

Torch Lake Township, Elk Rapids Township, Milton Township
Special Joint Tri-Township: Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 28, 2014, 6:00 PM
Torch Lake Township Hall, 2355 North US 31, East Port, MI

Present: Torch Lake Township: Alan Martel, Kathy Windiate, Sharon Schultz, Dieter Amos, and Charles Goossen.
Elk Rapids Township: Dorance Amos, Aaron Isenhart, Bill White, Shelley Boisvert
Absent: Mike Szymanski
Milton Township: Lon Bargy, Tom Cole, Brett Pharo, Sandy Ball
Absent: Liz Atkinson
Tri-Township Committee: Char Lundy, Jim Lundy, Terry Zawora, along with Board members listed above: Sharon Schultz, Aaron Isenhart.
Absent: Mary Hoadley

Also Present: Township Attorney B. Derman and many audience members.

Meeting Called to Order: 6:00 PM
Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of Board and Committee members in attendance.

Purpose of Meeting: Clarification of purpose, goals and scope of the Tri-Township EMS ALS Research Team

1. Review 3 sets of Minutes from April 23rd meeting of the three Township Boards.
After review of the meeting minutes the research team decided that they really didn't have a clear idea of everything the Boards were looking for.
2. Clarification of options to be reviewed: After discussion: MOTION/S: S. Ball/C. Goossen clarifying four (4) options for the research team to work on:
 - 1) Outsource the ambulance service contracting with MMR
 - 2) Outsource the ambulance service contracting with Allied EMS
 - 3) Outsource the ambulance service contracting with North Flight
 - 4) Insource option by using Township resources at a full ALS capability and using some sort of governing body or management team.

Motion APPROVED unanimously by all three Boards.

More discussion: T. Cole added that even if we take option 4 and wind up with a management team it will still come down to three different boards with three different purse strings and it is ultimately still going to be the responsibility of the three boards to make sure that we agree with this team, there is going to have to be some coordination and some give and take on making some of those decisions. This will be a team work kind of thing.

It was asked of Chairman Lundy if she had what she thought would be necessary to take a look at option #4. C. Lundy said it makes sense that with all the research and the time spent on this that through a shared expense by the three boards, we'd hire someone to come in who knows more than us to look at everything they have researched and give them an opinion.

3. MTA Implications for Appointed Team: C. Lundy stated that the research team is very sensitive of the Open Meetings Act and wanted to make sure they were in compliance with all the requirements. It is understood that the following items were currently being done and/or will be done in the future.
 - All meeting notices have been posted at the Torch Lake Township Hall because that is the host for those meetings. In the future, all meeting notices will also be sent to the Milton Township and the Elk Rapids Township clerks for posting.
 - Copies of Approved meeting minutes from the research team meetings will also be sent to each township for posting or placement on the township website for the public to read.
 - All public is welcome to come to the meetings. The team is requesting that any questions for the team be submitted in writing so they can be addressed at the meeting by all the members. Chairman Char Lundy gave her email address for such submissions; charjoy@core.com.
4. Expenditures: Due to the fact that there may be the necessity to have a consultant look at all the information gathered by the team there will probably be a joint cost for the Townships down the line.
5. Deadline date – unrealistic to due diligence: When the committee/research team was set up at the April 23rd meeting it was requested that they come back to the respective boards with a recommendation by May 27, 2014. The committee had already met on three occasions and has spent a lot of time on the proposals submitted by the private companies but since they were not clear on what their total objective was it was unrealistic to be able to come back by May 27th with any quality results. After discussion; C. Lundy stated that now that they have a better idea of what the Boards are after and some clear objectives that within three weeks or so they may be able to give the Boards a better timetable of when they'd be able to present some recommendations.

Public Comment:

N. Bretz: Torch Lake Twp: He would like to see a plan that brings this to an end point. C. Lundy stated that within the next three weeks they should be able to tell the Boards what kind of timetable they will need.

B. Norris: Torch Lake Twp: He thanked the Board members and the team members for their efforts. He wanted to make sure that the Open Meetings Act requirements were adequately covered. He stated that no matter what option is selected you must have an ambulance authority: one contract, one body.

J. Walworth: Torch Lake Twp: We have touched upon a very prevalent issue which is “management”. You will need some form of policy making at a central level. If you outsource who is that entity going to contract with?

C. Keenan: Elk Rapids Twp: If you don't understand the management of you department start with your director. Looking at increased cost is good but you also have to look at the level of quality too. When we started down the RFP road the Elk Rapids Ambulance wanted to submit the information on the Request for Proposal. They can still do that.

B. Spencer: Torch Lake Twp: Is your advisory committee expected to make a recommendation to the Township Boards? If so, they are making a decision so they should be sure to follow the Open Meetings Act.

J. Kulka: Torch Lake Twp: Too often proposals are looking at efficiency not effectiveness. Effectiveness or quality is also very important.

Elk Rapids Township Board Only

1. Resolution 2014-7 – A Resolution Approving Submission of Risk Reduction Grant Application.
MOTION/S: Boisvert/Amos to approve resolution #2014-7 approving the submission of a grant application to Par Plan for HERTHA at the old Township hall. The application is requesting \$2,043 for a Fire, Water, and Temperature – 24 hour Monitor system for the Elk Rapids Historic Town Hall. Roll Call Vote: Amos, Isenhart, White and Boisvert all voting Yes, 0 No, one member absent. Motion APPROVED.

MOTION/S: S. Schultz/S. Ball to adjourn. Motion APPROVED unanimously
The workshop ended at 7:50 PM

Shelley Boisvert, Elk Rapids Township Clerk
Minutes are subject to Approval at the next regular Board Meeting