



BOARD MEMBERS

Dave Best, *Supervisor*
Sue Clark, *Clerk*
Scott Benscoter, *Treasurer*
Dean Bedford, *Trustee*
Ann Derderian, *Trustee*

Metamora Township Board Meeting Minutes

September 9th, 2019

Sue Clark, Clerk

Supervisor Dave Best called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Supervisor-Dave Best, Clerk- Sue Clark, Treasurer-Scott Benscoter, Trustee - Ann Derderian and Trustee – Dean Bedford.

Absent: None

Also, Present: Don Blair, Ian McNulty – Levy, George Nash, Rick Warren; Lapeer County Commissioner, Matt Wandrie – Lapeer Community Schools, Darcy Hosner, Police Chief – David Mallett, Fire Chief – Don Brady, Traci Chouinard, Mark & Carole Beckett – MECA, Victor Dzenowagis, Ann Marie Sparks, and D. Matheis.

0085-19

Motion by Derderian, supported by Bedford to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried, 5 ayes, 0 nays.

0086-19

Motion by Derderian, supported by Bedford, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Approval of August 2019 Bills, which cover checks #27308 thru #27370 for a total amount of \$159,229.75 which includes Township bills, Township payroll, and building payroll.

Motion carried, 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Public Time:

Matt Wandrie; Lapeer Community Schools Superintendent spoke on the upcoming November Election.

Carole Beckett; Metamora Equestrian Conservation Alliance (MECA) spoke on the development of a recreational opportunity for Metamora Township and Village of Metamora. **see attached letters**

Fire Department Business:

Fire Chief Brady went over the Fire report with the Board.

0087-19

Motion by Derderian, supported by Bedford to approve the purchase a new light bar for truck 851 @ a cost of no more than \$1500.00.

Motion Carried, 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Police Department Business:

Chief Mallett went over the Police report with the Board.

Township Business:

0088-19

Motion by Derderian, supported by Bedford to approve a one-year extension of Metamora Golf and Country Club site plans for: The Estates of Metamora Country Club (Phase II), Metamora Country Club Village (Phase III), and The Manors of Metamora (Phase IV).

Motion Carried, 5 ayes, 0 nays.

0089-19

Motion by Derderian, supported by Bedford to approve Ordinance 48 – The Metamora Township Prohibition of Marihuana Establishments Ordinance. **see attached ordinance**

Roll Call Vote: Derderian; aye, Bedford; aye, Benscoter; aye, Best; aye and Clark; aye.

Motion carried, all voting aye. **see attached draft ordinance**

0090-19

Motion by Derderian, supported by Bedford to approve the resolution to adopt and implement changes and revisions to the Metamora Township Personnel Policies and Procedures. **see attached resolution**

Roll Call Vote: Derderian; aye, Bedford; aye, Benscoter; aye, Best; aye, and Clark; aye.

Motion carried, all voting aye.

Supervisor Time:

Nothing at this time.

Adjourn:

0091-19

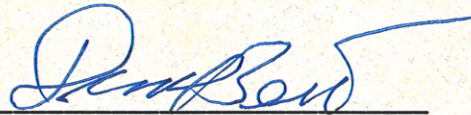
Motion by Derderian, supported by Bedford to adjourn Metamora Township Board Meeting at 7:30.

Motion carried, all voting aye.



Sue Clark, Clerk

Recording Secretary



Dave Best, Supervisor

Metamora Township Board Meeting

Sign up sheet

Sept 9, 2019

Please Print

NAME	COMPANY	ADDRESS
Don Blair		217 Stock Rd
Ian McNulty	LEVY	
GEORGE NASH		METAMORA
RICK WARRAN		DOC
Matt Wandrie		Lapeer Schools
Darcy Hosner		Metamora
David Mallett		MTPO
Don BRADY		MTFD
Traci Chouinard		1152 Kile Rd
Mark & Carolee Buckett	MECA	5717 Kile Rd Oxford
VICTOR BERNARD		1 EAST HIGH ST
Ann Marie Jones		5560 Foster Oxford (B70)
DMATTHEIS		5465 Hosner Oxford 48370



September 4, 2019

President

Carole Beckett

Secretary

Diane Matheis

Treasurer

Lisa Yarema

Membership Officer

Chalmers Fitzpatrick

Board

Margaret Culver

Phillip Maxwell, ex-MFH

Deborah Pace, MFH

Amanda Shelton

Ann Marie Sparks

Marcia Turner

Advisory Board

McKinley Beckett

W. Hutchings

Diane Kangas

Mary Shaw Moore

Sally Stephenson

John Yarema

MECA is a Michigan
Nonprofit Corporation
organized on a
directorship basis.

