

Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, March 9, 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, Treasurer Kelly Jensen, Trustee Matt Soper and Trustee Richard Hults.

Also Present: Sheriff Hoch, Commissioner Hefferan, Chief Williamson, and 2 members signed in as audience.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.**
2. **Public Comments:** Mitchell Treadwell City, Housing and Planning Commissioner from Traverse City presented a connection proposal of joining the BATA transit system in the future to serve Township residents with a bus service into Traverse City without the present transfer between the Antrim County Transit and BATA that needs to be coordinated now. Mentioning that the corridor between Elk Rapids and Traverse City has many daily commuters that might benefit from the transportation of a direct bus service, as well as those without private transportation available to them.
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda: MOTION/S: Jensen/Hults** to approve the agenda as presented. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. February 9, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.
 - B. February 10, 2026 Budget Workshop Minutes.
 - C. Zoning Report.
 - D. Treasurers Report.
 - E. Budget Adjustments.
 - F. Paying of the Bills: General Fund- \$27,393.99 Fire Fund - \$19,881.31.

MOTION/S: Soper/Hults to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Soper, Jensen, Amos, and Husband all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**

5. **Sheriff:** Sheriff Hoch incident report presented. Deputy and Dispatch update.
Commission Report: B. Hefferan presented leadership changes at the County in the Road Commission, Conservation District, and Meadowbrook. Alpena jail is similar to the size facility the County is looking at. Both Sheriff Hoch and Commissioner Hefferan agreed Alpena site is a good example to reach for in our new safety center. Health Department will be making some changes to the Health Code in the future. Information is available on their website.
Ambulance Department: MMR report was presented.
6. **Fire Department:** Chief Williamson reported drone COA is complete, and he is currently pursuing his drone piloting license. An Emergency Access notice will be published in the paper and letter will be sent to property owners on private roads that do not maintain proper emergency vehicle access, reminding homeowners that it will be documented and may be reviewed by insurance companies. Mapping and Paging system is going to revert back to previous system used.
7. **Meeting Dates F/Y 2026/2027:** Second Monday of each month at 9:00 AM, except October 12th is a holiday so the meeting will be Tuesday October 13th. Schedule is posted at the Governmental Center and on the Township website. **MOTION/S: Jensen/Hults** to approve the scheduled dates. **MOTION APPROVED.**
8. **Approval of Street Names for Poniatoski Storage Units: MOTION/S: Soper/Hults** to approve the names North Gateway, South Gateway, Luxstor Drive and Lucullan Drive, that have been approved by the Planning Commission. **MOTION APPROVED.**
9. **Newspaper of Record: MOTION/S: Jensen/Husband** to continue to use the Elk Rapids News as the newspaper of record. Roll Call Vote: Soper, Jensen, Amos, Husband, Hults, all voting Yes 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.**
10. **Salary Resolutions for the Fiscal Year 2026/2027**
 - A. **Resolution 2026-3:** Supervisor Salary (\$30,900, plus health stipend of \$10,000)
MOTION/S: Husband/Hults to approve Resolution 2026-3 for the Supervisor Salary and stipend.

Roll Call Vote: Jensen, Amos, Husband, Hults, and Soper all voting Yes, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.**

B. **Resolution 2026-4:** Treasurer Salary (\$31,000, plus health stipend of \$9,600)

MOTION/S: Amos/Soper to approve Resolution 2026-4 for the Treasurer Salary and stipend.

Roll Call Vote: Amos, Husband, Hults, Soper, and Jensen all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**

C. **Resolution 2026-5:** Clerk Salary (\$35,000, plus health stipend of \$7,000)

MOTION/S: Amos/Hults to approve Resolution 2026-5 for the Clerk Salary and stipend.

Roll Call Vote: Husband, Hults, Soper, Jensen, and Amos all voting Yes, 0 No (Soper is absent) **MOTION APPROVED.**

D. **Resolution 2026-6:** Trustee Salary (\$3,000, annual) **MOTION/S: Amos/Jensen** to approve Resolution 2026-6 for the Trustee Salary. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Soper, Jensen, Amos, and Husband all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**

E. **Resolution 2026-7:** Staff Salary: **MOTION/S: Amos/Jensen** to approve Resolution 2026-7 for Staff Salary. Roll Call Vote: Soper, Jensen, Amos, Husband, and Hults, all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**

11. **Resolution 2026-8: Appropriation Act for 2026-2027 Budget.** **MOTION/S: Jensen/Amos** to approve Resolution 2026-8 – Appropriation Act for 2026-2027: Roll Call Vote: Jensen, Amos, Husband, Hults and Soper all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**

12. **Resolution 2026-9: To Impose the Property Tax Administration Fee.** **MOTION/S: Amos/ Hults** to approve Resolution 2026-9 as presented. Roll Call Vote: Amos, Husband, Hults, Soper, and Jensen all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**

13. **Resolution 2026-10: Cemetery Rates.** Resident rate and nonresident rate. Internment rates and changing 2 plots per family to 4 per family. **MOTION/S: Amos/ Husband** to approve 2026-10 as presented. Roll Call Vote: Husband, Hults, Soper, Jensen and Amos. all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**

14. **Cemetery Update:** Projects that need to be completed, Amos requested funding not to exceed \$10,000 for tree removal, \$7,500 for greenbelt, \$75,000 for main installation for water access with future irrigation from lake water and \$23,500 for mapping. Discussion for items concerning the mapping budget will be reviewed on a need basis with future burial sites and irrigation layout being the primary concern. Husband will work with Performance to get better idea of scope of planned work. Soper concurred a map would benefit the whole site plan for the future. **MOTION/S: Hults/ Soper** to approve a total of \$116,000 for budget to begin project improvements. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Soper, Jensen, Amos and Husband all voting Yes, 0 No **MOTION APPROVED.**

15. **Township Board Announcements and Correspondence.** March Board of Review is being held March 9th 3 pm to 9pm and 10th 9am to 3pm.

16. **Attorney's Report:** T. Morgan has completed the drone COA letter, Senate bill to provide Statewide Septic Code moving along, Great Lakes Energy discussion with ordinance agreement terms, Milton Township sewer letter from Attorney to Board, EGLE and property owners to be sent.

17. New owner of the Elk Rapids News Kristie Wolgamott was mentioned by Reporter Mark McAlpine.

Adjourned: 10:24 am

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

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