

TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE

Michael Bremer, *Supervisor* / Debra K Buckowing, *Treasurer* / Cindy A. Willshire, *Clerk*
Curt Campbell, *Trustee* / Ross DeMaagd, *Trustee* / Jake Jelsema, *Trustee* / Sandra Rairigh, *Trustee*



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PO Box 459 - 200 E Main St. - Middleville, MI 49333

REGULAR MEETING TELECONFERENCE May 11, 2020

1. INVOCATION - Supervisor Bremer
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL

TIME: 7:02 P.M.

ROLL CALL:	Bremer: Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd:	Present Present Present @ 7:11 p.m. Present	Jelsema: Rairigh: Willshire:	Present Present Present
OTHERS PRESENT:	Amy Brown, Catherine Getty, Dan Parker, Eric Schaefer, Greg Chandler, and Chief Randy Eaton.			

4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Willshire- Motion to approve the printed agenda.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Buckowing
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 6 yes, and 1 absent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer: Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd:	Yes Yes Not arrived yet Yes	Jelsema: Rairigh: Willshire:	Yes Yes Yes
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5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION STATED:	Jelsema- Motion to approve the consent agenda.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Buckowing
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 6 yes, and 1 absent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer: Buckowing: Campbell: DeMaagd:	Yes Yes Not arrived yet Yes	Jelsema: Rairigh: Willshire:	Yes Yes Yes
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6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

7. COUNTY REPORT:

***Campbell arrives to teleconference.**

County Commissioner Dan Parker:	Barry County Board will be officially announcing the jail millage ballot language in June for a November election. Thank you to all who provided input as to how to proceed. There will be a zoom meeting for the county tomorrow. Any questions?
Board Response:	Bremer asked for an update on internet service grant. Parker replied that nothing official has been announced but believes a USDA grant may be awarded to a local internet service provider and if that does become final it would be announced at that time.

8. RESERVED TIME: none

9. CLERK’S REPORT: Motion to adopt Resolution #07-2020: Resolution to establish an Absent Voter Counting Board.

- a. Bremer asked if it would be the same people at the precinct? Would require 3 more inspectors per precinct and one tabulator for all precincts, thus making a fourth precinct.
- b. Bremer asked about the cost. Willshire explained a grant would cover cost of half a tabulator and that elections are paid for by the state for the August and November elections. Would not affect budget much.
- c. Buckowing asked if the resolution were adopted, would that mean the poll workers would not need to interrupt the voters in the precinct to feed those absent voter ballots through the tabulator and therefore speed up the time it takes for in person voting? Willshire responded that Buckowing was correct. It would speed up the processing of in person ballots being feed through the tabulators.

MOTION STATED:	Buckowing- Motion to approve resolution 07-2020
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

10. TREASURER’S REPORT: none

11. PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT: none

12. EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT:

- A. Motion to accept quote from Tommy D’s Lawn Care for 2 weed and feed applications at \$74 for each application.
 - a. Rairigh asked if this includes the back hill? Eaton replied that it does.
 - b. DeMaagd commented that he feels this isn’t an issue that needs to be brought to the board to be voted on.

MOTION STATED:	Campbell- Motion to approve above expenditure.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	DeMaagd
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call. 7 yes, and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

B. Summary

- a. Update regarding dedicated ambulance for Covid-19 patient transfers: Pennock has rewritten the agreement with EMS services in County. Because there has not been a need to transfer Covid patients so far. Thornapple Township has decided to staff all such transfers and bill all mileage should an instance arise. Since it would be scheduled, it would be staffed by call in and not full-time employees. Accumed would bill patients the cost of transfer with any remaining balance billed to Spectrum up to \$1,000.00 per patient. The board had agreed in general during the March board meeting before the agreement had been finalized. Bremer stated he did not believe this needed to be voted on again as it had already been approved. No further comments were voiced to the contrary. Eaton stated that should the number of transfers began to increase beyond the point Thornapple could handle the number, then the agreement would be again rewritten, and other entities would help to staff the transfers. Rairigh asked Eaton about the status of the disinfecting light that had been ordered. Eaton stated it has not arrived yet and was told it would be 4 to 6 weeks. We are at week 4 so Eaton said he would contact them for an update.
- b. Update about zoom meetings: Klutman has been doing some research on options for zoom meetings for ongoing training of staff. He recommends the township consider purchasing a “Pro” option for \$14.95 per month which allows for 9 hosts and up to 100 participants. Believes the township could share the subscription for multiple types of meetings. Getty stated she is considering using zoom for an upcoming Planning and Zoning Meeting. May has been canceled but they will likely have one June 4. Bremer, Buckowing and Willshire plan to meet this week to discuss zoom subscription options.
- c. Bremer stated the Barry County Fair has been canceled this year. Eaton stated he had just heard that as well.
- d. Preventative Maintenance contract with Physio Control inc. purchased has almost paid for itself and it has not been a year yet. Included in the contract is maintenance for (2) Lifepak 15’s, (2) Lucas machines and 1 AED.

