

Boyne Valley Township Special Meeting

March 19, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.

This meeting is a meeting of the Boyne Valley Township Board in public for the purpose of conducting the township's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda.

Minutes

I. Call to Order	The meeting was called to order by Hobbs at 6:00 p.m.
II. Roll Call	Members Present: Matelski, Kondrat, Kelenske, Sparks, Hobbs Members Absent: None Others Present: Steve Zucker, Russ Koeman, John Lamont, Patricia West, Theresa Robinson, Paul Fiel, Jason Johnson, Tom Towne, Mike Cain, Cindy Grice, Geneva Towne, John Lamont, Bruce Giem, Mary Giem, Todd Sorenson, Ron Grunch, Barb Loper, Christine Thomas, Jay Peck, Robert Draves, Andy Reynolds
III. Recognition of Audience	
VI. Public Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hobbs explained that the board is considering contracts with Jordan Valley EMS Authority and the City of Boyne City. Private services such as MMR are also a possibility. Sue spoke with the clerk of the City of Elk Rapids and they are extremely happy with MMR. Have to decide what is the best option for our residents.Bruce Giem feels that MMR is not the best option, because when a second truck is needed, there will not be one. Bruce would like to know what happened to the relationship between Boyne Valley and the City of Boyne City. Bruce stated that the township is currently paying ½ mill. When Boyne Valley began the service, 1 mill was levied. Township has an agreement with the City of BC that a truck will be staffed 24/7. The agreement allowed BC and BV to work together with a division at Dam Road and BV covered the east side of the coverage area. Bruce further explained that the Jordan Valley EMS Authority has the ability to levy up to 3 mills for EMS services. JVEMSA also takes transfers all over the north, where would the second truck come from? Bruce asked how the cost of the membership to the authority is calculated. Giem asked if there will be out of pocket expenses for township residents. Bruce further questioned if a separate ledger will be kept by JVEMSA for the Boyne Valley portion. Bruce Giem is concerned about the loss of our investment in equipmentRuss Koeman explained that he has attended most of the township meetings over the past 2 years. He feels that the township has had many, many discussions with the City of BC over issues with the EMS service and issues were not settled. He is angry that the City proposed a new agreement at the last minute. He is concerned about how equipment replacement will be funded in the future. Koeman likes the fact that Boyne Valley will have input in the JVEMSA, because each municipality involved has input. He explains that the cost of a mill to him would be \$9 per month. Both the City of BC and

JVEMSA would have a paramedic and an EMT in the station at all times. Both agreements need to be revised.

- Todd Sorenson speaks for Wilson Township. He questions the City of BC as to why the residents of Boyne Valley won't have out of pocket expense, but the other townships served will. He further explained that it took two years to form the JVEMS authority and he was a part of that. He furthered that every single township in the authority and the City of East Jordan have a voice in the authority and they review the budget every time they meet. Todd expressed that Jay Peck has done a wonderful job as director of the authority. Wilson Township is waiting to see what Boyne Valley township does before they decide if their entire township will join the authority.
- Jay Peck answered questions. He stated that the BV station would have an EMT and a paramedic in the station 24/7. He stated that there would be separate ledger kept for Boyne Valley Township. He said that the equipment would become a part of the JVEMSA fleet and the outside of the trucks would be changed. The cost of membership of the authority is 1/2 mill for every township for operation and ¼ mill for equipment for every township, making the total levy ¾ mill.
- Russ Koeman stated that he feels \$190,000 for equipment is low and feels that the township should have it appraised. He is concerned that the township will be left to replace equipment in two years. He is concerned with a back-up rig and where it will come from. Time is important. Russ asked the public to attend the township meetings so that they are aware of the issues and to support the township board in this huge decision.
- Todd Sorenson explained that all of the EMS services have intergovernmental agreements to back each other up when in need of a second rig.
- Cindy Grice explained that it is a very complicated billing system. She is unhappy to hear the township say that there has not been a resolution. When meeting with the township officials the discussions were about dirty dishes and couches at the station, dents in the ambulance, etc. and no one discussed the financial piece.
- Mike Cain sees no problem with exploring options. He asked the township to take a real close look at exploring a private service. He feels that the City provide two separate proposals and did not receive a counter offer. Cain feels that the City of BC and Boyne Valley township have a mutually beneficial relationship. BV has been levying ½ mill and the most recent proposal tries to address that. Township has run on a ½ mill for past 6 years and were able to purchase a new ambulance. He would like the township board to look at the two proposals and discuss them. The City of BC's proposal is not open ended. The ½ mill will be the final cost. At the end of the 2 year proposal, assets will still belong to Boyne Valley Township. He is concerned of the possibility of JVEMSA building a new building and how much that will cost the township residents along with the fact that the township building would then be vacant. He proposed that the township board look at what's best for it's residents and why pay more?
- Motion by Sparks, support by Matelski to postpone the settlement meeting until after the special meeting ends.
Motion carried 5 to 0.
- Pat West stated that when her husband needed an ambulance, the techs were very good.
- Bernie Kondrat stated that the problems began when the paramedic and emts that Boyne Valley paid to train left the service, forcing the board into the agreement with the City of Boyne City.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue Hobbs explained that the millage does not read that there will no out of pocket expense for BV township residents. That was written in the minutes of the township board meeting in 2004 to allow for the balance to be written off for a period of four years.
IV.	<p>Consideration of Ambulance Service Contract</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017-2018 invoiced \$197,871 for EMS services, collected \$141,503.28 • \$147,080 expenses for 2017-18 fiscal year + the \$113,920 paid in 18/19 • 2016-2017 collected \$124,406.29, \$146,214 expenses for 2016-17 • ¾ mill is \$111,750.00 (of \$149,000,000 taxable value) • ½ mill is \$ 74,500.00 • \$33,030.18 expenses for 2018-19 + \$113,920 to BC for 2016-17 fees <p>Motion by Sparks, support by Kondrat to table approving agreement for ambulance services. Motion carried 5 to 0.</p>
V.	<p>Consideration of Audit of Ambulance Books</p> <p>Motion by Kelenske, support by Matelski to hire Hill Schroderus & Co, township auditor, to meet with City of Boyne City’s auditor and staff. Motion carried 5 to 0.</p>
VII.	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>Motion by Sparks, support by Kondrat to adjourn. Motion carried 5 to 0.</p> <p>Time adjourned: 7:10 p.m.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>Lynn Sparks Clerk</p>