

Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 12th, 2025

The Regular 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, Michigan.

Members Present: Supervisor Rawson, Clerk Blackburn, Treasurer Godlew, Trustee Lewis, Trustee Hatfield

Members Absent: None

Agenda Amendments: None

Board Comments:

Trustee Lewis: Rustee Lewis reported that there is a new medical imaging facility in Saugatuck.

Joe Godlew: Treasurer Godlew property taxes are due February 17th. Winter and Summer 2025 taxes are payable to Lee Township until March 2nd. After that point they will go to Allegan County. Treasurer Godlew thanked the holiday committee for the holiday decorations around town.

Clerk Blackburn: Clerk Blackburn gave an update on the theft of equipment from the township. The theft happened between October 2nd and October 8th. A full Breach Determination Memorandum will be forthcoming. During the theft, there were two tabulators, three laptops and an empty cashbox that were stolen. Based on the facts that are known at this time, voter data was not present on the devices at the time of theft. This is based upon established post-election procedures included in the state election manual which include deletion of all election software and records post-election. In the event any voter data remained on a device contrary to established procedures, such data was encrypted at rest using the electronic pollbook software and password protected by the laptop itself as well as user credentials set within the software. There is no evidence that any passwords or encryption keys were compromised. There is no evidence of unauthorized acquisition of usable personal information. The notice that registered voters received at the end of December/beginning of January was sent out in coordination with the state of Michigan Bureau of Elections as a transparency and courtesy measure. I and the board take this event extremely seriously. The Clerk is working through insurance claims to get reimbursed for updated election equipment.

Please contact the Clerks office with any questions. Email will result in the quickest response: clerk@leetwp.org

If you have any information that may help the investigation, please contact the Allegan County Sheriff's department.

To **report a crime and file a complaint**, contact Central Dispatch at 269-673-3899.

To report information about a crime anonymously, contact **Silent Observer at 1-800-554-3633**

Citizens Comment:

Kris LaPoint: Kris shared that an event titled "Pullman Private Will Presentation" will be held at 5594 North Avenue, Pullman, MI 49450 on February 4th sponsored by the

Great Lakes Community Action Partnership (GLCAP) <see flyer attached at the end of the minutes>.

Vikki Lindsey: Requests that the township board calls Consumers Energy about the street lights that are currently burned out.

Unknown: What enforcement is in place for ordinance enforcement in the township? Reported several campers that are permanently placed around the township.

Unknown: The house at or near 975 Hughes has been a blight with multiple animal control complaints and need cleaned up.

Unknown: Noticed multiple people walking along the roads – with the snow especially more and more folks are walking in the road rather than on the berm, looking for ideas to help folks keep safe in these situations.

Guest Speakers: None.

Approval of Regular Board Minutes:

A motion was made by Rawson and seconded by Hatfield to approve the previous months regular meeting minutes as presented. All voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasures report was read by Treasure Godlew.

A motion was made by Blackburn and seconded by Rawson to receive the Treasurer’s Report as given. Motion carried. Roll call - Supervisor Rawson - yes, Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes, Trustee Lewis, - absent.

County Commissioners Report: Mr. Lubbers reported a few items:

The Commission has recently elected new leadership for their one year terms.

There are two fresh physical maps that have been created for public consumption.

Parks in the county are mainly funded by Gun Lake casino revenue. Revenue has been reported to be up 11% which will be good for the parks budget going forward.

The Brownfield plan for the old paper mill in Otsego will be continued for the next three year plan term. No other changes regarding the plan are expected.

A new 5 year parks plan has been accepted and will be sent on to the state for the county.

David Haverdink, the fire chief in Hamilton for 40 years, was remembered for his dedication to his community and public service. Commissioner Lubbers thanked everyone who attended the service.

Deputy Report: There were 170 calls for December. There are quite a few of wanted people in Lee Township and there is a concerted effort to track these folks down.

Fire Department/ EMS Report:

Chief Zack Clark: We had a total of 44 calls, 33 of which were medical. Training for the month was focused on forcible entry.

In total for 2025 there were 452 medical calls and 187 fire calls.

The new first responder unit is expected to be delivered at the end of March.

Chief Zack also gave his thanks to all who attended the service for David Haverdink.

The fire department is planning to put 1 new member through first responders class.

Code Official Report: Supervisor Rawson on behalf of Jeff Olney – there was no material update, we are still in progress on ordinance complaints.