Metamora Township Board of Trustees

730 W. Dryden Road

Metamora, Mi. 48455

Dear Township Board,

The Metamora Equestrian Conservation Alliance (MECA) is a non-profit group of local residents whose primary goal is the preservation of the countryside, including farms, trails and ambiance in the recognized "Horse Country" of Addison, Dryden, Metamora and Oxford townships.

There is an abandoned railroad bed that exists just east of the *White Horse Inn*, formerly part of the **Michigan Central Railway**, which ran from Detroit through Lapeer, comprising a 16 acre strip of land approximately 80 to 100 feet wide running north from the Metamora village limits to Sutton Rd. The railroad property was acquired at a tax sale in 2002. It is our understanding that the current owner has been unable to develop this property due to the narrow dimensions and existing zoning ordinances. When approached with the idea of a township linear park, he was excited about such a plan and recognizes that he may not profit much above what he has into it.

MECA is very interested in the development of new recreational opportunities for both Metamora Township and the Village of Metamora that supports its mission. We are excited to explore how MECA can partner in the development of a non-motorized linear park on this railroad property with Metamora Township. Such a trail has been proven to immeasurably benefit both the Village and the Township residents and businesses. If approved, we will approach the Village of Metamora with plans for a trailhead downtown.

Respectfully,

Carole Beckett
President





September 5, 2019

Metamora Township Board
730 W. Dryden Road
Metamora, MI 48455

Esteemed Township Board,

Carol Beckett from the *Metamora Equestrian Conservation Alliance* has contacted me regarding the possibility of creating an approximately two mile trail/corridor along the old Michigan Central rail-line (from Dryden Road to Sutton Road). On behalf of my wife, Linda Egeland and me, we would like to provide the Township Board with our point-of-view of the proposal.

As you may know, my wife and I own and operate the White Horse Inn and the Metamora General Store in the village of Metamora. We also own two other commercial properties in the village. We have made significant investments in the village of Metamora and plan to continue to do so. Additionally, we have lived in the Metamora area since 1990. We feel a strong tie to the area from both a personal and business standpoint. Creating some type of trail from Dryden Road to Sutton Road that would be compatible for hikers, bikers and horse-back riders would be a wonderful addition to the village of Metamora and Metamora Township. It would add yet another reason for residents and visitors to enjoy our wonderful community. The use of that property as a trail would be compatible with downtown businesses and is already being used by residents to walk their dogs or ride their bikes or simply enjoy a nice walk. To develop something that is more planned and permanent would certainly be welcomed by the community and undoubtedly enhance the village experience along with increasing local property values.



September 2, 2010

Metamora Township Board
730 W. Dryden Road
Metamora, MI 48457

Eastman Township Board

Carol Hackett from the Metamora Eastman Equestrian Community
Alliance has contacted me regarding the possibility of creating an
approximately two mile half-mile trail (from Dryden Road to Sutton Road) on both sides of the
road. I would like to provide the Township Board
with our point of view of the proposal.

As you are aware, my wife and I own and operate the White Horse Inn
and the Metamora General Store in the Village of Metamora. We also
own two other commercial properties in the village. We have made
significant investments in the village of Metamora and plan to continue
to do so. Additionally, we have lived in the Metamora area since 1982.
We are strongly in the area from both a personal and business
standpoint. Creating some type of trail from Dryden Road to Sutton
Road would be compatible for hikers, bikers and horse-back riders.
It would be a wonderful addition to the village of Metamora and
Eastman Township. It would add yet another reason for residents and
visitors to enjoy our wonderful area. The use of that property as
a trail would be compatible with downtown businesses and is already
being used by residents to walk their dogs or ride their bikes or simply
enjoy a nice walk. To develop something that is more planned and
permanent would certainly be welcomed by the community and
undoubtedly enhance the village experience along with increasing local
property values.




