

Board Meeting
January 26, 2026 6:30 PM
Kawkawlin Township Board

Call to Order – Eddy called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – Present: Campbell, Waldee, DeShano, Whalen, Eddy

Approval of Agenda – Eddy motioned to approve. 2nd: Waldee. All in favor – yes.

MOTION PASSED.

Public Comment (agenda items only): none

New Business:

1. Pay Bills

- a. Waldee: Last 3 weeks, spent roughly \$200,000 on bills. Current bills: \$10,428.83
- b. Asking board for \$2,000 variance to cover any new bills that may be coming this week to ensure bills are caught up
- c. Motion by Campbell to approve \$10,428.83 for current bills.
 - i. 2nd: Whalen
 - ii. Roll Call: Whalen-Yes, Campbell-Yes, DeShano-Yes, Waldee-Yes, Eddy-Yes
 - iii. **MOTION PASSED**
- d. Motion by Eddy to approve \$2,000 variance
 - i. 2nd: Whalen
 - ii. Roll Call: Waldee-Yes, DeShano-Yes, Campbell-Yes, Whalen-Yes, Eddy-Yes
 - iii. **MOTION PASSED**

2. Trash Assessment

- a. Waldee confirmed he had time to review both contracts
- b. DeShano: Reviewed numbers, able to avoid increase on trash assessment for the current taxes. \$2.75 differential per household/mo for the beginning of contract. Regardless of which contract is chosen, there will be an increase. \$20 per home/yr with GFL. Over \$50 per home/yr with Republic. By end of contracts the differential will be approximately \$5 per home/mo.
- c. Motion by Campbell to select the GFL contract
- d. 2nd: Whalen
- e. Roll Call: DeShano-Yes, Waldee-Yes, Campbell-Yes, Whalen-Yes, Eddy-No
- f. **MOTION PASSED**

3. Approve Radio Purchase for Fire Department

- a. DeShano reminds that this is to allow the purchase but will not “hit” until next budget year.
- b. Chief Bernreuter confirms it takes approximately 5-6 months to get radios. Won’t be billed until April.
- c. Motion by DeShano to approve radio purchase
- d. 2nd: Eddy
- e. Roll Call: Whalen-Yes, Campbell-Yes, Eddy-Yes, DeShano-Yes, Waldee-Yes
- f. **MOTION PASSED**
- g. Chief Bernreuter: Must have CLIA Certificate of Waiver for blood glucose tests. This costs \$248 and will only need to be renewed every 2 years.
 - i. Motion by Campbell to authorize Chief to use credit card for \$248 purchase.
 - ii. 2nd: Eddy
 - iii. Roll Call: DeShano-Yes, Campbell-Yes, Whalen-Yes, Waldee-Yes, Eddy-Yes
 - iv. **MOTION PASSED**

4. Enter Closed Session

- a. Eddy: Moves to enter closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268i (1)(e) to consult with township attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation in Bay County Circuit Court being Steve Dennis vs. Kawkawlin Township, case number: 26-3028-CZ because discussion of litigation strategy at an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the Township. And to enter closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(h) to discuss confidential written opinion with township attorney.
- b. 2nd: Whalen
- c. Roll Call: Whalen-Yes, Campbell-Yes, Waldee-Yes, DeShano-Yes, Eddy-Yes
- d. **MOTION PASSED**
- e. Motion by Eddy to re-enter open session at 7:18 PM
- f. 2nd: DeShano
- g. All in Favor-Yes
- h. Roll Call: Campbell-Yes, Waldee-Yes, Whalen-Yes, DeShano-Yes, Eddy-Yes
- i. **MOTION PASSED**
- j. DeShano: Move to direct township counsel consistent with the recommendations to discussing potential resolutions of pending litigation in Dennis vs. Kawkawlin Township, case number: 26-3028-CZ with authority for final settlement approval to be exercised by the township board. Township council may work with township board members two at a time, Eddy, DeShano, and Waldee for input and guidance on any settlements prior to presentation before the board.

- k. 2nd: Whalen
 - 1. Roll Call: Whalen-Yes, Waldee-Yes, Eddy-Yes, DeShano-Yes, Campbell-Yes
 - m. **MOTION PASSED**
- 5. Close previous motion from April 14, 2025
 - a. Motion by DeShano to close out this previously approved motion for SAMSA records.
 - b. 2nd: Whalen
 - c. Roll Call: Whalen-Yes, DeShano-Yes, Eddy-Yes, Waldee-Yes, Campbell-Yes
 - d. **MOTION PASSED**
- 6. Discuss quote for lawyer to attend meeting each month
 - a. Attorney Trent Cunningham open to questions, clarifies this is meant to be an estimate. Other arrangements can be discussed if the board so feels.
 - b. DeShano asks Whalen about contact made to Heiden about recording equipment and Zoom capabilities. Whalen states that they [Heiden] visited to get an idea of what was possible as well as options for easier storage and transfer to computer to allow it to be easier for dictation.
 - c. Motion by Whalen to have lawyer attend first meeting of every month until we decide it's not necessary, as a board, either via Zoom or in person.
 - d. 2nd: DeShano
 - e. Eddy: "Likes the idea." Feels that this is not something that needs to be spent unless necessary (opinion). Previous attorneys were \$150/hr.
 - f. Whalen: Having someone there to ensure all items are being addressed for a while to make sure there aren't any mistakes.
 - g. DeShano: Not a vastly different rate [from previous attorney.] More concern with travel time. If able, Zoom capabilities would help.
 - h. Waldee: Would like to look closer at numbers. If Zoom is possible that would cut down on travel cost. Not an expense that I can agree on.
 - i. Motion by Campbell to have lawyer at first meeting of the month for four months.
 - j. Waldee: Considering both viewpoints (money and need) would like to see if there is a compromise to be made [for having attorney present]
 - k. Eddy: Not feeling the "need." Having Trent (attorney) help with FOIA's, is taking care of a lot of the "issues" at hand. Would like to see if there is closer counsel if needed, someone that does municipality cases, preferably in the \$150/hr range.
 - l. DeShano: They [attorney] could attend via Zoom and there would be no need for additional purchase, we would just need to have the equipment to do that.
 - m. Waldee: Would be more likely to entertain the Zoom option.
 - n. Trent Cunningham: To add context, this cost was an estimate, happy to discuss other arrangements. Difficult to settle on flat fee due to not having attended previous meetings. Attends meetings on Zoom regularly. Cost can be modified along the way.

- o. Whalen: This is not a contract, it can end at any time. References his previous motion that DeShano 2nd.
- p. Roll Call (in reference to Whalen's Motion, items 6c and 6d: Whalen-Yes, DeShano-Yes, Eddy-Yes, Waldee-Yes, Campbell-Yes
- q. **MOTION PASSED**

7. Discuss Millage Settlement

- a. Motion by Eddy to accept settlement as attorney Matt Turner provided for full amount.
- b. 2nd: Whalen
- c. Roll Call: Campbell-Yes, Eddy-Yes, Waldee-Yes, Whalen-Yes, DeShano-Yes
- d. **MOTION PASSED**

8. Public Comment (2 Minutes Each)

- a. Ken McConnell 760 S Mackinaw Rd
- b. Jeremy Blohm 2110 Fraser

9. Motion to adjourn by Eddy at 7:35 PM

- a. 2nd: Whalen
- b. All in favor: Yes

Next Meeting: February 9, 2026 at 6:30 PM