

Supervisor's Report

From: Marlene Chockley

Date: August 10, 2017

Dear Board of Trustees,

We all have a responsibility to be prepared for an efficient meeting. Please call or email to ask questions ahead of the meeting so they can be addressed. This will help shorten the meetings. Thank you.

6 Mile Road Culvert Replacement

Six Mile Road has been closed to replace the culvert. We are hopeful that it will be completed quicker than the advertised 3 weeks. The cost of this project came in much lower than predicted at \$68,377.77 and it already has a 15% contingency built in. Hopefully, that won't be needed and the cost will be even less. We are able to finance it over 2 years through the county treasurer's office.

Board Retreat – Prioritization of Items Identified at the Last Retreat

I would like to set a date for a follow up for the last retreat in order to work through prioritizing the items identified and set goals for the township manager. Jennifer will distribute a poll soon to select a Saturday in the near future.

MTA Supervisor's Retreat

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Supervisors Retreat that the Michigan Township Association held. It was very valuable. Of particular interest was a session on mitigating risk and liability. I have been concerned about building use procedures and security. Now that we have parks, those are also areas where we need to develop policies to protect the township from risk. I received a sample parks ordinance and building use rules from our risk and liability insurer that can be adapted to our township.

Other sessions were on Contracts, Your Role in the Public Eye, Community Engagement, Surveys, and How to Fund Projects.

Another session I found valuable was on effective meetings. I asked the trainer about our meetings and format and the difficulty we have with meeting length. She stressed that board meetings are to conduct business. Public comment is an important part and is to be listened to, but there should be no board commentary following it. She recommended that the first call to the public be 2 minutes per speaker on agenda items only and the second call be for 3 minutes on any topic. I recommend that we try this approach.

North South Commuter Rail Study

Township Manager Steve Aynes and I attended the final meeting of the North South Commuter Rail Project. This commuter rail was envisioned to travel from Lansing to Ann Arbor and eventually beyond to Detroit. There would have been a stop at 8 Mile Rd and US 23. After several years of work, it was

determined that that project is not feasible at this time. However, an alternative plan is being discussed that includes a Whitmore Lake stop that will be shared in the near future.

Pontiac Trail Pathway

The feasibility study that the township contributed to has been completed. I attended a follow up meeting with the engineering company and Salem and Ann Arbor Township officials. The cost of the project to build a connecting non-motorized pathway from South Lyon to Ann Arbor along Pontiac Trail is estimated to be \$14 million. Approximately 2.4 miles pass through Northfield Township.

The engineers are proceeding with a grant application for funding to build one mile of the path from 8 Mile to 7 Mile in Salem Township. Local match is expected to be \$100,000 per mile. I will offer a letter of support at a future meeting.

Downtown Strategic Action Plan

The plan will be completed by our second meeting in September and we will schedule a presentation at or shortly after that meeting to receive the results.

Refund of Sales Taxes Paid on Electric Billing

When Jennifer and I met with Trane, our HVAC equipment provider, to discuss the township's energy usage, they found that the township had been charged sales tax in error. We applied for a refund of \$16,495.20 from Constellation that we were charged on our electric usage. It will be credited to our account.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marlene Chockley