

**Bertrand Charter Township Board**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 11, 2024**  
Bertrand Charter Township Hall  
3835 Buffalo Rd., Buchanan, MI 49107

Clerk White called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Kring, Kuhn, Loveing, Payton, White, Zelmer

Member Absent: Hicks

Special Guests: Sheriff Deputy Laratta, Brian Scribner from SMCAS

Motion mad by Zelmer, seconded by Payton to nominate Treasurer Kuhn to serve as Chairman for tonight's Township Meeting.

Roll Call vote: **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion made by Zelmer, seconded by Kring to amend the Consent Agenda to add #3 Discussion of New Fire Truck.

Roll Call vote: **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Consent Agenda** (*see attachments*)

**Motion** made by Payton, seconded by Loveing to approve the Consent Agenda:

- Accounts Payable for the period 06/14/24-07/11/24 as presented:

Total General Fund Expenses	\$38,228.64
Total Fire Dept. Fund Expenses	\$13,154.08
Total WRT Fund Expenses	\$74.45
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$51,457.17</u></b>

- Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2024

General Fund	\$1,742,870.43
Total Fire Dept. Fund	\$938,009.54
Total WRT Fund	\$2,130.03
Total Building Fund	\$99,128.09
<b>Total Fund Assets</b>	<b><u>\$2,782,138.09</u></b>

**Discussion:** Minimal

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Reports:**

Sheriff's Department (*on file*) Sheriff Deputy Laratta gave a verbal report and answered questions.

Fire Department (*on file*) Chief Knisely gave a verbal report.

SE Berrien County Landfill (*on file*) Trustee Zelmer had nothing to report. Treasurer Kuhn gave a verbal report.

Planning Commission: (*on file*). No July meeting. Treasurer Kuhn gave a brief verbal report.

NATS (*on file*) No NATS meeting this month.

SMCAS (on file) Jerry White gave a verbal report and answered questions. Brian Scribner from SMCAS was also present and answered questions from the Board.

### **Unfinished Business**

None.

### **New Business**

#### 1. SMCAS Articles of Incorporation Resolution to Adopt

**Discussion:** Sara Senica, Township Counsel, offered her advice concerning the articles of incorporation. She explained a few of the articles which had been modified. Board members asked questions of Jerry White, the Township SMCAS Representative, and Brian Scribner, SMCAS Manager.

**Motion** made by Kring, seconded by Loveing, to accept Resolution 240711A, a resolution to approve amendments to the Southwestern Michigan Community Ambulance Service, articles of incorporation.

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously.**

#### 2. GEMT Resolution

**Discussion:** Brian Scribner, SMCAS Manager, explained the legislation has passed for GEMT, but SMCAS would appreciate the municipalities encouraging the legislature to include funding to administer the GEMT program.

**Motion** made by Payton, seconded by Loveing to accept Resolution 240711B, a resolution of support for the implementation of the Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Program in Michigan.

Roll call vote: **Motion carried unanimously.**

#### 3. Discussion of New Fire Truck

**Discussion:** Chief Bill Knisely and Captain Tyler Knisely presented information concerning the struggles they have had getting the required three bids for the new fire truck. Sara Senica, Township Counsel, offered her advice concerning the situation including recommendation of a paper trail should questions arise later. Todd Roempagel, from Emergency Vehicles Plus gave his input. The Board directed Chief Knisely to speak with Supervisor Hicks when he returned and have him open the bid boxes so the process can continue.

### **Public Comments- None**

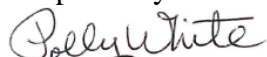
**Board Member Comments:** Clerk White shared the Election Commission meeting this week and that the Public Accuracy Test of our Tabulators was complete. A safety assessment by CISA of Homeland Security has also taken place. A report will follow. Trustee Kring shared The Tin Shop is hosting a panel discussion concerning elections this Saturday at 10 a.m. Treasurer Kuhn declared the Summer Tax season has started and will continue into September.

### **Communications: None**

### **Miscellaneous / Announcements / Schedule**

The next township board meeting will be Thursday, August 8, at 7:00 p.m. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Polly White

Bertrand Charter Township Clerk

July 11, 2024

Date