Assessor’s Report: Read by Supervisor Rawson:

JANUARY 2026 – ASSESSOR UPDATE TO TWP BOARD

Mailing Addresses

Please make sure the mailing address held on the Lee Township Assessment and Tax Rolls is our current mailing address. Winter tax bills have been issued. If the mailing address on the winter tax bill is not correct please contact Lee Township and update the mailing address.

2026 Assessment Notices

In mid-February the 2026 Assessment Notice will be mailed. This document informs the property owner of assessment valuation and details used to calculate tax for 2026. This document also provides the property owner information on when and how to appeal the valuation of the parcel if they believe the assessed value does not represent 50% of market value.

Disabled Veterans

All Disabled Veteran Exemptions granted in 2025 should carry forward without annual application. If you receive a Notice of Assessment that does not indicate the Disabled Veteran Exemption is applied please contact me.

Email: leeassessor1@gmail.com

Ambulance Reports: Trustee Lewis reported that the next meeting is on Thursday at 6pm.

There was a leak in the roof and it was masonry from the chimney.

Clerk Blackburn reported that we did receive the invoice from the City of Fennville for \$3,720.

Clerk Blackburn further requested Trustee Lewis to push for answers as to why the City of Fennville actively uses this building for their own equipment storage while requesting all other townships to collectively pay for the upkeep. It was reported to the township that this building would have been demolished, however clearly it is being used to the benefit of the City raising the question of why these funds are needed from the township when we have our own Fire stations to upkeep.

Building Inspector's Report: Building Inspector's report was read by Supervisor Rawson.

There were 27 mechanical permits and inspections, 7 electrical inspections and 8 permits, 3 building permits, with \$234,042.82 of value to the township.

Cemetery Report: Clerk Blackburn reminded the township that any plot purchases (once you know what plot it is you plan to purchase), or requests for deed receipts can be sent through the Clerks office. Any requests for the location of plots and to pick out which plot you'd like to purchase, please work with our Sexton, Megan Phillips as she has all of the cemetery maps.

Sexton Email: NewLifePropertyCare@gmail.com

Sexton Phone: 269-242-9766

Transfer Station Report: Transfer station report was read by Treasurer Godlew. There was a total of 20 tickets bringing in \$1,055.00.

Lake Board: None.

Newsletter Report: None.

Holiday Committee Report: Trustee Hatfield read several thank you notes. From Lisa Galdikas: Thank you to Kathy Blackburn, Kirk Massey, Tim and Wyatt Looman, and Tim Kotas for their help in getting all the holiday decorations up and down around town.

From Deb Laraway: thanked the crew that put up and took down the municipal decorations.
Thanks also to the group that put up and took down the town square decorations.

Pullman Pride Report: None.

Road Committee Report: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fire Fighter Training Class for 1 Member

A motion was made by Blackburn and seconded by Hatfield to approve spending up to \$1,000 for the cost of 1 member to attend first responder training.

Motion carried. Roll call - Supervisor Rawson - yes, Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes. Trustee Lewis, - yes.

Date of Budget Meeting 2026 – March 28th

A motion was made by Blackburn and seconded by Godlew to approve setting the date for the budget meeting for Saturday March 28th at 10am at the Lee Township Hall and authorize the clerk to proceed with any legally required notices.

Motion carried. Roll call - Supervisor Rawson - yes, Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes, Trustee Lewis, - yes.

2026 Poverty Exemption Guidelines

A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Blackburn to approve updated poverty exemption guidelines that result in an increase in the mandatory minimum by 20% to make it easier to qualify.

Motion carried. Roll call - Supervisor Rawson - yes, Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes, Trustee Lewis, - yes.

Variance for set back Parcel 12-026-038-00

A motion was made by Blackburn and seconded by Godlew to reject the variance request.

Motion carried. Roll call - Supervisor Rawson - yes, Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes, Trustee Lewis, - no.

Sidewalk Resolution

<see full text of resolution attached at the end of the minutes>.

A motion was made by Blackburn and seconded by Hatfield to approve the sidewalk resolution in support of the Safe Route To Schools Project.

Motion carried. Roll call - Supervisor Rawson - no, Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – no, Trustee Hatfield, - yes, Trustee Lewis, - yes.

BOR Members

Letters of interest were received and reviewed by the board from 4 individuals, Richard Orawiec, Doug Bale, Michelle Gibson and Jill Okon.

A motion was made by Blackburn and seconded by Godlew to nominate and appoint Michelle Gibson as the primary Board of Review Member and Jill Okon as the alternate member of the Board of Review.

Motion carried. Roll call - Supervisor Rawson - yes, Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes, Trustee Lewis, - no.

