

# GROUT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Gladwin County, MI

February 10, 2026

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Clerk D. Fritzler at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those attending.

## **ROLL CALL BY CLERK:**

Members present: Clerk: D. Fritzler, : Treasurer: M. Hill, Trustee: R. Christie and Trustee: J. Beck Not present: Supervisor: J. Shea (excused)

## **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Following review M. Hill moved to approve the minutes of January 13, 2026, with the correction of the month in the Treasurer's section on line #3. R. Christie seconded motion. All ayes; 4-0, motion carried

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:** (as of January 31, 2026)

1. General Checking - \$217,779.13
  2. Expense Account Balance- \$783.95
  3. Income Received in previous month - \$161,465.85
  4. CD Balance: \$156,539.58 matures March 14, 2026. The CD that matured in January, 2026 accrued \$3,555.08 of interest.
  5. New account was established at Huntington Bank for depositing monies received for the mosquito abatement. Balance as of January 31, 2026 was \$25,670.06
  6. The township now has 2 accounts through Wildfire Credit Union in Midland, MI. A savings account in the amount of \$5.00 (required to become a "member" and a new 9 month Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$105,000.00. Both opened on 1/27/2026
- R. Christie motioned to approve treasurer's report as provided, J. Beck seconded motion. All ayes 4-0; motion carried

## **FIRE BOARD REPORT: (Randy Z)**

1. Fire Board met on February 7, 2026
2. Items Reviewed:
  - a. Twenty Two Runs in January – 3 in Grout Township (1 EMS assist, 1 power outage and 1 smoke alarm)

## **COMMISSIONER REPORT: (Commissioner T. Winarski)**

1. Reminder that township zoning (including solar approval) is/was done at the county level. Current solar projects went through master plan approvals. Mr. Winarski encourages residents to attend committee meetings for zoning information and to express concerns
2. City of Beaverton, Tobacco forming Ross Lake Improvement Committee
3. Robinson Ind. Sold to another larger company
4. Legion breakfast in Beaverton at the Community Center on Friday. Cost \$15

**CORRESPONDANCE:**

1. Consumers Energy Planet Awards – Grant Opportunity for non-profit organizations.
2. Consumers Energy – Residents with past due or shut off notices can apply for assistance through State Emergency Fund ([www.michigan.gov/MIbridges!](http://www.michigan.gov/MIbridges!))
3. Mid Michigan Action – provides Michigan Weatherization Assistance Program
4. Mid-Michigan Community Action provides free tax preparation

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:** (5 min MAX per resident)

1. Resident said they attended the County Master Plan meeting and is concerned about future clean up of the solar panel fields. Who will pay for it? Commissioner Winarski said there is a County Open House meeting in 3 weeks (date still to be determined). He encourages the community to attend to express concerns. Another member of the community advised they had David Stevenson (Mackinac Center for Public Policy (Midland, MI) – Director of Environmental and Energy Policy) speak in Arthur township speak about the pros and cons of solar panels on the environment. Commissioner Winarski encourages residents to go to Planning Meeting (1<sup>st</sup> Wed in March) and the Master Planning Meeting (Date/Time TBD)
2. Resident – requested information on how to dispose of solar panel waste. We need MSDS Sheet from DTE, as it is considered hazardous waste

**PRESENTATION OF BILLS:**

Following review, D. Fritzler moved to accept expenses with two changes 1. Pat Illig should be \$50 not \$150 and 2. Premier Green Lawn needs to be paid this month for \$733.20 to get early pay discount rate. R. Christie seconded, to approve the bills for the month of February, 2026 with the 2 changes/additions. All ayes 4-0; motion carried.

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS:**

None requested

**JUNK CASES:**

No Updates

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Treasurer M Hill – EGLE Grant Update – no new information.
2. HAPPY LAWN/PREMIER GREEN LAWNS UPDATED QUOTE FOR HALL AND CEMETERY (LAWN TREATMENTS)

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolutions to accept 2026 -2027 Fiscal Year Salary and Wages
  - a) Supervisor **#26-002** motioned by R Christie, seconded by J Beck. Role Call: D Fritzler – yes, M Hill – yes, R Christie – yes, J. Beck -yes; J. Shea - Absent
  - b) Clerk **#26-003** motioned by R Christie, seconded by D Fritzler. Role Call: D Fritzler – yes, M Hill – yes, R Christie – yes, J. Beck -yes; J. Shea - Absent
  - c) Treasurer **#26-004** motioned by J. Beck, seconded by R Christie. Role Call: D Fritzler – yes, M Hill – yes, R Christie – yes, J. Beck -yes; J. Shea - Absent
  - d) Trustee **#26-005** motioned by M. Hill, seconded by R Christie. Role Call: D Fritzler – yes, M Hill – yes, R Christie – yes, J. Beck -yes; J. Shea - Absent
  - e) Other Non Salary (see sheet) **#26-006** motioned by D. Fritzler, seconded by R Christie. Role Call: D Fritzler – yes, M Hill – yes, R Christie – yes, J. Beck -yes; J. Shea - Absent
2. Resolution to accept Board Meeting Schedule for 2026-2027 fiscal Year (second Tuesday of every month @ 6:30pm) **#26-009** motioned by R. Christie, seconded by J Beck. Role Call: D Fritzler – yes, M Hill – yes, R Christie – yes, J. Beck -yes; J. Shea - Absent
3. Resolution to Accept Board of Review To Allow Residents to Protest to the Board of Review in Writing **#26-008** motioned by J. Beck, seconded by M Hill. Role Call: D Fritzler – yes, M Hill – yes, R Christie – yes, J. Beck -yes; J. Shea - Absent
4. Resolution to Accept Board of Review March Meeting Schedule (3/3/2026 Org Meeting 8:00am, 3/9/2026 BOR 3pm-9pm, 3/10/2026 BOR 9am-3pm ) **#26-007** motioned by J. Beck, seconded by D. Fritzler. Role Call: D Fritzler – yes, M Hill – yes, R Christie – yes, J. Beck -yes; J. Shea - Absent
5. Resolution for Beaverton Schools Tax Collection Agreement **#26-010** motioned by M Hill, seconded by R Christie. Role Call: D Fritzler – yes, M Hill – yes, R Christie – yes, J. Beck -yes; J. Shea - Absent
6. D. Fritzler– Outsource payroll and tax reporting. The taxes are not part of clerk specific duties and D Fritzler is not comfortable doing them. We are currently several months behind, request that we get outside company to help. Per M Hill, Would cost \$300-400 a quarter to do monthly and quarterly filings (Fed, UIA, State) Board members agreed. M Hill recommended Matt Garant - Hartwick, Garant & Garant, Inc (out of Saginaw). D Fritzler will contact Motion made by M Hill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R Christie; 4 Ayes, Motion passed
7. M Hill - Spongy Moth Information – should we include the information on the mailing that we are sending residents regarding the mosquito information? Yes, board members agreed that it would be good to include if there is room in the mailing

## OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

N/A

## ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

*Diana Fritzler*

Diana Fritzler

Grout Township Clerk