

EDWARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

January 12, 2026 7:30pm

PRESENT: Supervisor Rob Kowalski, Clerk Korey Kripli (absent), Treasurer Eileen Fournier, Trustee George Bodin, and Trustee Dan Zettel .

ATTENDANCE: County Commissioner Mark Surbrook, Zoning Administrator Bob Clayton (absent), Deputy Treasurer Sydney Lademan, and Deputy Clerk Kim Glasser. Several residents of Edwards Township.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 8, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by George Bodin to approve the December 8, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Motion by Dan Zettel, supported by Eileen Fournier to approve the agenda with the addition of 6A Nomination for Planning, 19A Propane Bill, 19B Hand Dryers, and 19C Budget to Actual Adjustments. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA: N/A

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: N/A

NOMINATION FOR PLANNING:

Robert Kowalski stated that Deputy Clerks cannot be on the Zoning Board or Planning Committee even though Kim Glasser has served on both for the past year. Kim Glasser has stepped down on the Zoning Board and Planning Committee.

Robert Kowalski nominated George Olsen for the Planning Committee. Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by George Bodin. Motion carried.

Robert Kowalski nominated Kevin White for Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion by Robert Kowalski, supported by Eileen Fournier. Motion carried.

SEXTON REPORT:

A headstone was delivered to the cemetery. Rob stated there are a lot of pumpkins still left in the cemetery. He stated that they need to be thrown away by the owners who placed them there.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER:

Mark Surbrook stated the county is actively looking for replacements for their County Administrator. Interviews are being held currently for four candidates. The Airport Manager had his contract extended for three more years. The caretaker is being replaced at the Deer Park by a couple from Mio.

TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer report presented by Eileen Fournier. Motion by Dan Zettel, supported by George Bodin to accept the Treasurer Report. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion by Eileen Fournier, supported by Dan Zettel to approve bills with payroll checks #10,326-10,342 and payable checks #7599-7618 for a total of \$13,978.69.

Roll Call: Kowalski Y Kripli A Fournier Y Bodin Y Zettel Y

Motion approved.

HALL DEPOSIT RETURNS:

There were two hall returns for Lucille Soares (\$150) and Debbie Kraxner (\$150) for a total of \$300. Motion by Robert Kowalski, supported by Dan Zettel to approve the hall returns. Motion carried.

HOUSE ON GREENWOOD ROAD:

Robert Kowalski stated that he saw a cabin that he had not seen before on Greenwood Road. Rob reached out to Bob Clayton, but he had not seen it before. Bob investigated the cabin. Rob stated that there was an electrical permit issued in June of 2025. Rob was unclear how a cabin with a porch, electric, propane, and internet had come about without any zoning permits. Septic and well permits were not pulled. Bob Clayton reached out to Ryan

Veeder at the County and he did not know it was there. The cabin is located in the city of Gladwin, but is still in Ogemaw County. Rob got a hold of Equalization and nobody knew about the residence. Two houses West of the residence filed a quick claim deed to her kid, who then filed a quick claim deed to a spouse, and that spouse turned another quick claim deed to her kid. The address for the deed is located in Livonia. Robert Clayton sent a letter asking for information on permits for the cabin.

SNOW PLOW BILL:

Robert Kowalski stated that he had to have Scott Simmons put 400lbs of salt down in the parking lot in order to have hall rentals. The \$650 Snow Plow Bill is higher than normal due to the salt.

BOR TRAINING:

Rob Kowalski stated that he wants to send 3 Members of BOR, 2 Alternates, and himself since he is the recording secretary for BOR to training. He also wants to purchase four books. The books and the training will come to \$749.60. This is mandated by the state every two years. The training is located at Treetops Resort in Gaylord and will be held on February 18, 2026.

Motion by George Bodin, supported by Eileen Fournier to approve \$749.60 for BOR Training and Books.

Roll Call: Zettel Y Bodin Y Fournier Y Kowalski Y Kripli Y Motion carried.

CEMETERY UPDATE:

New signs are here. Pumpkins will need to be thrown away by owners of grave sites. Letters will be sent out to owners of grave sites. Mike Laier's grave book has been added to the digital book that Charleigh Glasser and Kim Glasser have been working on. Dan Zettel suggested putting up cameras in order to stop vandalism and the excess of trash in the cemetery. Robert Kowalski stated that he wants to put cameras up in the Spring.

FIRE BOARD CONTRIBUTION:

Robert Kowalski stated that the Fire Board Contribution will double the amount of increase each year for the next three years. The Fire Department has not bought a new engine. There is \$500,000 in the CD, but that amount of money will not be enough to purchase a new fire engine.

One of the trucks has a cracked frame and they are still driving it. The other truck is in better shape and it has less than 20,000 miles. The fire board has talked about possibly getting some estimates to fix the one that is in better shape to get it refurbished and get five or six years out of it. They plan to sell that later down the road and use that money to purchase a new fire truck.

HALL RENTAL AGREEMENT:

Robert Kowalski stated that he had updated the Hall Rental Agreement with the changes he had talked about in a previous meeting. Rob stated that he didn't want to use the attorney to spend \$350 in order to look over the Hall Rental Agreement. The agreement is a binding contract.

LIQUOR RENTAL CHARGE:

Currently, if you want to have liquor at the hall during an event, the cost is \$200. The hall lost 9 rentals in 2025 because people were complaining about the cost to have alcohol at a birthday party or small event. Robert Kowalski stated that he wants to have a \$50 fee for small events such as dinners and birthday parties. Weddings will still remain the same at \$200. The insurance will still cover these events and Rob believes that this decision will bring more customers back to Edwards Township.

Motion by George Bodin, supported by Eileen Fournier to make an amendment to the contract for alcohol based off the size of the events. \$50 for small events and \$200 for bigger events such as weddings. Motion carried.

WATER TEST:

Robert Kowalski stated that the hall is supposed to have a water test every year. NM Water Operations came out to the hall and performed a water test. Rob stated he received the results in the mail and the test passed. This company has been put on an annual schedule now in order to have a water test every year.

PROPANE BILL:

Robert Kowalski stated that the Propane Bill was \$240 cheaper than with the last company.

HAND DRYERS:

Robert Kowalski stated that he will not bring a vote for hand dryers for the absurd amount that was quoted for the electric hand dryers in the amount of \$3,000. Rob stated that we should just stick with paper towels for now.

BUDGET TO ACTUAL ADJUSTMENT:

Robert Kowalski made adjustments to the Budget to Actual.

Dennis Stephens stated that the Hall Returns is not an expense and it should be under the GL# 101-000-255.000. Rob stated that this will be fixed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Township Board Meeting: Monday, February 9, 2026 7:30pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Robert Kowalski, supported by George Bodin to adjourn at 8:37pm. Motion carried.

Rob Kowalski, Supervisor

Korey Kripli, Clerk