I am also a member of the village of Metamora Downtown Development Authority – and while I obviously cannot speak on behalf of the DDA – I do know that there have been discussions during DDA meetings on how to landscape the parcel of property on the north side of Dryden Road just east of the White Horse Inn parking lot. Now would be an ideal time to include trail-head development into the landscaping and usage plans for that parcel of property – which was donated to the village of Metamora a couple of years ago.

While there are undoubtedly a myriad of issues to be sorted through – this is just the beginning of the process – I wanted to let you know that we strongly support this effort and are confident that whatever obstacles or difficulties that may be encountered can easily be overcome. I have closely followed both Township and Village governance since we started working on the renovations of the White Horse Inn in 2012 – and have been impressed with the forward-thinking and professionalism of both the Township Board and the Village Council and am confident that that will continue as this concept progresses.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this issue – please do not hesitate to contact me.

Most Respectfully,


Victor Dzenowagis
Owner/Operator

White Horse Inn
One East High Street
Metamora, MI 48455
(810) 678-2276
Victordz@aol.com

Friends of the Polly Ann Trail
P.O. Box 123
Dryden, MI 48428

September 4, 2019

Metamora Township Board
730 W. Dryden Rd.
Metamora, MI 48455

Dear friends,

I have spoken to Carol Beckett of the Metamora Equestrian Conservation Alliance about their interest in acquiring a two mile section of the Michigan Central corridor that runs north of the Village of Metamora. It strikes me as a wonderful opportunity for the Metamora Township community to add to its current inventory of recreational opportunities.

On the Township website, there is a master plan written in 2006. I assume that is the most current master plan on record. In that master plan, a survey of residents indicated that "Need public recreation facilities" was the third most important issue, behind only the siting of high density housing and the need for new industry to increase the tax base. The master plan also reported on a Future Vision Workshop that showed strong support for preserving natural features and wildlife corridors. If the information in that master plan still applies, the addition of a two mile corridor going north from the Village would serve to further those objectives.

The Friends of the Polly Ann Trail supports the efforts of the Metamora Equestrian Conservation Alliance to seek approval from the Township to pursue acquisition of this corridor for recreational purposes. We know from our experience with the Polly Ann Trail that rail-trails offer multiple benefits to the community, including nature viewing, quiet recreation such as walking, running, bicycling, horseback riding, and cross country skiing, and transportation options.

We realize that this process is in the beginning stages, with much to be decided. However, at this point, we would urge the Township Board to approve of the Alliance moving forward with its plans to seek funding for the acquisition of this corridor.

Sincerely,



David Howell, Chairman
Friends of the Polly Ann Trail
djhowell@earthlink.net



1213 Center Street
P.O. Box 27187
Lansing MI 48909

Phone: 517-485-6022

Fax: 517-347-8145

www.michigantrails.org

August 23, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance is the statewide voice for nonmotorized trail users, building trails to connect people and communities for a stronger Michigan. As a 501 (c)3 nonprofit organization, Michigan Trails advocates, promotes and enables trail work all over Michigan with a focus on maintaining Michigan's national leadership role in both land and water trails.

At the heart of our work is providing people with these "connection corridors" to get outside, get to know their neighbors and the natural and historical and cultural resources, and realize that trails are literally America's new front porch. This work is evident in the popularity of our two statewide bike tours this year—the 28th Annual Michigander Bicycle Tour and the Inaugural Great Lake-to-Lake Bicycle Tour.

As the Executive Director of Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance, I am pleased to be able to offer our support for the plans being formulated by the residents of Metamora to work on creating a trail system using abandoned railroad corridors like the work done by the Paint Creek and Polly Ann Trails located nearby. One of their residents, Mark Frank has reached out to us to solicit our support for their early plans. According to Mark, "their idea is to expand and connect these various trail systems for a variety of increased non-motorized activities."

I understand also from Mark that these residents are in the process of working with the Village of Metamora and Metamora Township offices as well as with key individuals who help to administer the Natural Resources Trust Fund.

One of the important reasons that Michigan is the number one trail state in the nation is because of the passion and commitment of people like Mark Frank and his colleagues and we always take the position that volunteers who have a good vision for trail building and connecting communities should be encouraged and supported in any way possible. For that reason, we offer our support for their work.