- e. Eaton stated they have disposed of 2 broken recliners and received a donated couch. He will be able to call Talsma's tomorrow as they are back open for business. Asked if the order of 2 new recliners was still on hold or should be cancelled. Bremer stated the order should be cancelled.
- f. The monthly report was included which shows the number and types of calls for April.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A.** DLS lagoon expansion feasibility study: Bremer requests if any board member feels that we should participate financially to please speak up. Otherwise, Bremer stated he would contact Peace Church and let them know the board would not be paying for any of the cost of the study. Rairigh agreed with Bremer. Campbell agreed as well. DeMaagd stated he would be ok with paying for a small part of the cost since DLS would benefit in the future from the expansion. Buckowing reminded DeMaagd that the township could not provide finances for this, as it would impact the ability to borrow funds for a year. The DLS could provide funding but not the township. Bremer and DeMaagd stated that was what was meant. Bremer reminded the board that the sewer authority had recently spent \$25,000.00 toward the purchase of more land to allow for an expansion.
- B.** Server: To move to the cloud service would cost about \$10,262.69 initially and an additional \$1,066.00 per month. To purchase a replacement server to last 5 years would cost \$25,000 to \$35,000. In presentation to board, the replacement server was listed at \$28,000 which included software and licensing. The follow up email from Jeff showed a cost of 35,000 to \$55,000. Board members stated they had received and reviewed the email. DeMaagd stated he did not have the chance to look at it closely. Bremer asked for Jelsema's opinion. Jelsema stated Aunalytics may be overselling the cloud service as they have plenty of space right now. DeMaagd said he is leaning toward replacing server. Rairigh feels prices in quote are too high. Bremer asked if decision needs to be delayed further? Willshire stated the current situation with remote connection has some issues that make it harder to get work done. Buckowing and Getty stated they have also experienced some problems with the current situation. Campbell stated that Aunalytics could still fix the server even if the warranty expired so the board could have more time. Jelsema asked questions about what software was causing the issues. He thought BS&A had an online version that might resolve the remote connection issues. Also, Office 365 had cloud back up already which could be utilized. He said he would check the cost and availability of BS&A online. Bremer stated he would get Campbell the phone number for Jeff at Aunalytics and asked him to call for further details on quote.

14. NEW BUSINESS:

Emergency services millage renewal/increase: DeMaagd stated he would like to ask for 2.0 mills as the capital improvement savings for replacement equipment is not where they want it to be. Rairigh stated that in the current economic climate asking for an increase in August would be voted down. Feels asking for 1.75 mills would be best since they had previously agreed to it. Buckowing agreed with Rairigh except that any verbiage of "increase" would likely be voted down and the difference in the amount of revenue between the two is small. Also, voters would be thinking about the jail millage coming up. Bremer asked if the original millage had stated 1.75 mills? Buckowing said she could not remember exactly but the increase would likely be voted down for an additional \$11,000 in revenue. Willshire reminded the board that in 2016 election the millage had gone from 1.5

mills to 1.75 mills. Bremer stated it had been rolled back to 1.7169 due to the Headlee Act. Bremer asked if the board thinks the voters will remember approving the 1.75 mills? All agreed voters will not remember and will see it as an increase. Buckowing reminded board of a time when the township asked the voters to return to a 1 mill from a rollback and the voters had said no. Rairigh asked if it is turned down, where does that put us? If it's turned down in August and November, the EMS would have to be shut down. DeMaagd would like to ask for the renewal and that in the future could ask for a capital improvement millage request in the future. Willshire asked about the language in the revenue sharing with the DDA? Bremer responded yes. In the first year it would be half the amount. In the second year, there would not be any revenue sharing.

MOTION STATED:	DeMaagd – motion to approve Resolution #05-2020 renewal of 1.7169 mills to be placed on August ballot.
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Rairigh
MOTION STATUS:	Approved by roll call vote. 7 yes, and 0 no.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Bremer:	Yes	Jelsema:	Yes
	Buckowing:	Yes	Rairigh:	Yes
	Campbell:	Yes	Willshire:	Yes
	DeMaagd:	Yes		

15. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Administration (Bremer, Buckowing, Willshire)
- B. Cemetery (Willshire, DeMaagd, Rairigh)
- C. Elections (Willshire, Buckowing, Bremer) Bremer asked about election results? Willshire stated 43 voters out of 153 voted.
- D. Emergency Services (Demaagd, Bremer, Rairigh)
- E. Finance (Buckowing, Willshire, DeMaagd)
- F. Parks and Recreation Representative (Bremer) Rairigh asked if there was any update on the trail grant? Bremer stated there has not been any news. Jelsema confirmed with Bremer that the grant is coming from a Corpus Fund and is separate from the budget issues currently taking place. There is a 1-year time frame to spend the funds and does the township have the matching funds ready to go? Bremer confirmed it is.
- G. Personnel – Compensation (Willshire, Campbell, Bremer)
- H. Property and Public Utilities (Jelsema, DeMaagd, Campbell)
- I. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Jelsema)

16. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

A. Dan Parker reminded everyone the county is still open for business and to please call or make an appointment.

17. POLL OF MEMBERS:

Jake Jelsema (Trustee) – Decided not to run for re-election since he may be moving out of Thornapple Township, but within Barry County during the next term. Also, already works a lot of hours in government and decided not to continue at this time.

Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) – none.

Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) – none.

Curt Campbell (Trustee) – Who are the candidates for the township? Willshire said no additional people, Rairigh, DeMaagd, Campbell for trustee but not Jelsema. Buckowing and Willshire are running unopposed.

Deb Buckowing (Treasurer) – Township is open for business and some are attending an MTA webinar tomorrow about how to reopen safely.

Cindy Willshire (Clerk) – Attended an MTA webinar on cemeteries and there will not be a Memorial Day parade held this year. Parker stated he had heard Mark Engler from Yankee Springs mention a possibility of a combined parade for Memorial Day.

Mike Bremer (Supervisor) – Thanked everyone for their dedication to the residents. The June board meeting would either be a zoom meeting or in the board room.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

TIME: 8:40 P.M.

MOTION STATED:	Jelsema – Move to adjourn
MOTION SUPPORTED:	Buckowing
MOTION STATUS:	Approved with 7 yes voice votes.

Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

Approved ____/2020__