The meeting of the White River Township Board was called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Ron Bailey with the pledge of allegiance at the White River Township Hall.

Roll Call: Ronald Bailey Supervisor - P, Patti Sargent Clerk - P, Deb Harris Treasurer - P, Laura Anderson Trustee - P, & George Dufresne Trustee -P.

1. Approval of Agenda: Two amendments were made to the agenda. Bailey added the Special Meeting minutes to item 2 and Harris added to item 6D, Bank signers. Harris moved to approve the agenda as amended. Dufresne seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The amended agenda stands approved.
2. Approval of October 08, 2024, Township Board meeting minutes. Sargent moved to approve the minutes as written. Dufresne seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The October 08, 2024, meeting minutes stand approved.
   1. October 22, 2024, Special Township Board Meeting minutes. Sargent moved to approve the minutes as written. Harris seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The October 22, 2024, Special Township Board Meeting minutes stand approved.
3. Public comment: Comments are limited to 3 minutes each.
   1. Marty Holtgren provided an update on Sadony Bayou. He displayed 6 maps and charts to show the work that has been done using grants from EGLE and the White Lake Community Foundation. The third and final visioning session will be held December 4th at the White Lake Community Library. A report on the findings will be available at the beginning of January 2025.
   2. Bill Bergerson, WRT Resident, has noticed that the White River Township signs on Hancock and Lehman are faded and especially difficult to read at night. Bailey responded by saying that our maintenance person moved, and we have not filled that position yet.
4. Special Order of Business: (Comments by Board Members). Road Commission Report. Several members of the board attended the ‘Roadkill Banquet’ and received the MCRC 2024 Road Report. In Muskegon County, for 2024, $2,657,308 was spent on snow and ice removal. The amount White River Township provided in 2024 for project participation was $94,632.00. The full report is available in the township office.
5. Old (Unfinished) Business:
   1. Election results. Sargent reported record turnout for voting from township residents. Residents voting early in Muskegon at the consolidated site totaled 52. Residents voting in person totaled 552. Residents voting by absentee ballot totaled 421. Ninety-eight percent of the absentee ballots were returned, which is a record for percent returned. Sargent extended thanks to all the Election workers; Margaret Kline, Marianne Delavan, Lauren Wackernagel, Janet Graham, Pat Slota, Susan Lloyd, Brian Thompson, and Sue Levy. Their hard work and dedication helped to keep our democracy functioning.
   2. Life Ring update. Howell reported he removed 5 life rings, with one missing. The rope was in rough shape and should be replaced in the spring.
6. New Business:
7. Elected officials to be sworn in by Clerk. Officals will take office officially on November 20, 2024. Sargent administered the Oath of Office to Ronald Bailey Jr. - Supervisor, Julie Ann-Beebe Goericke - Clerk, Mary C. Kriesel -Treasurer, and Trustees - Laura Anderson & Deborah Harris. These are the 5 individuals that will be seated on the board at the December meeting.
8. Board Represenative on the Planning Commission. Bailey moved to appoint Deb Harris. Sargent seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Harris will be the board representative on the Planning Commission.
9. Thank you to officers Trustee George Dufresne and Clerk Patti Sargent for their years of service to the White River Township Board. Bailey presented each with a certificate noting their many years of service.
10. Bank Signers. Harris moved that Julie Goericke and Mary Kriesel become general signers for the Shelby State Bank accounts and the township credit card. Anderson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Patti Sargent - Yes, Deb Harris - Yes, Laura Anderson - Yes, George Dufresne – Yes, and Ronald Bailey – Yes. Julie Goericke and Mary Kriesel will become the general signers for the following accounts: Shelby State Bank General Account, Shelby State Bank Money Market Account, Shelby State Bank Tax Account, and shall have access to the township credit card through Elan Financing.

1. Reports:
   1. Financial October 2024 report: Harris noted the financials.
   2. Zoning: Howell/Schmiege. Schmiege reported that he has had 4 site approvals in the last month, and of the 13 land divisions, 3 were approved and 13 were rejected. A resident asked about our political sign ordinance and Schmiege said that all political signs should be taken down within 7 days of the election. Jon Howell reported that there were no new complaints.
   3. Solid Waste: Harris stated that there are more people using this service, the numbers are up. Due to rising costs, the rates for mattress disposal will go up. There will be a pride day in May of 2025. The next meeting will be January 21, 2025.
   4. CEIC / recent meetings: Anderson said the committee has been planning for the next visioning session set for December 4th, 5-6:30 at the White Lake Community Library. In addition, they are looking into Muskegon County’s 2025-2029 Recreation Plan and how it may involve the Chemours property. CEIC received a grant from the Charles R. Evenson Foundation for $15,000 dollars, to use as they see fit, due to their work on Sadony Bayou. The next meeting is on November 20th at 2pm.
   5. Recycling: Goericke stated there had been no meetings. Nothing to report.
   6. Planning Commission. Don Kline reported that last week’s town hall topic was about Tiny Homes and Starter Homes. No residents attended. Next month the town hall topic will be on the Recreation Plan and Short-Term Rentals. The master plan is being finalized. Sargent checked with Williams and Works about looking over our draft plan. They charge between $117 - $120 per hour. They would possibly only need 4 hours to review the plan.
   7. White Lake Ambulance Authority: Anderson reported that there were 123 runs and 19 stand-bys last month. The average run time was 9:27. In addition, Johnathon Degen was awarded the Paramedic of the Year by Health West. Congratulations Johnathon Degen.
   8. Fire Authority: Bailey stated that the storage structure being built is almost complete. Due to several leaks, a new metal roof has been pre-approved for the main building.
   9. Accounts Payable: Sargent, (Net meter [roof top Solar] the November bill was reduced by $6.72) Sargent noted the accounts payable. Anderson moved to approve. Harris seconded. Roll Call Vote: Patti Sargent - Yes, Deb Harris - Yes, Laura Anderson - Yes, George Dufresne – Yes, and Ronald Bailey – Yes. The accounts payable stands approved.
2. Other Business or Correspondence:
   1. Harris reminded the board that we always get a wreath from the Arts Council. She said a 16-inch wreath is $36.00. Anderson moved to purchase the wreath. Sargent seconded. Roll Call Vote: Patti Sargent - Yes, Deb Harris - Yes, Laura Anderson - Yes, George Dufresne – Yes, and Ronald Bailey – Yes. A 16-inch wreath will be purchased for the hall.
   2. Anderson attended the 10-year Anniversary of the Delisting of White Lake. She learned that they are beginning a new program to monitor the water with a smart buoy.
   3. Sargent said we received a bill from the White Lake Association for our annual membership. With Dufresne stepping down, we need a new representative from the board to attend their meetings. (This is the association that puts the buoys out each year) Kriesel volunteered to attend the meetings. Sargent moved to appoint Kriesel. Anderson seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Kriesel stands approved to attend the meetings of the White Lake Association.
3. Public comment: Limited to 3 minutes each.
   1. Dave Pickard, WRT Resident, asked if there was anything in the works for the stairs at the end of Hancock Road, and anything happening with extending the bike path. Bailey responded that the MCRC Engineers have looked at the end of Hancock Road and they are working on designing a plan. Bailey also said that the bike path is part of the recreational plan that the Planning Commission is currently working on.
4. Adjournment: Sargent moved to adjourn the meeting. Dufresne seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The meeting stands adjourned at 8pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Goericke, Deputy Clerk