Elk Rapids Township
Regular Meeting Minute August 10, 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 Deb Husband, Treasurer Kelly Jensen, Trustee Richard Hults and Trustee Matt Soper.

Also Present: Commissioner Hefferan, Chief Williamson, Attorney Thad Morgan, and 1 audience member.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.**
2. **Public Comments:** None.
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda**: **MOTION/S: Jensen/Hults-** To approve the agenda as stated. All voting Yes, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda**:
   MOTION/S: Soper/Jensen - 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/Commission Report:** Spillway update was given by Commissioner Hefferan stating that borings will be done next week. County Drain Commissioner is hoping to have the completed report by end of September, first part of October. October 26th at 6:00pm Clearwater Township will have an open house regarding the repair of the spillway. County Safety Building will begin underground work in fall and next Spring the groundbreaking will begin.

6. **Ambulance Department**: **Ambulance and EMS Report (MMR):** July had normal calls and response times.

7. **Fire Department**: Smoke test increased numbers of calls for houses. Water supply testing for the ISO rating will be addressed to the Village for fall inspection.

8. **Government Center Update:** Landscaping is nearing the end; irrigation repair was needed as well.

9. **Zoning and Planning:** Blight ordinance has been drafted by Planner Scheel. Discussion of items that the ordinance will cover and definitions that will be used. Intent of the Ordinance is to create an expectation for the Township; this will give enforcement rights to the Zoning Administrator. There will be a due process of communication with the issues. There does not appear to be a blight ordinance in place. **MOTION/S: Jensen/Amos-** Motion to approve Blight Ordinance 2026-3 with the typographical changes discussed, to supersede any blight restrictions in place. Roll Call Vote: Soper, Jensen, Amos, Husband, and Hults, all voting Yes, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.**

   Letter of Credit for Restoration of the Townline Storage Building site. Mr. Poniatoski agreed to the phase line of credit amounts to include the additional $50,000 to cover legal costs should abandonment occur for a total of $70,000. **MOTION/S: Soper/Hults**- To approve letter of credit of $70,000 ($20,000 toward restoration, $50,000 for legal costs) phase 1 (3.4 acres) and the permit for moving forward will be valid if construction starts in one year from today and continued constructive communication is occurring between applicant and zoning administrator per prior Planning Commission approval when needed. Yearly review of PC conditions, Supervisor approval, and legal review will also need to be done for each year during Phase #1 with a 2-year completion date. Roll Call Vote: Jensen, Amos, Husband, Hults, and Soper all voting Yes, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Zoning Administrator Jonathan Scheel said Data Center draft will be discussed at a future meeting to regulate any future situations. Tree Restoration and cleanup on properties are ongoing.

10. **Attorney's Report:** Liability insurance needs review.

11. **Township Board Announcements and Correspondence.**
    Cemetery meeting tomorrow at 10:00 am. Cleanup on vacant township lot at end of Lakeshore will take place. Election turnout was 1,206 of the 2469 registered voters. Polls 414, absent voter ballots 712, and 9 days of early voting was 80.

Adjourned: 10:20 am.

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Debbie Husband Elk Rapids Township Clerk, 231-264-9333
Meeting minutes are subject to approval at the next regular Board Meeting