

## Elk Rapids Township Regular Meeting Minutes, May 12, 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:** Commissioner Hefferan, Chief Williamson, T. Morgan, Brad Muma, and 3 members signed in as audience.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.**
2. **Public Comments:** Tom Stephenson, Village President – Updated the Board on potential candidates for Village Manager – Selection to be made May 20, 2025. Village passed bond for storm water disaster relief.
3. **Approval of Meeting Agenda: MOTION/S: Hults/Jensen** to approve the agenda as presented. **MOTION APPROVED.**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
  - A. April 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes.
  - B. April 14, 2025 Election Board Meeting Minutes.
  - C. April 14, 2025 Public Information Sewer Meeting Minutes.
  - D. Zoning Report.
  - E. Treasurers Report.
  - F. Paying of the Bills.

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

5. **Sheriff/Commissioner Report:** Commissioner Hefferan provided update on repaving at Barnes Park in September; Resolution passed for dam improvements; Commission of Aging expansion moving forward; A committee of 8 members balancing opponents and proponents has been established to address the Public Safety Center.
6. **Ambulance Department:** MMR report was presented.
7. **Fire Department:** Chief Williamson: Presented the following updates: New pumper tanker anticipated arrival in August; department is working on training, reporting, and ongoing testing to improve the ISO rating; Jam Session held on 4/26 raised over \$3,400; extrication equipment all passed; safety meeting and fire dill held on 4/22; Fire Chief's met on 4/30 to discuss 800 radio procedures, Sirens will not be used for severe weather warnings; all permits for upcoming Harbor Days fireworks are in. Letter to FFA for fire department drone needs to be sent. Attorney Morgan will prepare a draft letter as soon as possible.
8. **Library Support Letter:** Township Board was asked to sign a letter of support for the Elk Rapids District Library. All local governmental agencies are on board and have signed. **MOTION/S: Jensen/Hults** to give permission to Supervisor Dorance Amos to sign Elk Rapids District Library Letter of Support.
9. **Roads – Cairn Highway:** County plans to do road repair work on Cairn Highway this summer. Township was invoiced \$87,750. Estimated completion of road repair is July/August 2025.
10. **Update on North Bayshore Sewer - Resolution 2025-10:** Brad Muma, Performance Engineering updated the Board on the status of the sewer system. Bid opening for this project will be May 27, 2025; Commitment deadline for property owners is June 2, 2025; Payment deadline is set for June 9, 2025. Attorney Morgan read in Resolution 2025-10, recommending an amendment to address dates, additional fees and redundancy. **MOTION/S: Amos/Jensen** to approve Resolution 2025-10 with amendments. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Jensen, Amos, Husband, and Soper all voting Yes, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.**
11. **Future of the Old Township Hall:** The Board discussed the rising cost of insurance and maintenance of the old township hall. Trustee Hults reported at this point in time, immediate need for repairs on the building are over \$254,300.00. The Board discussed and questioned whether it is fiscally responsible for the Township to

keep paying for the overwhelming expenses of maintaining this building. **MOTION/SUPPORT:**

12. **Jensen/Soper.** Board gave permission to Supervisor Amos and Trustee Hults to secure a realtor and obtain an estimate of the market value and appraisal of this property. Roll Call Vote: Hults, Jensen, Amos, Husband, and Soper all voting Yes, 0 No. **MOTION APPROVED.** Board also advised Trustee Hults to keep the lease agreement with HERTHA on the existing month-to-month basis.
13. **Attorneys Report:** House Bill 4328 was introduced last week – Disaster relief for the recent ice storm is receiving positive feedback for approval at this point in time by the governor and her team.
14. **Township Board Announcements and Correspondence:** May 6<sup>th</sup> special election went without incident – school millage passed; new computers installed in main offices; new badge system at back door – will apply for security grant from BOE to help cover cost; almost 500 flags will be placed at veteran graves for Memorial Day by Amvets and Rotary; Village approached Township to split the cost to have the duct work cleaned in the building – Cost to the Township will be about \$2,500. Supervisor Amos reported he received a letter from the DDA. Township has opted to hold back payment on the D2. Negotiating with Village on DDA – Will discuss in the future; May 28, 2025 – 4:00 PM – Horse Show at Harbor Pavillion.

**Adjourned: 10:50 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