

Regular Meeting Rose Township Board of Trustees
May 14, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Location: Township Office, 9080 Mason Street, Holly MI 48442

CALL TO ORDER – Supervisor Stilwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT: Stilwell, Jobes, Bourdeau, Maher

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Miller

Motion by Treasurer Jobes to excuse Clerk Miller. Supported by Trustee Bourdeau. A voice vote was taken. All present voted yes. The motion was carried 4/0.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Request to remove New Business Items #3 and #6 and to correct typo

Motion by Trustee Maher to approve the agenda as amended. Supported by Treasurer Jobes. A voice vote was taken. All present voted yes. The motion was carried 4/0.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Bourdeau to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Supported by Trustee Maher. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was carried 4/0.

Yes: Bourdeau, Maher, Jobes, Stilwell

No: None

Absent: Miller

PUBLIC HEARING - None

PRESENTATIONS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution to Appoint to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Andrew Ziegler - Term expires 12/31/2025.

Public Comment: None

Resolution No. 2025-07

Appointment to the Rose Township Zoning Board of Appeals

WHEREAS, the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) serves a critical role in ensuring fair and consistent application of Rose Township's zoning ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Rose Township Board values community members who are dedicated to public service and willing to serve in advisory capacities to support good governance; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Ziegler has submitted a letter of interest for appointment to the ZBA and currently serves the Township in multiple civic roles, including as Chairperson of the Board of Review, Precinct Delegate for Precinct Two, and election inspector, reflecting a deep commitment to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board has reviewed Mr. Ziegler's qualifications and finds him well-suited for the responsibilities of the ZBA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rose Township Board hereby appoints Andrew Ziegler to the Rose Township Zoning Board of Appeals, with the term commencing May 14, 2025, and concluding December 31, 2025.

Motion by Treasurer Jobes to accept the appointment of Mr. Ziegler to the Zoning Board of Appeals to finish out the term of James Holden to conclude on December 31, 2025. Supported by Trustee Maher. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was carried 4/0.

Yes: Stilwell, Bourdeau, Maher, Jobes

No: None

Absent: Miller

2. Resolution to Approve West Nile Virus Fund Participation and Reimbursement in the amount of \$2,596.86.

Public Comment: None

ROSE TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION # 2025-08 WEST NILE VIRUS FUND PARTICIPATION AND REIMBURSEMENT AUTHORIZATION

WHEREAS upon the recommendation of the Oakland County Executive, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners has established a West Nile Virus Fund Program to assist Oakland County cities, villages and townships in addressing mosquito control activities; and

WHEREAS Oakland County's West Nile Virus Fund Program authorizes Oakland County cities, villages, and townships to apply for reimbursement of eligible expenses incurred in connection with personal mosquito protection measures/activity,

WHEREAS mosquito habitat eradication, mosquito larvicide or focused adult mosquito insecticide spraying in designated community green areas; and

WHEREAS Rose Township, Oakland County, Michigan, will incur expenses in connection with mosquito control activities believed to be eligible for reimbursement under Oakland county's West Nile Virus Fund program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rose Township Board of Trustees authorizes the Township Supervisor, as agent for the Township, in the manner and to the extent provided by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, to confirm the township's participation in the Est Nile Virus mosquito protection program and to request reimbursement of us to \$2,596.86 for mosquito control activity, specifically personal mosquito repellent products, under Oakland County's West Nile Virun Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to provide effective West Nile Virus protection, Rose Township will distribute the purchased mosquito repellent products to its residents from the township offices, the township parks and from any other location that may become available for distribution

Motion by Trustee Maher for the Supervisor to confirm the Township's participation in the West Nile Virus Fund and request reimbursement up to \$2,596.86. Supported by Treasurer Jobes. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was carried 4/0.

Yes: Maher, Jobes, Bourdeau, Stilwell

No: None

Absent: Miller

3. Resolution for Appointment to the Rose Township Construction Board of Appeals, Term Expiring December 2026

Public Comment: None

**ROSE TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION 2025-09
TO APPOINT RON GOOVERT REPLACING STEVE MCGEE ON THE CONSTRUCTION
BOARD OF APPEALS, TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 2026**

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2023, the Rose Township Board of Trustees adopted Resolution 2023-28, appointing Steve McGee, Randy Gilbert, and John Wojtaszek to the Rose Township Construction Board of Appeals for the remainder of a three-year term beginning January 2024 and ending December 2026; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that Steve McGee will no longer serve on the Construction Board of Appeals; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds it necessary to appoint a qualified individual to fill the remainder of Mr. McGee's term to ensure continuity and effectiveness of the Construction Board of Appeals;

Motion by Treasurer Jobes to remove Steve McGee from the Construction Board of Appeals and appoint Ron Goovert to a term commencing from the date of this Resolution and ending December 2026. Supported by Trustee Bourdeau. A voice vote was taken. The motion was carried 4/0.

