

**LEE TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Minutes**

**May 12, 2008**

The Regular Board Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:30 pm at the Lee Township Hall located at 877 56th Street, Pullman, MI 49450.

Members in attendance: Trustee Christensen, Treasurer Lowery, Supervisor Schlack and Clerk King.  
Members absent: Trustee Black.

**Board Comments:** Clerk King commented on the May 6<sup>th</sup> School election. The results have been all placed on the Allegan County website. That address is [allegancounty.org](http://allegancounty.org)

**Citizens Comments:** No Comments

*Motion was made by Christensen and seconded by Lowery to approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on April 14, 2008 with corrections. All voted "Aye". Motion carries.*

*Motion was made by Christensen and seconded by King to receive the Treasurer's Report as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries..*

**Commissioners Report :** Commissioner Jessup gave the update on the proposed county jail. Information from the consultant should be presented by June. At this time a shared jail is still being discussed. Commissioner Jessup felt that this process would probably take about 6 months.

Other topics discussed were the sobriety court, which is designed to help with the drunk driving and repeat offender problem. So far it is working well.

News from the Equalization Department. Director Blaine McLeod has reported that taxable property value has grown by 2.94% this year, which is less than projected. This decline is primarily due to the lack of development.

The ACRDC (Allegan County Resource Development Committee) operates programs for residents 60 yrs and older. Some of the programs offered include: assistance with utilities, emergency food, winterization, home delivered meals, transportation and many other useful programs. A phone number was provided for those interested.

Allegan Heros – Allegan Downtown Deli along with the American Legion are putting together "Care Packages". Cost to send each package is about \$11.00. Anyone who would like to donate can contact Rick or Ruth Smith at 686-9537.

**Deputies Report:** Deputy Lytle reported 131 complaints during the month of which township deputies took 48. The complaints consisted of; 3 breaking and entering, 2 malicious destruction, 11 larcenies (2 arrest have been made) and 16 loud music complaints. In regards to blight enforcement 2 or 3 blight complaints are currently in process.

**Fire Department Report:** For the month of April there were 10 calls. This is a record for the least number of call in any April ever. The truck recall has been taken care of and the annual maintenance on the Jaws of Life, has been completed. With in the next couple weeks, 3 trucks will be going in for a pump test, which is required annually.

**First Responders Report:** For the month of April, there were 24 calls. This consisted of 21 medicals, 2 assist and 1 accident.

**Ambulance Report:** No report

**Building Report:** The building inspector reported that there were 5 building permits, 4 electrical permits, 2 mechanical and 2 plumbing permits issued. Total improvements for the month was \$341,000.00

**Cemetery Report:** M.Curley reported that a freeze pump will need to be repaired or replace. It was noted that the wreaths were purchased and will be put up before Memorial Day

**Transfer Station:** During the month there was \$574.00 collected with 48 coupons redeemed.

**Lake Board Report:** No report

**Newsletter Committee:** Newsletters are available for those that might not have gotten a newsletter. Next meeting is June 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. Anyone having a historical article or any information for the newsletter, please contact the committee. This next edition will cover Pullman Pride, an update on Pullman Industry and highlights from the Memorial Day Parade.

**Assessor's Report:** The Assessor officially turned over The Board of Review records to the Clerk. The majority of the determinations have been mailed, with the rest to be sent out shortly. The Board of Review was organized and everything ran smoothly. The re-evaluation has been accepted by the County and has passed with the State. The fourteen-point audit was done last week, which included the paper work portion. Within the next month, a letter will be sent from the Treasury Department, stating that everything has been approved and records will be turned back over to the township. They will send a bill for their work at the time the records are sent back. Assessor Brousseau suggested that the township do what is called a "light review". This would include the review of 20% of the records annually to keep the records current and eliminate having to do a full re-evaluation again. This method is very effective with keeping up with the changes. Assessor Brousseau stated that this is not being recommended right now, but something that the township might want to consider in the future. The Assessor thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve them. Some discussion took place on the pro's and con's of zoning. Supervisor Schlack stated that he supports zoning, to increase property values. A citizen commented that health and safety of the citizens should be considered first over the money. Treasurer Lowery questioned if there was an increase or a decrease to the SEV. The board requested a copy of the report which includes the SEV and taxable values.