Payment of the Bills: Presented by Clerk Blackburn, totaling \$87,062.87.

A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Rawson to approve the payment of the bills for a total of \$87,062.87 presented by Clerk Blackburn. Motion carried. Roll call - Supervisor Rawson - yes, Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Lewis – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes.

Correspondence: None.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Rawson and seconded by Hatfield to adjourn the meeting. All voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.

Minutes submitted by: Kathryn Blackburn, Clerk

UNOFFICIAL

Kris LaPoint flyer:



www.glcap.org/rcap



PULLMAN PRIVATE WELL PRESENTATION

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

This training will help you to better understand private wells, community water systems, and local contamination history.

You will learn well basics, owner responsibilities, and risks from natural and man-made sources.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026

AGENDA

Registration: 5:45pm

Class: 6:00pm-8:00pm

SCAN OR CLICK



1-800-775-9767

rcapcommunications@glcap.org

5594 North Avenue
Pullman, MI 49450

This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted for Improving Water Quality through Training and Technical Assistance to Private Well Owners.

LEE TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Resolution No. 2026-01-12

Adopted: January 12, 2026

Effective: upon adoption

A RESOLUTION COMMITTING TO OWNERSHIP, OPERATION, AND PERPETUAL MAINTENANCE OF SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL FACILITIES

WHEREAS,

- 1. Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan (“Township”) desires to support pedestrian and bicyclist safety and accessibility for school-aged children and the public through improvements funded in whole or in part under the Michigan Department of Transportation (“MDOT”) Safe Routes to School (“SRTS”) program and/or related federal/state transportation funding; and**
- 2. The Township supports a proposed SRTS project implementing sidewalks and crosswalks in the area of Pullman Elementary School (“the school”) located at 5580 South Ave Pullman, MI 49450 as shown on the attached Exhibit A, made part of this Resolution. Said project is tentatively identified as the “Pullman, Michigan Non-Motorized Transportation Connection”; and**
- 3. The Allegan County Road Commission (“ACRC”) is the roadway authority for public roads within Lee Township and may be identified in project documentation as the road agency having jurisdiction over the roadway corridor; further, ACRC is the grant applicant and is expected to serve as the implementing agency responsible for procurement, contract administration, and construction oversight; and**
- 4. The SRTS program requires Lee Township to support and commit to the ownership, operation and maintenance of any constructed facilities within the Township; and**
- 5. The SRTS program requires Lee Township to support the maintenance of any constructed facilities in perpetuity, including implementation of a maintenance plan/program sufficient to preserve the facility’s intended function and safety; and**
- 6. The Township intends, for purposes of satisfying SRTS funding assurances, to assume responsibility for the ownership (as applicable), operation, and perpetual maintenance of the SRTS-funded facilities described herein, thereby relieving ACRC of any ongoing obligations to own, operate, or maintain such SRTS-funded facilities, except as otherwise required by law for the roadway itself; and**
- 7. The Township finds that it is in the public interest for the Township to make these commitments to ensure continued safe use of the SRTS-funded improvements and to support grant compliance.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Lee Township hereby supports the Allegan County Road Commission's SRTS grant application for the proposed Pullman, Michigan Non-Motorized Transportation Connection for the area around Pullman Elementary School; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that Lee Township hereby commits to assuming responsibility for the ownership, operation and perpetual maintenance of the SRTS-funded facilities implemented pursuant to any SRTS grant awarded; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that to the extent necessary to the assuming of responsibly for the ownership, operation and perpetual maintenance of the SRTS-funded facilities; that the Township is responsible for payment of a portion of cost overruns for construction and engineering work that are not foreseeable when the grant is applied for or awarded; and

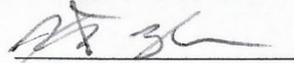
IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk is hereby directed to submit a true copy of this resolution to the ACRC to be included, if necessary, in its SRTS grant application; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk and Supervisor are authorized execute any documents necessary to fulfill the obligations of the Township as authorized herein.

This resolution was offered by member: Blackburn and supported by member: Hatfield. Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

- Blackburn - Aye
- Rawson - No
- Godlew - No
- Hatfield - AYE
- Lewis - Aye

The Supervisor declared the motion passed and the resolution adopted.



Kathy Blackburn, Clerk
Lee Township, Allegan County MI

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Lee Township Board held on January 12, 2026; that the meeting was conducted and public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act; that a quorum of the Lee Township Board was present and voted in favor of the resolution; and that the minutes of said meeting have been or will be made available as required by the Open Meetings Act.



Kathy Blackburn, Clerk