Sincerely,

Bob Wilson, Executive Director

Affiliated with

**MICHIGAN
FITNESS
FOUNDATION**



MICHIGAN FITNESS FOUNDATION



August 23, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

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At the heart of our work is providing people with these "connection corridors" to get outside, get to know their neighbors and the natural and historical and cultural resources, and realize that trails are literally America's new front porch. This work is evident in the popularity of our two statewide bike tours this year—the 28th Annual Michigan Bicycle Tour and the inaugural Great Lake-to-Lake Bicycle Tour.

As the Executive Director of Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance, I am pleased to be able to offer our support for the plans being formulated by the residents of Metamora to work on creating a trail system using abandoned railroad corridors like the work done by the Flint Creek and Polly Ann Trails located nearby. One of their residents, Mark Frank has reached out to us to solicit our support for their early plans. According to Mark, their idea is to expand and connect these various trail systems for a variety of more used non-motorized activities.

I understand also from Mark that these residents are in the process of working with the Village of Metamora and Metamora Township offices as well as with key individuals who help to administer the Natural Resources Trust Fund.

One of the important reasons that Michigan is the number one trail state in the nation is because of the passion and commitment of people like Mark Frank and his colleagues and we strive to take the position that volunteers who have a good vision and connecting communities should be encouraged and supported in any way possible. For that reason, we offer our support for their work.

Sincerely,

Bob Wilson, Executive Director



METAMORA
TOWNSHIP
MICHIGAN



Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a nationwide network of trails from former rail lines and connecting corridors to build healthier places for healthier people.

September 6, 2019

Dear Metamora Township Trustees,

I encourage your support of the Michigan Central Trail, which will take advantage of a 2-mile long abandoned railroad bed that is available for purchase. Non-motorized trails that support hiking, biking and horseback riding are significant amenities, which improve quality of life for residents, attract visitors to stimulate economic activity, and provide recreational and active transportation opportunities that create vibrant communities. A multi-use trail is a higher use of an abandoned railroad corridor that serves the needs of all citizens, regardless of age, ability or income, and ultimately preserves the land for future rail activities.

My work allows me to regularly visit towns across Michigan and the Midwest, and I have experienced firsthand the transformative nature of trails for municipalities that are striving to sustain or revitalize their communities. Non-motorized trails are linear parks encouraging healthy lifestyles and walkability. Pure Michigan has prioritized trails in its initiatives to promote the state to businesses and individuals, and being part of a connected trail network would bring substantial benefits to Metamora Township.

As a local elected official serving a designated "trail town" and a Bike Friendly Community, I have seen the economic value and quality of life enhancement that the Little Miami Scenic Trail brings to our Villagers. Several new businesses have been established along the trail, and we are now extending our trail network to connect with two nature preserves and a state park.

This connector trail initiative grew out of our recently completed YS Active Transportation Plan, highlighting the importance of hike-bike trails that are family-, senior- and ADA-friendly to our

Michigan Department of Transportation
Michigan Department of Transportation
Michigan Department of Transportation



September 8, 2019
Dear Metamora Township Trustees:

I encourage your support of the Michigan Central Trail, which will take advantage of a 2-mile long abandoned railroad bed that is available for purchase. Non-motorized trails that support hiking, biking and horseback riding are significant amenities, which improve quality of life for residents, attract visitors to stimulate economic activity, and provide recreational and active transportation opportunities that create vibrant communities. A multi-use trail is a higher use of an abandoned railroad corridor that serves the needs of all citizens regardless of age, ability or income, and ultimately preserves the land for future generations.

My work allows me to regularly visit towns across Michigan and the Midwest, and I have experienced firsthand the transformative nature of trails for communities that are striving to sustain or revitalize their communities. Non-motorized trails are linear parks encouraging healthy lifestyles and walkability. Michigan has prioritized trails in its initiatives to promote the state to businesses and individuals, and being part of a connected trail network would bring substantial benefits to Metamora Township.

As a local elected official serving a designated "trail town" and a Bike Friendly Community, I have seen the economic value and quality of life enhancement that the Little Miami Scenic Trail brings to our Villagers. Several new businesses have been established along the trail, and we are now extending our trail network to connect with two nature preserves and a state park. This connector trail initiative grew out of our recently completed 2018 Active Transportation Plan, highlighting the importance of bike-bike trails that are family-, senior- and ADA-friendly to our

community members.