*Motion was made by Christensen and seconded by Lowery to approve the land division/ lot line adjustment as approved by the Assessor for Forstner. All voted "Aye". Motion carries.*

**Holiday Committee-** Spring banners have been up for the last month. Santa and Ms. Claus would like to get the local business to donate small gift to the children. They will do the legwork, but requested that the township give a letter to show the township's approval in the program.

**Pullman Pride:** A concern was raised regarding the lack of attendance at the committee meetings. P. Rawson stated that only 2 people couldn't do the program and without help, Pullman Pride might not happen. At this time there have been some churches that are showing their support in returning this year as well as the school and the individuals who brought the karaoke last year. P. Rawson made a request for the boards backing and help from the board members. Questions were raised regarding the use of the funds. A request for \$2,000 of their funds to be used to pay for the rides and expenses related to the event. A suggestion was made that a fundraiser might be a good idea to offset some of the charges. The funds that are raised each year are not only for scholarships, but to cover expenses related to holding this event.

**Clean Team:** The next date for the Clean Team to meet will be held on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. The Clean Team would like to expand the areas that they are working, but are in desperate need of volunteers.

#### **OLD BUSINESS –**

**Review Park Managers Salary:** The Park Manager currently is paid a salary of \$750.00 per month. He has requested an additional fuel or vehicle allowance due the rapid increase of fuel prices. He is using his own pickup and has been provided the fuel to inspect the areas for cleanup.

*Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Christensen to grant the Park Manager a vehicle/fuel allowance of \$150.00 per month in addition to his salary of \$750.00 monthly. Roll call vote as taken: Yes – Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.*

#### **Dust Control:**

A work order was received from the Allegan County Road Commission for the yearly dust control. The work order was for three applications at the last year's rate of \$16,500.00.

*Motion was made Christensen and seconded by Lowery to sign the Dust Control for three applications at no more than \$16,500.00 per application. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.*

#### **Cemetery Gravel:**

It was previously discussed and approved for gravel to be purchased and delivered to the cemetery. Supervisor Schlack agreed to contact Pat Knapp as soon as possible to have it completed by Memorial Day.

*Motion was made by Christensen and seconded by King to authorize gravel to be delivered and graded at the cost of no more than \$1,000.00 to be completed before Memorial Day. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.*

**Removal of Leaves at the Cemetery:** The leaves at the cemetery will need to be raked and removed. In the past the community service workers have done the work. It was discussed if there was enough time to schedule the workers before the upcoming holiday. T. Kotas volunteered to take care of the leaves and Supervisor Schlack stated that he would help him.

*Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Christensen to use the Community Service workers if available, to have the job completed prior to Memorial Day. All voted "Aye". Motion carries.*

**Opening Mowing Bids:** Only one bid was received from R&N from 6780 116<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Fennville There bid was as follows: The Township Hall at \$35.00 per mowing, Lee Township Cemetery at

\$445.00 per mowing, Lee Township Fire Station #2 at \$45.00 per mowing and \$35.00 per mowing for the Ravenswood park which includes taking care of the weeds at the boat ramp on Lower Scott Lake. The mowing would be done bi-weekly or as needed. A suggestion was made to request a bid for leave removal for in the future.

*Motion was made by Schlack and seconded by Lowery to accept the bid for mowing as presented to R&N Services upon the receipt of liability insurance. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.*

**First Responders Millage Language:**

*Motion was made by Christensen and seconded by Lowery to approve the preparation by the Attorney of language for the renewal of First Responders Millage to be placed on the August primary ballot. Roll call vote was taken: Yes- Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.*

**List of Properties in Tax Foreclosure:** In the tax foreclosure process the township has the first bid before the properties are foreclosed on. A form is required to be filled out. It was recommended that these properties mapped out as well as researched to be presented at next board meeting.

**Payment of the Bills:**

*Motion was made by Lowery and seconded by Christensen to authorize the Clerk to pay the bills as presented including payment of wages to the election workers for the May 6<sup>th</sup> election. Roll call vote was taken: Yes – Christensen, Lowery, Schlack and King. Motion carries.*

**Citizens Comments:** During this portion of the meeting, six citizens commented on a Memorial Ride for Terry Laraway, Memorial Day's events, envelopes that were donated for anyone who would like them and Todd Boorsma handed out flyers and spoke briefly on his family and campaign for State Representative. Lastly an update was given regarding Trustee Black's recent surgery.

*Motion was made by Christensen and seconded by Lowery to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm. Motion carries.*

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Minutes submitted by:  
Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk