offer advice on road maintenance. Thank You Bob Schnipke.*

Don Sahloff followed with the attached statement on the resignation of Bob Schnipke. Trustee Bernice Heidelberg agreed with statements on Bob Schnipke’s service to Whiteford Township.

**Approve Minutes:** Motion by Don Sahloff, second by Tim Hill to approve the July 16, 2024 minutes as presented. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**June 18, 2024 Meeting Minutes Correction:** Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Tim Hill to approve the following addition/correct to the June 18, 2024 Meeting Minutes:

**Township Notification System:** *Supervisor Walter Ruhl presented TextMyGov notification system to be able to notify the residents about emergencies and other items. Motion by Tim Hill, second by Don Sahloff to table the decision until more information is available to Board members. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff- yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.*

Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

**Check Registers:** Motion by Tim Hill, second by Don Sahloff to approve the General Check Register as presented in the amount of \$171,145.22. Motion passed 5 – 0. Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Christine Bischoff to approve the Utility Check Register as presented in the amount of \$38,654.16. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**General Ledger Transfers:** Motion by Tim Hill, second by Don Sahloff to transfer \$50,000 from the General Fund to the Capital Outlay Fund. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Motion by Christine Bischoff, second by Bernice Heidelberg to transfer \$29,011 from the General Fund to the Debt Service Fund. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

**Treasurer Report:** Motion by Don Sahloff, second by Bernice Heidelberg to approve the Treasurer Report as presented. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**Clerk Cell Phone Stipend:** Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Don Sahloff to pay a \$25 stipend toward the Clerk cell phone. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate:** Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Don Sahloff to appoint Josephine Guy, 5736 St. Anthony Road, Ottawa Lake, MI as the Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

**Final Site Plan Kindred & Kempa:** Motion by Tim Hill, second by Bernice Heidelberg to approve the final site plan contingent upon approval of drive off Sterns Road by the Monroe County Road Commission. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – no; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

Motion by Christine Bischoff, second by Bernice Heidelberg to request a letter of credit in the amount of \$7,500 from Kindred & Kempa. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

**Whiteford Center Fire Station Generator:** Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Christine Bischoff to approve repair of the Whiteford Center Fire Station generator in the amount of \$2,150.82. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

**Firefighter Release of Liability:** Motion by Tim Hill, second by Don Sahloff to approve the Firefighter Release of Liability for Wages and Overtime as presented. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

**Road – Jeffs Road Catch Basin:** Motion by Bernice Heidelberg, second by Christine Bischoff to approve replacing a catch basin on Jeffs Road north of Consear Road in the amount of \$4,492.00. The township portion will be \$2,246.00. Motion passed with a roll call vote: Sahloff – yes; Hill – yes; Heidelberg – yes; Bischoff – yes; Ruhl – yes.

**Cemetery:** Supervisor Walter Ruhl reported the work on the drain is complete.

**Park:** Supervisor Walter Ruhl reported that ball tournaments are complete for the year. The cement forms for the new playground are set. The pickleball courts are busy most of the time. The Fall Festival is scheduled for October 5, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm with the completion of the agenda.

Christine Bischoff  
Whiteford Township Clerk