Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 14th, 2026

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, Treasurer Godlew, Trustee Lewis, Clerk Blackburn
Members Absent: Trustee Hatfield

Agenda Amendments: None.

Board Comments:

Clerk Blackburn: Reminder that early voting for Lee Township for the November 2026 election will be hosted at the Fennville City hall from October 24 - November 1st from 8am - 4pm every day during that period. Absentee ballots are expected to be mailed to those who have requested an absentee ballot or are already enrolled in the permanent ballot program shortly.
Clerk Blackburn recognized September as Firefighter Appreciation Month to honor the courage, dedication, and sacrifices of career and volunteer firefighters, thank you to all Lee Township fire and first responders, we deeply appreciate your service.
Clerk Blackburn finally took a moment to recognize the passing of the 25th anniversary of the attacks on 9/11.

Treasurer Godlew: Acknowledged and offered condolences on the passing of Sandy Anderson. Treasurer Godlew recognized her work around the community and township and offered gratitude to her and her family.
Reminder that starting September 15th, summer property taxes deadline is today September 14th. Any payments received after today are considered late and will have an interest fee assigned for late payment. Summer tax payments will continue to be accepted by the treasurer through February 2027.
The annual financial audit has been completed successfully, final copies will be provided once the auditors are complete with their compilation.

Citizens Comment:

Osterhout Lake resident

Guest Speakers: None.

Approval of Special Board Minutes: None.

Approval of Regular Board Minutes:
A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Rawson 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, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Lewis, - yes, Clerk Blackburn - yes.

County Commissioners Report: None

Deputy Report: There were 208 calls received.

Fire Department/ EMS Report:

Chief Zack Clark: We had a total of 61 calls, 43 of which were medical. Training for the month was drafting - filling the trucks with water from rivers/lakes.

Code Official Report:

Mr. Olney is actively working on many active blight complaints, 2 need a pending followup on escalation to the courts.
The complaint form is available on our website:
http://www.leetwp.org/Forms%20File/complaint%20form.pdf

Assessor's Report: None.

Ambulance Reports: None.

Building Inspector's Report: Building Inspector's report was read by Supervisor Rawson. There were 5 mechanical permits and inspections, 6 electrical permits and 13 inspections, 7 building permits and 35 inspections, with $672,750.00. of value to the township.

Cemetery Report: Supervisor Rawson noted there was a tree that came down on one section of the fence and he will address the repair to the fence.

Transfer Station Report: Transfer station report was read by Treasurer Godlew. There was a total of 114 tickets collected and $2,125.00 funds received for material disposal. Saturday the 19th, from 9a-3p will be the final free dump day of the season. Extra dumpsters have been ordered for the day.

Lake Board: Supervisor Rawson read a letter from John Van Gessel:

The Lake Board is waiting upon the Township's outside counsel for language to insert in the proposed contract for the removal of silt and lily pads in the area of the Lower Scott Lake dam, near 109th Avenue. In the interim, the Township and the Lake Board are refining contractor performance obligations regarding the placement of "spoils," that is, the silt and vegetation from the channel in the Township park.

The Lake Board had the lake treated for pondweed on August 31 and the invoice for that treatment has been submitted to the Township for payment. In addition, in September the Lake Board will have a contractor treating swamp loosestrife at various locations around the lake to improve/preserve homeowner access to the lake and to generally control this invasive species.

P.S. The lake is still wet, and it is cooling.

Newsletter Report: None.

Holiday Committee Report: Clerk Blackburn confirmed that the invoice for the new holiday light bulbs had been received and the new bulbs are ready for install for this season.

Pullman Pride Report: None.

Road Committee Report: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Battery Energy Storage Facility

Every member of the township board has received a certified letter inviting them to meet and discuss the proposed facility. This notice is required by state law.
781 55th is the proposed location of the facility. There is no decision needing to be made or proposed at this time by the board. The owners of this facility are also required to host a public meeting before construction of this facility.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fire District Hearing

A call to open the fire district hearing was made by Supervisor Rawson and seconded by Treasurer Godlew. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.
At the last regularly scheduled board meeting, the board unanimously approved the proposal of a 4.75 mill special assessment levy to move forward to a public hearing and roll. This represents a decrease of the special assessment from the prior year from 5.5 mils for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. Treasurer Godlew presented a capital expenditures plan that was built with direct input from the Fire Chief and financial considerations over the coming 10 years.
Public comments: None.
Correspondance: None.

A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Blackburn to approve the proposed resolution including setting the special assessment fire district millage to 4.75 based on the delivered assessment roll for the 2027-2028 fiscal year. Roll call – Supervisor Rawson – yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Lewis – yes, Clerk Blackburn - yes.

Payment of the Bills: Presented by Clerk Blackburn, totaling $121,463.15.
*A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Rawson to approve the payment of the bills for a total of $*121,463.15 *presented by Clerk Blackburn. Motion carried. Roll call – Supervisor Rawson – yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Lewis – yes, Clerk Blackburn - yes.*

Correspondence: None

Adjournment:
A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Blackburn to adjourn the meeting. All voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.
Minutes submitted by: Kathryn Blackburn, Clerk