

Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, January 12, 2026

The regular meeting of the Elk Rapids Township Board was held at the Elk Rapids Government Center located at 315 Bridge St., Elk Rapids. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Amos at 9:00 am. The meeting was recorded to provide accuracy.

Present: Supervisor Dorance Amos, Clerk Debbie Husband, Trustee Richard Hults.

Absent: Treasurer Kelly Jensen and Trustee Matt Soper.

Also Present: Attorney Thad Morgan, and audience members.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.**
2. **Public Comments:** Karen Morris from HERTHA addressed the Board to thank them for the completed sale to HERTHA.
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda MOTION/S: Hults/Amos** to approve the agenda as presented. All voting Yes. No 0. Jensen and Soper are absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. December 8, 2025 - Board Meeting Minutes.
 - B. December 17, 2025 Special Board Meeting.
 - C. Zoning Report.
 - D. Treasurers Report.
 - E. Budget Adjustments.
 - F. Paying of the Bills.

MOTION/S: Hults/ Amos to Approve the consent agenda. **Roll call Vote:** Hults Yes, Amos Yes, Husband Yes, Jensen and Soper are absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

5. **BOR** – Approve training in Charlevoix for the Board of Review taking place for certification. **MOTION/S: Husband/Hults.** To approve BOR training according to comply with MCL 211.10g. **Roll call Vote:** Amos Yes, Husband Yes, Hults Yes. Jensen and Soper are absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**
6. **Resolution 2026-1: Elk Rapids Township Policy for Income Asset Test for Poverty Exemption.** **MOTION/S: Husband/Hults.** Clerk Husband explained the annual Poverty Exemption Guidelines have changed and that the income as well as asset test maximum amounts need to be listed in the Resolution. **Roll call Vote:** Husband Yes, Hults Yes, Amos Yes. Jensen and Soper are absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**
7. **Sheriff/Commissioner Report:** Sheriff Hoch gave update on year-end report, cadet training and new patrol cars. Commissioner Hefferan discussed officer elections were held, and Chair Hefferan and Vice Chair Rubingh remain the same. Dam and Spillway update for special assessments are still in the developing stage and he has not heard an official amount. Supervisor Amos asked who will be controlling the funds for the project, the Commissioner was not aware of the position that would oversee the funds.
8. **Ambulance MMR report/Fire Department:** Fire Chief Williamson presented MMR annual reports. Chief gave his report of incidents in the area, a large number of downed powerline monitoring occurred during the storm. The new truck was in the parking lot for viewing, and the old truck is on the market to be sold. He is still waiting on the COA for the drone letter that is being submitted by the attorney. Officer election and budget meeting is coming up later this month. He reviewed his annual report to the Board. Smoke detector program and certified technician child car seat installation are still services being offered. Trustee Hults complimented the Fire Department on the quick response on a false alarm he experienced at his home.

9. **Sewer Rate increase.** Supervisor Amos began the discussion of annual rate increase, Treasurer Jensen had presented the Board with charts of past growth and expenses to help inform the Board in the decision-making. Increase discussion will be presented at the next meeting.
10. **Attorney Report:** Thad Morgan reported he has left his firm and will be joining Clark-Hill. Motion to move records to Clark-Hill and retain Thad Morgan as township attorney. **MOTION/S: Amos/Hults: Roll Call Vote:** Hults Yes, Amos Yes, Husband Yes. Jensen and Soper are absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**
11. **Township Board Announcements:** Building Committee meeting today with the Village with Hults, Husband, Tait, and Pray. Supervisor Amos mentioned that the cleanup has begun at the cemetery and there will be controlled burning of brush and leaves in the coming weeks. Clerk Husband mentioned that Nancy Baker is structuring a mission statement and overviews of the Cemetery Advisory Committee and will be working on public announcements to keep the residents informed, possibly including creating a bench sponsorship.

Adjourned: 10:01 am.

Debbie Husband Elk Rapids Township Clerk, 231-264-9333

Meeting minutes are subject to approval at the next regular Board Meeting