

**COVERT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Covert Township Hall**

**REGULAR MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Covert Township Board was brought to order by Supervisor Palgen at 7:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Supervisor Palgen.

Members Present: D. Palgen, K. Harrington, L. Taylor

Members Absent: M. Rendell, D. Cook

Also Present: Harold Schuitmaker, Township Attorney

**Public Comment**

- Gail Patterson-Gladney, Van Buren County Commissioner District #1, shared latest news from the County, including a SW Legislative Forum on senior issues.
- Nick Culp, Entergy Government Affairs Manager, advised that the plant has been online for 61 days with no issues and has contributed \$10,000 to Lake Michigan College.

**Chief Updates**

None

**Consent Agenda**

- \*Draft\* Minutes of the February 12, 2019 Regular Board Meeting
- \*Draft\* Minutes of the March 4, 2019 Special Board Meeting
- Clerk's Invoice Register Report and Payroll Period Reports as presented
- Treasurer's Revenue Receipt Distribution, Banking, & Budget Report as presented
- Police Chief's Report as presented
- Fire Chief's Report as presented
- Public Work Report as presented

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by L. Taylor, **to table** the February 12<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting Minutes and **approve** the remaining Consent Agenda as presented.  
Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

## **Meeting Minutes and Board Liaison Reports**

Draft February 20, 2019 South Haven Airport Authority Minutes, Approved January 17, 2019 Park Advisory Meeting Minutes, and Draft February 21, 2019 Park Advisory Meeting Minutes were presented.

## **Unfinished Business**

None

## **New Business**

Motion by L. Taylor **to approve** to the request of Trustee Harrington authorizing expenses to attend the MTA Conference April 1-4, 2019 in Grand Rapids in an amount not to exceed \$1067.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 1, No: 1, Abstain: 1 FAILED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by K. Harrington, **to approve** the following five Covert Township Police Department Policies, with correction to spelling errors, as presented:

- Article XL ... CJIS/LEIN
- Article XLI... Physical Protection Policy
- Article XLII ... Media Sanitization and Destruction Policy
- Article XLIII ... User Account – Access Validation
- Article XLIV ... Security Incident Response

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by L. Taylor, seconded by D. Palgen, **to approve** Covert Township Fire and EMS Standard Operating Guideline Policy #209 – Biohazard Waste Disposal as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by K. Harrington, **to table** the request of Chief Myers approving the Interim Captain Pay Letter of Agreement between the Township and the Covert Profession Firefighters Union.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by K. Harrington, seconded by L. Taylor, **to table** Van Buren County Road Commission Project Sheet #497.3071 for Driveway Culverts.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 2, No: 1 CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by L. Taylor, **to approve** \$3,000.00 to the Van Buren County Road Commission for boom mowing in Covert Township as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by K. Harrington, **to approve** \$7,000.00 to the Van Buren County Road Commission for ditching in Covert Township as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by K. Harrington, **to approve** Free Transfer Station Days for two weekends: May 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by L. Taylor, **to table** the request of American Tower to convert our Township Tower in cash via the American Tower perpetual easement program.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by K. Harrington, **to approve** the recommendation of Supervisor Palgen appointing Wednesday Pritchard to the Zoning Board of Appeals effective March 13, 2019 through March 13, 2022.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by L. Taylor, **to approve** hiring Gill Tree Service in the amount of \$500 to remove a tree at the Covert Park Beach and Campground by May 15, 2019, as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen, seconded by L. Taylor, **to approve** hiring Jack's Excavating in the amount of \$1,100 to demolish storage shed and remove debris at the Covert Park Beach and Campground by September 15, 2019 as presented

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by L. Taylor, seconded by K. Harrington, **to approve** the Township Board to go into Closed Session under MCL 15.268e; to consult with its attorney regarding ~~trail~~ trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific litigation.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by L. Taylor, seconded by D. Palgen, **to approve** the Township Board return to the Regular Township Board Meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: 3, No: 0 CARRIED

Motion by D. Palgen **to adjourn** by 8:32 PM

Next Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

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Minutes prepared by Trustee Harrington, transcribed by Clerk Cook.