

GROUT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Gladwin County, MI

November 11, 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, R. Christie moved to approve, to approve the minutes of October 14, 2025, as written J. Shea seconded motion. All ayes; 5-0, motion carried

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

1. General Checking - \$102,640.81
 2. Expense Account Balance- \$852.83
 3. Income Received in August- \$46,000.60
 4. CD Balance: Two Certificates of Deposit: 1 (\$156,539.58 matures March 14, 2026) and the second (\$100,000.00 matures January 12, 2026)
- J. Beck motioned to approve treasurer's report as provided, D. Fritzler seconded motion. All ayes 5-0; motion carried

GUEST SPEAKER: (5 minute limit)

1. Mary Moylan (Chair, Gladwin County Republicans) – Discussed petitions circulating for 2026 elections. Encouraged all voters to read carefully before signing any petitions. Full verbiage can be found online. Residents can also reach out directly to the Gladwin County Republicans or other political organizations for full verbiage. If petitions receive enough signatures they will be on 2026 ballots for voter approval

FIRE BOARD REPORT: (Adam Z)

1. Fire Board met on November 5th, 2025
2. Items Reviewed:
 - a. New firefighter in training
 - b. Smoke detectors and CO2 detectors (both are battery operated) are available for free to any residents in need. Detectors can be obtained directly at the Gladwin Fire Department.
 - c. Twenty Three Runs in October – 4 in Grout Township (all were EMS assists)
 - d. Adam Z will be resigning his Grout Twp Fire Reporting position at the end of 2025. His Father Randy has offered to take over monthly reporting duties. The board appreciates and thanks Adam for all of his service. The board believes Randy will do a great job, but will be open to other requests at the December board meeting

COMMISSIONER REPORT: (Commissioner T. Winarski)

1. Commissioner Winarski attended MMAC (Mid Michigan Action Comm) meeting. Discussion regarding government shut-down and SNAP benefits being halted. Charities/churches are helping communities with food during this time.
2. Gladwin County buildings will need to replace 2 of 3 boilers in the County buildings in the coming months. They replaced one boiler last year (the remaining 2 now need replacing)
3. Beaverton Twp approved new website for their township – \$16K
4. Supervisor Shea asked about zoning/spec book. We would like County to communicate about expected location for the solar farm battery pack(s)

CORRESPONDANCE:

1. Consumers Energy – Flyer received regarding: Sharing Information re Public Safety Power Shut Off Procedure for Consumer safety

CITIZENS COMMENTS: (5 minute limit per resident)

1. Resident complaints about Amish playing loud music throughout the night from their buggies. Supervisor Shea recommends residents make noise complaints with Sherrif's office. The Sherriff will contact the area Bishops for on-going issues. If needed Township officials will write letter to Bishops also.
2. Resident states concern about increase in car vs buggy accidents fatalities and injuries. Commissioner Winarski mentioned Amish traffic warning signs only being in 4 locations that he is aware of. Community members mention there used to be more, but are unaware of what happened to them. Road commission not Township is responsible for road signs. Citizens debated over who should be responsible for cost for signs and need for buggy lights, reflectors, etc.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

Following review, J. Shea moved to accept expenses as presented, R. Christie seconded, to approve the bills for the month of November, 2025. All ayes; 5-0, motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Treasurer Hill requests to move remaining \$35,000 that is left in Roads (and will not be used) to Workers Comp/UIA (\$1,000) and remaining back to contingency fund. Motion to approve by D. Fritzler, seconded by J. Shea. All ayes; 5-0, motion carried

OTHER TREASURER ITEMS:

Treasurer Hill proposed money from the new Mosquito proposal that will be coming in from tax bills, to be put into a new savings account to keep separate from general funds. Board in agreement

JUNK CASES:

1. J. Shea followed up with Cornell Dr resident with complaint about trash not being picked up. Led to further concern about property at end of the road that appears to have a lot of junk in yard. J. Shea to follow up.

JUNK CASES: (Continued)

2. St Andrews Dr – waiting for additional information from bank, who were going to escalate to physical inspection request to owner. Melody sent pictures to bank, they mowed lawn but didn't move downed tree in the yard and driveway.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Treasurer M Hill – EGLE Grant Update – no new information. Have not received any money, all paperwork has been submitted
2. Basement cleaning quotes – \$663.72 (only 1 company provided quote) Supervisor Shea to help with junk removal and Clerk Fritzler to review old election information and dispose of as required.
J. Shea motioned to approve basement cleaning, R Christie seconded, 5 Ayes, Motion approved
3. Gladwin Chamber of Commerce Membership Details – Noted, but board does not want to renew membership
4. Sexton Job description – Table until 2026 – information from other Sexton job descriptions provided by M. Hill for the board's consideration

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Supervisor J. Shea attended Road Commission meeting. No increase in cost is expected for 2026. Also resident on Buzzell Rd notified J. Shea about concern regarding dirt road composition. J Shea got information from the road commission, to provide the resident about the road make up.

OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Per Treasurer M. Hill – Our Assessor will not provide information regarding garbage collection billing moving forward. Treasurer Hill is working to get the information needed for tax billing.
2. Treasurer M. Hill – Mosquito proposal was approved for up to \$45 per lot. How much are we assessing for each lot? Board agrees \$42.00 per lot. Clerk and Supervisor signed APM 2026 Contract for \$53,400.
3. November Election Update – November 4th, 2025. Grout Township mosquito proposal passed. Additional school bond proposal for Gladwin School residents was defeated.
Grout Township Votes Cast: 376 (26.99% of 1,393 total registered voters in township)
4. Commissioner Winarski advised that the County will not be assessing for the Spongy/Gypsy Moth assessment in the upcoming tax bills

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Diana Fritzler

Diana Fritzler

Grout Township Clerk