

EUREKA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2025
Approved

Supervisor Kristen Lower, at the Eureka Township Hall, 9322 SW Greenville Road, Greenville, MI, called the Regular Meeting of the Eureka Charter Township Board to order on Monday, October 13, 2025, at 7:00 pm. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Deputy Clerk Denise Ruwersma stated that all Board Members were present, except Clerk Linda Ruwersma who was absent, which included the following: Supervisor Kristen Lower and Treasurer Cindy Hanson; Trustees Paul Ruwersma, Shayne Becher, Jeremy Austin, and Tim Johnson. These minutes will not be approved until the November 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

Approximately six others were in attendance including Zoning Administrator Darcia Kelley, Assessor Megan VanHoose, Cory Smith from the *Daily News*, and Deputy Clerk Denise Ruwersma who is taking the minutes.

Nothing was said during the First Public Comment.

Trustee Becher moved, with a second by Trustee Johnson to approve the September 8, 2025 Board Minutes as written. Motion carried.

Trustee Austin moved, with a second by Trustee Becher to approve the Treasurer's report showing a balance of \$1,120,895.07 as of September 30, 2025. Motion carried. Treasurer Hanson presented the investment worksheet and discussed investment progress yield.

Trustee Austin moved, with a second by Trustee Ruwersma to approve the payment of the bills in the amount of \$159,596.05 covering e-bills 1784-1792, the direct deposit payroll, and checks numbering 3403-3424. Ayes: 6, Tim, Kristen, Cindy, Shayne, Jeremy, and Paul. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The reports available were from the Zoning and Sheriff, with the Transit showing 126 runs and the Fire report showing 3 incidents. There was no Planning Commission Meeting on September 17, 2025; therefore, no report.

The September sheriff report showed a total of 31 traffic stops, 5 traffic citations, 81 property inspections, and 2 arrests.

Zoning Administrator Kelley gave a brief report stating she was busy with additional zoning permits and complaints, and has been working with the Deputy to have a ticket written for a junk car on County Farm Road.

At approximately 7:11 pm, Supervisor Lower opened the Public Hearing concerning the 2026 Proposed Budget. After public comment and board member discussion, the public hearing was closed at approximately 7:14 pm.

Trustee Becher moved, with a second by Treasurer Hanson to approve the Proposed Budget for 2026 with no changes showing the revenue of \$1,061,439.00 and projected total expenses of \$1,061,439.00. Ayes: 6, Tim, Kristen, Cindy, Shayne, Jeremy, and Paul. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Lower explained the City Annexation process of Parcel #59-008-003-039-00 on S. Vining Road.

Updates from Williams and Works were as follows: a new ordinance regarding stormwater engineering will grant legal authority to the County Drain Commissioner, and will be reviewed by Planning Commission in November, and should be ready for Township Board acceptance in January 2026.

Supervisor Lower also gave an update from the local Flat River State Game Area Office stating the manager replied with a definite “no” because the area is low lying, animal population impact is problematic, and the project would potentially affect the migrating birds. Any hope of a property transfer is over for the time being. The Board discussed fencing off the Township parcel north of the bridge to prevent further erosion and misuse. Supervisor Lower will get quotes on fencing.

The Greenville Area Community Foundation has revised their Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation for the first time in twenty-five years. The changes **exclude** future appointees from Eureka Charter Township, the City of Greenville, the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, the Greenville Public School Board, and the Greenville Arts Council; and also instituted a three-year term limit. Our legal council is looking into this matter to confirm that the Township does not have an obligation to dissolve our arrangement.

Supervisor Lower is getting quotes from Swainston Companies, Garry Tissue Builders, and All Things Construction to remodel the lobby of the Township Hall, making the two front rooms into one larger room, installing bullet proof glass, and installing a security door at the north end of the hallway. The quotes will be presented next month.

Two bids came in for snow plowing at the Hall for the 2025-26 season, one from North Shade Lawn and one from Double A Lawncare. After some discussion, Trustee Ruwersma moved, with a second by Trustee Becher to approve North Shade Lawn for \$100.00 per plow and \$75.00 for salting the Township lot. North Shade Lawn currently provides the snow plowing service. Ayes: 6, Tim, Kristen, Cindy, Shayne, Jeremy, and Paul. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Assessor Megan VanHoose was present (in her office) requesting a three-year contract renewal. There was some discussion, but this will be discussed again and voted on by the December 8, 2025 Board Meeting.

Township Secretary Karen Howe turned in her resignation letter on September 11 with her last day on September 30, 2025. Ads were placed and Robin Brott from the Cedar

Springs area was hired on September 29. Robin was trained by Karen Howe on September 30 and also on a few days in October by Deb Homant.

Supervisor Lower received a due process summons from Major Properties LLC vs Eureka and neighbors within 300 feet plat concerning the vacation of the abandoned Ravine Road at Burgess Lake. This was placed on file.

After Supervisor Lower read a resignation letter from Planning Commission and Library Board Member Holly Schmeltzer, Trustee Austin moved, with a second by Trustee Becher to approve the resignation of Holly from the Flat River Library Board and the Planning Commission effective October 31, 2025. Motion carried.

Trustee Becher moved, with a second by Trustee Ruwersma to post an ad in the paper advertising for appointments for the following open job positions: Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Commission, and Flat River Library Board. These will also be posted on the website. Ayes: 6, Tim, Paul, Cindy, Kristen, Shayne, and Jeremy. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The next Montcalm Townships Association Meeting/Dinner hosted by Home and Richland Townships is scheduled for Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

The 19th Annual Eureka Township Christmas Party will be scheduled for a Friday in December. More discussion will take place next month regarding the date, place, and time. All elected and appointed members from the Township and their guests are invited to only Christmas Party.

After the Second Public Comment and the Audience and Board Member Comments, Supervisor Lower adjourned the meeting at 7:58 pm.

Denise Ruwersma
Eureka Charter Township Deputy Clerk

Linda J. Ruwersma, CMC
Eureka Charter Township Clerk