

GROUT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Gladwin County, MI

September 9, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor J. Shea at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those attending.

ROLL CALL BY CLERK:

Members present: Supervisor: J. Shea, Clerk: D. Fritzler, Treasurer: M. Hill, Trustee: R. Christie, and Trustee: J. Beck.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Following review, J Shea moved to approve, to approve the minutes of August 12, 2025 with 1 correction: "hazardous waste days" was only 1 Saturday (9th). R Christie seconded motion. All ayes; 5-0, motion carried

TREASURER'S REPORT: (as of August 31, 2025)

1. General Checking - \$185,818.15
 2. Expense Account Balance- \$1,637.23
 3. Income Received in August- \$5,605.10
 4. CD Balance: Two Certificates of Deposit: 1 (\$156,539.58 matures March 14, 2026) and the second (\$150,000.00 matures January 12, 2026)
- R. Christie motioned to approve treasurer's report as provided, D. Fritzler seconded motion. All ayes 5-0; motion carried

REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY FIRE HYDRANT ON TOWNSHIP PROPERTY: (Robert North – Gladwin Co Emergency Manager)

1. Floods in recent years have made multiple roads and bridges in township and county not passible making it impossible for fire and rescue teams to get to residents timely
2. Robert North Emergency Manager, is requesting townships allow centrally located, large pipe fire hydrants with battery backup, to be installed on township properties to prevent future service issues due to unpassable roads
3. Grout Township's hydrant (if approved) would be installed in the corner of the parking lot at the township hall
4. Timeline for all approved hydrant installs (county wide): 18-24 months
5. There will be no cost to the township. Costs being covered by Federal Grant and Flood Recovery Fund monies
6. New hydrant will not affect current well at township hall
7. Hydrant will be used for emergencies and possible training exercises only

Motion to approve installation of emergency fire hydrant on township property made by J. Shea.

Motion seconded by M. Hill. All ayes 5-0; motion carried

FIRE BOARD REPORT: (Adam Zdrojewski)

1. Fire Board met on September 3rd, 2025
2. Items Reviewed:
 - a. Flyer for Open House
 - b. Fifteen Runs in September – 3 in Grout Township (2 EMS assists and 1 grass fire)

COMMISSIONER REPORT: (Commissioner T. Winarski)

1. Budget meetings still continue. Including committee for larger “funding” budget
2. Tentative agreement made in final union negotiation

CORRESPONDANCE:

1. Consumers Energy warns communities about scams demanding immediate payment
2. Gladwin County Master Plan Citizen Survey – Open through Sept 15th, 2025 for township officials
3. Council of local government emergency declaration & flood insurance meeting. September 29, 2025 7:00pm @ Secord Township Hall (1507 Secord Dam Rd) – Bob North (Emergency Manager) Recommends attendance
4. Woman’s Expo October 24th & 25th, Hosted by Gladwin County Chamber of Commerce & the Beaverton Activity Center. Free to the public. Will be held at the Beaverton Activity Center. Vendor applications can be emailed to Carrie @ carrie@gladwincounty.com

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Citizen concerned about Gypsy Moth population and wondering if there will be a spray this year. Tom Winarski said the survey didn’t show them an issue this year, but will check into it for the citizen

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

Following review, Clerk will remove Chamber of Commerce expense (and void check.) R. Christie moved to accept expenses with change, J. Shea seconded, to approved the bills for the month of September, 2025. All ayes; 5-0, motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

M. Hill requests that we take \$4,000.00 out of contingency fund to add \$1,000.00 to meeting training, \$2,000.00 to miscellaneous (for cemetery work) and \$1,000.00 to computer/software. Motion made by J. Shea. Motion seconded by J. Beck. All ayes 5-0; motion carried

JUNK CASES:

J. Shea open case on Ranger Dr (Kerswill Lake Assn) – bid for clean up was \$16,500. No further step to be taken

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Mosquito proposal – Approvals complete. Will be on ballot. Mailing to inform/remind entire township that the proposal will be on November election ballot still TBD
2. ARPA/ SLFRF Funds Reporting – D Fritzler: Complete, report submitted.
3. EGLE Grant Update – M. Hill: Update from State Committee that our grant request is approved, and will go into effect when paperwork is signed and returned by M Hill. Grant is for requested \$280K and will be used for roads and updates to hall, cemetery and office equipment
4. Sexton Job Description – Hold until previous and current Sextons can be consulted
5. Basement Cleaning Quotes – J. Shea: Still pending. Most companies haven't responded. Open to bids

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Letter from Gladwin Road Commission – J. Shea: The road commission requests that we remind residents that garbage carts must be removed from the road right after they are emptied, so they can perform maintenance activities without these obstacles. They need 20ft of from edge of road
2. Cemetery Driveway Upgrade and Leveling – J. Shea: We will wait to plant new grass until relevel is complete. Quote is in process from Graves. Also need to get quotes for large tree trimming and stump grinding. Finishing pipe installs for flags on Veteran sites
3. November Election Update – November 4th, 2025. Grout Township mosquito proposal on all ballots. Additional school bond proposal for Gladwin School residents. Preventative maintenance on election equipment completed. Election workers have been selected and will be posted. Ballots should be received from the printer by September 20th and will be mailed out to Absentee Voters during the following week

OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Cemetery Ordinance – M. Hill updated and provided possible changes to board members. We will need display for rules. M. Hill will publish in paper and put new ordinance on website. Cemetery/burial fees are still being reviewing for updated fee schedule
2. Annual Township Audit – M. Hill: Campbell auditing will not be doing audit. Cancel/void previous check. New auditor found Thomas Smith in Saginaw. Clerk and Treasurer will work to get information to new auditor. Audit is due to the state by end of September
3. J. Shea attended Road Commission Meeting to speak about solar companies must only use approved roads (that had been sited for future repair) for their heavy loads
4. M. Hill: Cleaned out additional archives

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Diana Fritzler

Diana Fritzler

Grout Township Clerk