Yes: Jobes, Maher, Bourdeau, Stilwell

No: None

Absent: Miller

4. Resolution to amend Rose Township Code of Ordinances, Chapter 14, Article VII North Oakland County Fire Authority

Public Comment: None

Resolution No. 2025-10

Resolution to amend the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 14, Article VII

Whereas, the NOCFA Articles of Incorporation have been under review for over a year; and

Whereas, legal teams from NOCFA, Rose Township, and Holly Township have worked together to update the Articles of Incorporation; and

Whereas, the Rose Township Supervisor and Clerk have been actively involved throughout the review and update process to ensure the revisions align with all applicable regulations and requirements.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Rose Township Board hereby approves the proposed amendments to the NOCFA Articles of Incorporation as presented, for adoption by the Rose Township Board.

VII - Fiscal Year-The fiscal year of the Authority shall commence on the **first day of January** in each year and **shall end on the 31st day of December** of the same year.

Be It Further Resolved that the Clerk is directed to take all necessary actions to facilitate the adoption of the amended Articles of Incorporation, in accordance with the applicable procedures.

Motion by Treasurer Jobes to amend Rose Township Code of Ordinances, Chapter 14, Article VII North Oakland County Fire Authority. Supported by Trustee Maher. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was carried 4/0.

Yes: Maher, Bourdeau, Jobes, Stilwell

No: None

Absent: Miller

5. Approval of Application for Fireworks at Lake Braemar from Great Lakes Fireworks LL, Barry Belz, Agent to be held on July 4, 2025 (rain date: July 5) shot from parcel #R-06-14-100-023 (vacant property).

Public Comment: questions regarding fire suppression equipment

Motion by Trustee Maher to approve the Lake Braemar Fireworks Application with Rose Township noted as an additional insured. Supported by Supervisor Stilwell. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was carried 4/0.

Yes: Jobes, Stilwell, Maher, Bourdeau

No: None

Absent: Miller

6. Approval to transfer \$60k from General Fund to Cemetery Fund

Public Comment: Julius Stern, Chairperson of the Cemetery Committee stated that there are three wells that need to be repaired in addition to other grounds maintenance projects.

No action taken.

7. Resolution in Condemnation of Oakland County Board of Commissioners Resolution #2025-5051

Public Comment: concerns about assessment done by County without assessor entering home and being assessed incorrectly; Rose Township had its own assessor in the past who took a lot of money out of the pockets of citizens because we were told it was okay to do and then they were later penalized; question whether other Townships have changed assessors; this is the third time that Oakland County has raised fees; contact District Commission Bob Hoffman who voted against this increase

The board stated that they are seeking proposals from other independent assessors, and that there is also a 90-day out in the contract with the County if we choose to approve the contract with Oakland County.

**ROSE TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION 2025-11
A RESOLUTION IN CONDEMNATION OF OAKLAND COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION #2025-5051**

WHEREAS: Rose Township is a local unit of government subsidiary to Oakland County in the state of Michigan, has a population of 6,136 est. residents, and is an ideal place to live, work, and play; and

WHEREAS: Rose Township has a dedicated and passionate staff of 7 employees who provide critical services and resources to its citizenry; and

WHEREAS: Rose Township has 3,279 real and personal parcels in its jurisdiction, and has utilized the Oakland County Department of Management and Budget's Equalization Division to provide property assessment administrative services for 5 years; and

WHEREAS: The most recent contract for these services, expiring June 30, 2025, contains a per parcel rate of \$17.72, generating \$58,103.88 for the County; and

WHEREAS: In a span of less than one month, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners introduced, passed out of committee, and adopted Resolution #2025-5051, which raises the per parcel rate to \$30.86, representing a 85.44% increase, and growing Rose Township's cost burden by \$43,086.06 and

WHEREAS: This increase shifts 100% of the property assessment administrative service cost burden, including unnecessary and controversial indirect costs, to communities like Rose Township, despite there being a tangible monetary and real benefit to Oakland County for providing these services to dozens of municipalities across its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS: While this county-wide increase would generate an additional \$10 million in revenue for the County over three years, numerous members of the Board of Commissioners articulated at their May 1, 2025 meeting where resolution #2025-5051 was adopted, that this revenue has not been earmarked or allocated for current or future programs or initiatives, nor would it address any budget deficit, rendering it superfluous to the County's operation while reducing each municipal customer's budget; and

WHEREAS: This resolution was passed with a loathsome lack of transparency, communication, and regard for dozens of communities like Rose Township, and with an urgency and process that prioritized political expediency over effective representation; and

WHEREAS: The Gingell Amendment to resolution #2025-5051, which was defeated, would have increased per parcel rates by only 4% for one year while giving municipalities an opportunity to meaningfully shape a significant policy shift by directing the Board Chair to "appoint a subcommittee composed of representatives from the County, Cities, Villages, and Townships to study the provision of assessing services and provide long-term recommendations to the Board of Commissioners"; and

