

**ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 11, 2008 MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting of the Ross Township Board was called to order by Jeff Bither, Supervisor at 6:30 P.M., the early meeting was called so the Board would have 1/2 of an hour to hold a joint meeting with the Kalamazoo County Road Commission. Roll Call of members showed as follows:

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| Present: | Jeff Bither, Supervisor | Cynthia Genung, Treasurer |
| | Martha Chambers, Clerk | Diana Langshaw, Trustee |
| | Owen Murray, Trustee | Sid Durham, Trustee |
| | Jon Scott, Trustee | |

Members of the Ross Twp. Board introduced themselves to the public.

Joint Meeting:

Members present from the KCRC Board were Joanna Johnson, Managing Director, Jeffrie Maddox, Chairman and members Kenneth Oscarson, Daniel Moyle and Kent McCauley.

They were present to introduce themselves and to discuss KCRC's partnership with Ross Twp. Murray questioned what system other townships use to decide which roads are to be done. Murray feels that Ross Twp. always waits until the last minute to decide where to spend our par funds and then there is a rush to get things done before the deadline

Johnson stated that the letter on par funds comes out on January 20th, then the Township has until Feb. 28th to look at where we spend and how much we will spend. Other townships such as Climax and Richland are working with KCRC right now on potential projects and could work with Ross Twp. now on projects for 2009.

Murray questioned how Ross Twp. can proceed with getting KCRC to help us narrow down which roads need work. Maddox stated that a representative from Ross should work with our local representative, Bob Deleon.

Scott would like to see a five year plan for Ross Twp. so we have a strategic plan that we can look at. Maddox stated that KCRC has approved the expenditure of \$68,000 for technology which will help us rate roads then automatically input the improvements and re-rate the road which will create reports that will help pinpoint areas that need work and what has been done; however the priority must be set by the Township.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Chambers to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Treasurer's Report, the Minutes of October 14, 2008 as amended, the

minutes of a Special Meeting of September 30, 2008 and October 20, 2008. The motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Langshaw to approve the agenda as proposed. The motion was seconded by Murray and **carried**.

Fire Dept. Report:

Durham reported that the Fire Dept. may not be looking at a new fire truck at this time; they are going to request bids but it looks like the cost has gone sky high. Genung stated that there is a problem with the height of any new truck as they will not fit in the fire barn.

Ordinance Enforcement Report:

Bither reviewed the Ordinance Enforcement report from AGS dated November 3, 2008. Stoney Creek is completely cleaned up. The Fischer property on BC Ave.; we are waiting on a report from the Health Dept.

Sheriff's Dept. Report:

Bither reviewed the KCSD report from October, 2008.

Planning Commission Report:

Langshaw reported that at the last P/C meeting they worked on describing the Master Plan's relationship to the zoning Ordinance. Docks were a major issue, it was suggested that the P/C look at the dock ordinances of the other three townships and try to coordinate language with them for consistency; however the other townships don't have as much in writing as Ross does. The biggest issue with docks is the water depth. Bruce Dean is doing an illustration of the effects of various lot coverage rates with the sliding scale in R-1.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

Day Cemetery:

Motion by Genung to take the Farm n Garden quote for a front fence in Day Cemetery in the amount of \$2,068. The motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

Bither will get bids on a sign for Day Cemetery.

Police Protection Agreement:

Bither has received a new contract for police protection from KCSD. The contract for 2009 has increased by 3.0% from \$62,070.27 to \$63,932.37 per deputy and must be approved by the December 16, 2008 and the old contract expires on 12/31/08.

Household Hazardous Waste:

Tom Dewhirst from Kal Cnty HHW sent a letter to the Board that Ross Twp. has a shortfall of close to \$500 and we need to amend our

contract with them and pay an additional up to \$500 to finish out 2008. If not the service for Ross residents will be cut off and they will tell people to call Ross Twp to complain.

Motion by Durham to pay the \$500 to Household Hazardous Waste to finish off 2008. The motion was seconded by Scott and **carried**.

Motion by Langshaw to accept the bid from Jay's Lawn & Garden which will remain the same as the 2008 contract. The motion was seconded by Chambers and **carried**.

Murray wants to hold a feasibility study on the new fire bard.

The budget meeting will be held December 6 at 9:00 A.M. until finished with the Township serving lunch.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Martha Chambers
Ross Township Clerk