

Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, November 10, 2025

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, Treasurer Kelly Jensen, Trustee Richard Hults and Trustee Matt Soper.

Absent: None

Also Present: Thad Morgan, Creston Scheel, and Brad Muma, also 6 audience members signed in.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.**
2. **Public Comments:** none.
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda MOTION/S: Hults/Jensen** to approve the agenda as presented. All voting Yes. No 0. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. October 14, 2025 - Election Commission Meeting Minutes.
 - B. October 14, 2025 - Board Meeting Minutes.
 - C. Zoning Report.
 - D. Treasurers Report.
 - E. Prepaid Bills.
 - F. Paying of the Bills.

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

5. **Sheriff/Commissioner Report:** Sheriff Hoch presented his incident report and expressed his gratitude for Elk Rapids supporting the ballot proposal for the new safety building. Commission Hefferan stated his appreciation for the great turnout in Elk Rapids helping to pass the new safety building. 2026 Budget has been worked on and expenditures were reduced to help with budgeting for the new building.
6. **Ambulance MMR report:** New reporting is underway and hopefully updates will be presented at the next meeting.
7. **Fire Department:** Fire Chief Williamson gave his report. The new truck has been delivered, and fire fighters are being trained on the equipment and driving. Fire hydrants pressure testing for ISO rating statistics is complete. Chief Williamson hosted the Citizen's Academy from the Village, attended the Lakeland Trunk or Treating, and said they had a great turn out for the Halloween Night at the Station.
8. **Leslie Meyers: County Drain Commissior** – Presented information regarding the upcoming Special Assessment District the County will be implementing for the Chain of Lakes property owners. There will be an upper and lower district. More information is available from the County by contacting Leslie Meyers, as she will be doing the research of the parcels that will be affected. She will be inventorying all parcels that have direct and indirect access to the particular SAD. No costs have been established yet, more information on the amount will be hopefully available next summer.
9. **North Bayshore Sewer- Brad Muma-** The project is complete. The one resident that has not committed will be paying the initial fee of \$18,000, which will be deposited in the sewer fund. Supervisor Amos commented on the successful project coming in under budget. **MOTION/S: Jensen/Amos.** To close out the Phase I of N.

Bayshore Sewer Revolving Public account at Alden Bank and reimburse the residents any additional funds they have deposited once the administrative fees have been covered.

Roll call Vote: Soper Yes, Jensen Yes, Amos Yes, Husband Yes, Hults Yes. **MOTION APPROVED.** Supervisor Amos mentioned that 6 years ago when the township approached the residents on North Bayshore there was not much interest, however, there have been some requests lately.

Clerk Husband read into record correspondence from Pamela Yahanda supporting a Special Assessment District for the area on North Bayshore where she is living. The resident has submitted a petition which showed a number of residents in her area who are interested. Supervisor Amos advised the Board that the 13 lawsuits from Cairn Highway that had over 70 residents involved cost the Sewer district fund over \$125,000. Amos also expressed that 51% is a minimum for consideration and that the Township can decide to not do a district if so chooses. It is optional as he understands it. Upon discussion, the petition as presented does not satisfy what the Board would like to see for a Special Assessment District. Trustee Hults recommended if a special district was formed it should be up to the Conservancy board to fiscally support the additional time and costs involved in the set up. The Board agreed with discussion, citing anything North of the conservancy would be connected with another project tying into the Birch Lake pump station. Clerk Husband will send correspondence to the individual regarding the decision involving the next phase of the sewer on North Bayshore. A resolution that states any decision to move forward with Special Assessment Districts is at the discretion of the Board, will be presented to the public and there will be a Special Meeting to pass that resolution.

MOTION/S Hults/ Soper: To move forward with any Special Assessment District on the remaining homes on North Bayshore to include all properties South of the Conservancy and petition shall support 90% of interest before being considered to the next level of project cost. **Roll call Vote:** Jensen Yes, Amos Yes, Husband Yes, Hults Yes, Soper Yes, **MOTION APPROVED.**

10. **Attorney Report:** As presented.

11. **Township Board Announcements and Correspondence:**

The Road Commissioner sent the new funding package details, and work will be done on Cairn Highway in the Spring. Michigan Tax Tribunal has dismissed the case for the Chalfonte Foundation. Maple Grove Cemetery will have some dead trees removed and boundary marking will be taking place this month. Zoning Administrator Scheel attended the MTA retreat in Frankenmuth.

Adjourned: 10:15 am.

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

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