WHEREAS: As a result of the Board of Commissioners' actions, Rose Township, and dozens of other municipal bodies across Oakland County, which are currently working on our FY2026 budgets, must now make expeditious budget changes and endure unnecessary difficulties that will directly result in the reduction of services and headcount for no discernible reason other than to pad the County's coffers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Rose Township Governmental Body condemns, in the strongest possible terms, Resolution #2025-5051, the undemocratic and roughshod process that led to its adoption, and the votes of Commissioners in favor of it despite universal opposition by constituent communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The Rose Township Governmental Body implores the Oakland County Board of Commissioners to reverse course, actually engage with and solicit the input of those they purport to represent, and pass an alternative proposal that more carefully weighs the legitimate need for a cost increase alongside the corresponding financial burden to municipal customers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this resolution be transmitted Chairman Dave Woodward, the entire Oakland County Board of Commissioners, and County Executive David Coulter.

Motion by Treasurer Jobes to accept the Resolution in condemnation of Oakland County Board of Commissioners Resolution #2025-5051. Supported by Trustee Bourdeau. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was carried 4/0.

Yes: Bourdeau, Jobes, Stilwell, Maher

No: None

Absent: Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- May 15 – Special Board Meeting, Noon, Workshop: Communication & Effective Decision-Making Processes
- NOCFA Meeting – May 27, 2025
- Neighbor-2-Neighbor – May 28, 2025
- Zoning Board of Appeals – June 3, 2025
- Planning Commission – June 5, 2025
- No-Haz Clean-up Day - Saturday, June 7, 8 am -1 pm, Oxford Middle School

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Clean-Up Day went well – there were 259 cars, filled three 40-yard dumpsters with metal, two 40-yard dumpsters with wood and 6 garbage trucks, 219 tires
- Encouraged everyone to attend Neighbor-2-Neighbor
- Hickory Ridge Road is a racetrack; intersection at Rose Cente Road is very dangerous and there have been many accidents there; can it be turned into a 4-way stop or can a stop light be installed
- Trustee Maher thanked for collecting items locally for NoHaz Day

REPORTS

- Clerk – Clerk Miller was absent, no report
- Cemetery – Trustee Maher
 - Julius Stern elected as the new chairperson
 - This is a group that is very passionate about what they do
- N.O.C.F.A. – Supervisor Stilwell
 - Still in Union contract negotiations
 - Chief Weil has asked to create a capital equipment fund – current 3.5 mil assessment supports only operations, so we need to plan for equipment replacement
- Planning Commission – Treasurer Jobes stated that there was no meeting
- HAYA – Trustee Bourdeau
 - June 7 is Arts in the Alley (Holly), and HAYA will have a bus there; residents are encouraged to donate supplies and fill the bus with supplies for the coming school year
 - Fueling the Future, a program to provide week-end meals for students, was nearly out of funds, but someone donated \$5k that will take the program to the end of the school year
- Trustee Bourdeau
 - Many new faces at the last Neighbor-2-Neighbor; the board is answering every question from residents, and she pushes the answers out to the group; notify her if you are interested in receiving these emails
 - The Road Commission is a frequent topic of discussion; she encouraged everyone to go online and file a complaint with the Road Commission when they have an issue
 - The Holly Township Library has many programs coming up, including: walking, Mental Health Day on May 17, summer reading, and much more; their newsletter is online
- Trustee Maher
 - Neighbor-2-Neighbor continues to be very successful, and new people are involved
 - Discussion about upper Buckhorn Lake Air BnB – concerns about number of people and noise; can this be addressed with an ordinance?
 - Concerns about speeds on Rose Center Road and the excessive dust created; stated that there is a process for the Township to request to change the speed

- Treasurer Jobs
 - Creating two policies – investments and banking institutions
 - Stated that hiring Steve McGee was a great decision
 - Apologized for missed meeting with Appomatox SAD; this will be rescheduled
 - Holly Shores – encouraged the board to focus on clean-up for this area in the upcoming budgeting session
 - Budget – in process of learning; discussions about creating a capital improvement plan
- Zoning Board of Appeals – cancelled; no report
- Parks and Recreation – Supervisor Stilwell
 - Improving two ball fields – dugouts, new fencing
- Heritage Committee – Trustee Maher
 - A book is being written with stories from around Buckhorn Lake
- Supervisor Stilwell
 - Working on the budget
 - CDBG – assistance available for mowing, minor improvements; if you know of someone in need, please contact him

ADJOURNMENT – Supervisor Stilwell adjourned the meeting at 8:36 P.M.

Submitted by: Diane Hill, Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary

Debbie Miller, Clerk, MMC, MiPMC III