Approved	**MINUTES Thursday, June 11, 2026, 6:30 PM**
Meeting	**Whitewater Township Board** 5777 Vinton Rd Williamsburg MI 49690
CALL TO ORDER	Supervisor Slopsema called meeting to order at 6:30PM The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
ROLL CALL	Members present: Supervisor Linda Slopsema, Clerk Wendy Hoeksema, Trustee Randy Mielnik, Trustee Tim Arends Absent: Treasurer Jill Koester (excused) Also present: Recording Secretary Kay Held
SET APPROVE AGENDA	Add to New Business: Service Proposal and Quote from ZoningOS Motion by Arends, seconded by Hoeksema to approved Agenda as amended. VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. ***Motion carried***
CONFLICT OF INTEREST	None expressed.
PUBLIC COMMENT	M. Jacobson: Expressed concern about recurring clogging of the grate at the Battle Creek Natural Area, stating it has caused pond overflow, erosion, and embankment weakening. He described the condition as a public safety concern and urged corrective action. R. Steelman: Addressed statements made during prior public comments and discussions regarding social media posts, stating concerns about transparency and public access to information. She clarified that she had not received information from any Board Member, but rather second-hand. She stated that she requested and received the legal opinion from a previous meeting without submitting a FOIA request and later shared it on social media to inform the public. She criticized disparaging remarks made of former Board members, employees, and volunteers. J. Zenas: Requested an update regarding the status of the Township ethics policy acknowledgment by a Board member. She also stated agreement with concerns raised regarding safety conditions at the Battle Creek Natural Area. K. Mangus: Urged the Board to provide adequate public notice and information regarding the upcoming June 30, 2026, Special Meeting, citing strong public interest. She suggested additional advertising in local media to increase public awareness.
REPORTS **Trial Balance**	Arends reviewed the Trial Balance report in detail, *noting it serves as the* basis for the audit which includes review of all Township funds, assets,

	liabilities, revenues, and expenses. Discussion focused on audit readiness, the status of bank reconciliations, and several account discrepancies requiring review and correction. Questions were raised regarding journal entries, reconciliations, account balances, and issues related to the BS&A software conversion. Hoeksema reported that she had been working with Maner Costerisan and utilizing CPA guidance and training resources to address identified issues. Discussion also included the Township's transition to BS&A and the Uniform Chart of Accounts, the need for continued collaboration among Township staff and auditors, and methods to support completion of the audit process. Board Members each had tasks to complete to facilitate.
Balance Sheet Revenue & Expense	The Balance Sheet discussion was incorporated into the Trial Balance discussion. The Revenue and Expense Report was reviewed and compared to the approved budget. Discussion included departmental budget variances, professional service expenditures, and the potential need for future budget amendments.
Audit update	The Board discussed the audit timeline and noted that the Township audit is due to the State by September 30, 2026.
CONSENT CALENDAR	No items were removed from the Consent Calendar **Bills for Approval:** in meeting packet **Budget Amendments:** None **Correspondence:** None **Minutes for Approval:** https://www.whitewatertownshipmi.gov/township-board-subcommittee-meeting-minutes.html 05/28/2026 Motion by Mielnik, seconded by Arends to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. ***Motion carried***
UNFINISHED BUSINESS Recycle Bin Relocation	The Board again discussed relocating the Township GFL recycle bins, including setback requirements, snowplowing access, privacy screening, and site maintenance. Detailed information given in the packet. Motion by Arends, seconded by Slopsema that the recycle bins be relocated to Hi-Pray Park off Elk Lake Road as soon as possible and further authorize construction of a three-sided enclosure. VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. ***Motion carried***

Parks & Recreation Items **Boat Wash Update**	The Board received an update on the boat wash project from Arends. Since the previous bid was rejected by the Board, alternative infrastructure options were explored to reduce costs, and plans were discussed for utilizing local tradespeople and a general contractor. The project remains contingent upon receipt of an EGLE discharge permit. There was consensus to place an ad in the local newspaper for a general contractor to help oversee the project.
Recreation Plan	Mielnik reminded Board that the 5 Year Recreation Plan still needs to be finished and approved. Discussion focused on process and what it would entail to bring updates to the Recreation Plan and how that impacted future grant opportunities related to Battle Creek Natural Area, including utilizing the Grand Traverse Land Conservancy.
Road Speed Sign Update	It was reported that two electronic speed signs approved by the Board have been delivered. Discussion arose regarding placement options and permitting requirements. Arends to give further project updates after contacting the preferred Grand Traverse County Road Commission contractors.
NEW BUSINESS **Service Proposal and Quote from ZoningOS**	The Board reviewed a proposal for an AI-powered zoning information platform developed by BlueWater Intelligence. Discussion focused on system capabilities, subscription costs, website integration, and potential benefits for improving public access to zoning information and reducing staff workload. Motion by Slopsema, seconded by Mielnik to sign contract with ZoningOS for the zoning assistant tool, after legal review. VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. ***Motion carried***
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Township Board Regular Meeting: Thursday, June 25, 2026, 9:00 a.m., Township Hall Township Board Special Meeting: Tuesday, June 30, 2026, 6:00 p.m., Elk Rapids Governmental Center, Elk Rapids MI (re: Civil Infraction) Community Clean Up Day: Saturday June 13, 2026, from 8 AM-NOON at Mill Creek Academy
PUBLIC COMMENT 2nd	M. Jacobson: commented on the history and purpose of the Battle Creek Natural Area dam, Township meeting notices, civil infraction complaint information, allegations involving the Clerk, and placement of speed signs on Skegemog Point Road.
BOARD DISCUSSION	Discussion included Township website redesign feedback, anticipated Planning Commission zoning ordinance amendments, ongoing concerns

	regarding the Battle Creek Natural Area dam and pond acknowledgement and advertising the public notice for the June 30 Special Meeting.
ADJOURNMENT	Motion by Arends, seconded by Mielnik to adjourn the meeting. VOTE: YEAS: All. NAYES: None. ***Motion carried*** Meeting adjourned 8:30 PM
Minutes prepared by Kay Held, Recording Secretary	Wendy Hoeksema 6-25-26 Wendy Hoeksema, Township Clerk Date