The Village of Yellow Springs is one of so many examples of municipalities realizing key benefits from trails for their residents and visitors. Investing in a shared-use trail is a sound decision that will complement the country traditions and equestrian heritage of Metamora Township.

Please contact me via 937-776-9566 or brianh@railstotrails.org if you have any questions or would like any additional information about non-motorized trails.

Best Regards,



Brian K. Housh
Midwest Policy Manager, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Council President, Village of Yellow Springs

community members.

The Village of Yellow Springs is one of so many examples of municipalities realizing key benefits from trails for their residents and visitors. Investing in a shared-use trail is a sound decision that will complement the county traditions and equestrian heritage of Metamora Township.

Please contact me via 937-770-9266 or brian.k.housh@midwestpolicy.com if you have any questions or would like any additional information about non-motorized trails.

Best Regards,

Brian K. Housh
Midwest Policy Manager, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Council President, Village of Yellow Springs



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TOWNSHIP OF METAMORA

COUNTY OF LAPEER

STATE OF MICHIGAN

ORDINANCE NO. 48

AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT THE ESTABLISHMENT OR OPERATION OF MARIHUANA FACILITIES PURSUANT TO THE MICHIGAN REGULATION AND TAXATION OR MARIHUANA ACT, INITIATED LAW 1 OF 2018, MCL _____ ET SEQ., AS MAY BE AMENDED; TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE TOWNSHIP OF METAMORA, LAPEER COUNTY, MICHIGAN ORDAINS:

SECTION I - TITLE

This ordinance shall be known as and may be cited as the Metamora Township Prohibition of Marihuana Establishments Ordinance.

SECTION II - DEFINITIONS

Words used herein shall have the definitions as provided for in the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, Initiated Law 1 of 2018, MCL _____ et seq., as may be amended.

SECTION III - NO MARIHUANA ESTABLISMENTS

Metamora Township hereby prohibits all marihuana establishments within the boundaries of the Township pursuant to Section 6.1 of the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, Initiated Law 1 of 2018, MCL _____ et seq., as may be amended.

SECTION IV - VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

1. Any person who disobeys neglects or refuses to comply with any provision of this ordinance or who causes allows or consents to any of the same shall be deemed to be responsible for the violation of this ordinance. A violation of this ordinance is deemed to be a nuisance per se.
2. A violation of this ordinance is a municipal civil infraction, for which the fines shall not be less than \$100 nor more than \$500, in the discretion of the Court. The foregoing sanctions shall be in addition to the rights of the Township to proceed at law or equity with other appropriate and proper remedies. Additionally, the violator shall pay costs which may include all expenses, direct and indirect, which the Township incurs in connection with the municipal civil infraction.
3. Each day during which any violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.
4. In addition, the Township may seek injunctive relief against persons alleged to be in violation of this ordinance, and such other relief as may be provided by law.

5. This ordinance shall be administered and enforced by the Ordinance Enforcement Officer of the Township or by such other person (s) as designated by the Township Board from time to time.

SECTION V - SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any clause, sentence, word, section or provision is hereafter declared void or unenforceable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect the remainder of such ordinance which shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION VI - REPEAL

All ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION VII - EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon publication of a notice of adoption.

Roll Call Vote: **AYES: 5**
 NAYS: 0
 ABSENT: 0

ORDINANCE APPROVED AND ADOPTED,

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN }
 } ss
COUNTY OF LAPEER }

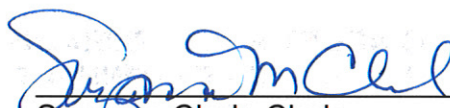
I, the undersigned duly qualified Township Clerk of Metamora Township, Lapeer County, Michigan, do hereby certify the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the proceedings taken by Township Board of Metamora at a meeting held on September 9th, 2019.

Sue Clark, Clerk
Metamora Township

Published: September 15th, 2019

STATE OF MICHIGAN }
 } ss
COUNTY OF LAPEER }

I, Suzanne M. Clark, the duly elected Clerk of the governing body of Metamora Township, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing was adopted and spread upon the record the 9th day of September, 2019.



Suzanne Clark, Clerk
Metamora Township

Dated: September 9th, 2019