



## WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 18, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Supervisor Jeff Thomas 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 Steve Morgan, Bob Lloyd, Jeff Thomas, Christine Bischoff and Lee Strahan. There were 19 guests.

**APPROVE AGENDA:** Motion by Bob Lloyd, second by Steve Morgan to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Motion by Christine Bischoff, second by Bob Lloyd to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**SHERIFF GOODNOUGH:** Sheriff Troy Goodnough was present to report on crime statistics, Humane Society, sheriff duties and answer questions from the audience. The following concerns were brought up: Whiteford and Consear Roads dangerous intersection; car haulers on non-truck route roads; visibility of deputies; marijuana problems.

**FIRE/ROADS/PARK:** Supervisor Thomas gave brief reports on fire, roads and park.

Fire Chief Shane Hillard sent an email reporting on vehicle maintenance; station maintenance and incidents year to date.

Road contracts that were approved at the last meeting were sent back to Monroe County Road Commission.

Park: The Jail Alternative Work Service (JAWS) help with cleaning and maintenance on the disc golf course in preparation for an April 6, 2025 tournament.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Tom McGannon indicated part of the Sylvania Petersburg Road berm between Muller and the state line were washed away; Chery Neiderkohl asked about a permanent speed sign near Whiteford School. Paul Wohlfarth had concerns about zoning and school population.

**CEMETERY:** Supervisor Jeff Thomas reported the detailed Consumers Energy quote on electricity for Whiteford Union Cemetery came back at \$13,000. This is over the approved amount. Thomas will investigate other avenues.

**TOWNSHIP STREETLIGHTS:** The Board had approved seven street lights for intersections. Jeff Thomas has received the official quote for one street light and is waiting for the remaining six quotes.

**CLEAN UP DAY:** Township Clean Up Day is scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 9 am to 4 pm at Whiteford Stoneco Park. Please use the Sterns Road entrance by the pickle ball courts. No hazardous waste, batteries or tires.

**ESTA RESOLUTION 2025-03-01:** Motion by Lee Strahan, second by Bob Lloyd to approve the Resolution with changes to remove inspectors and ordinance enforcement and the paragraph pertaining to front loading part-time employees. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**MONROE COUNTY TRUCK SIGN PROPOSAL:** Motion by Steve Morgan, second by Bob Lloyd to approve the estimate provided by the Monroe County Road Commission sign shop for truck route signs. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**WATER DEPARTMENT GRANT UPDATE:** Supervisor Thomas updated the board with news from Rep. Walberg that Whiteford Township will not be awarded grant money to use toward the water plant upgrades. Walberg suggested we try again for next year and Thomas will look in to that process.

**GRINDER PUMPS** Three sewer grinder pumps went out during the winter snap and have to be replaced. Motion by Lee Strahan, second by Steve Morgan to purchase three new grinder pumps using RRI funds. Motion passed 5 – 0.

Supervisor Jeff Thomas updated the board that a rate study for sewer and water has been started in conjunction with Michigan Rural Water.

**FEBRUARY 18, 2025 MEETING MINUTES:** Motion by Christine Bischoff, second by Bob Lloyd to approve the February 18, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**GENERAL CHECK REGISTER:** Motion by Steve Morgan, second by Christine Bischoff to approve the general check register in the amount of \$123,120.42 as presented. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**UTILITY CHECK REGISTER:** Motion by Bob Lloyd, second by Steve Morgan to approve the utility check register in the amount of \$31,746.41 as presented. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**UPDATING COMPUTERS:** Supervisor Jeff Thomas informed the board that four computer work stations need updated due to support ending for Windows 10. We are awaiting quote from Perry Pro Tech.

**2025 MASTER PLAN:** Motion by Christine Bischoff, second by Lee Strahan to approve the 2025 Master Plan as presented. Motion passed 5 – 0 . This will allow the Planning Commission to move forward the requirements for the finalization of the Master Plan.

**WHITEFORD TOWNSHIP ENGINEERING STANDARDS:** Motion by Lee Strahan, second by Steve Morgan to approve the Whiteford Township Engineering Standards as drafted by David Arthur Consultants. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**MITRP LEASE FOR OFFICE/STORAGE SPACE:** Motion by Christine Bischoff, second by Steven Morgan to approve the Commercial Lease Agreement with MITRP giving Lee Strahan authorization to work with MITRP on possible changes favorable to the Township. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**CHARGE FOR TAX ROLE FOIA REQUESTS:** Motion by Steve Morgan, second by Bob Lloyd to approve a \$0.25 per parcel for tax role FOIA requests. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Linda Windom, 9323 Whiteford Center Road had the following comments:

FOIA request for correspondence sent to her previous attorney

FOIA request for a copy of the barn drawings showing residential use

Status of Zoning Board of Appeals complaint

Questioned the resignation of W. Drescher and Associates

Stated there was a picture of her property on the wall and would like it removed

Clerk Christine Bischoff requested the FOIA be put in writing. Linda Windom refused to give them in writing.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** Steve Morgan asked if the Township could remove a tree on Consear Road that causes visibility issues at the Whiteford and Consear Roads intersection.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Lee Strahan, second by Bob Lloyd to adjourn at 9:19 pm.

Christine Bischoff  
Whiteford Township Clerk