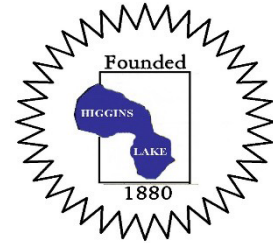


Memorandum



To: **Gerrish Township Board/Community**
cc: file
From: **Supervisor Hill**
Date: **06/30/2025**
Re: **Supervisor June 2025 Board Report**

For the month of June 2025, I am submitting the following report:

As an update to the *Gerrish Lyon Utility Authority*, legal processes continue to be followed to fulfill the dissolution of the corporation via the advice of our legal counsel. After hearing concerns from *GLUA* Chair Barnwell about the remaining proceeds and where they are directed, I met with *GLUA* Treasurer Phil Czech and our Liaison Trustee Ostling. Chair Barnwell felt that *GLUA* needed some legal oversight on behalf of *GLUA* as the entity comes to a close. I understood his statement and offered an audience with our Township Attorney an unfettered discussion of his concerns. After a brief period of days, I was advised that he wished to have the consultation. That meeting was arranged and attended by me, Township Liaison Trustee Ostling, Chair Barnwell and *GLUA* Board member Brian Cook. At the beginning of the meeting, I offered to leave the meeting if anyone was uncomfortable with mine or Liaison Ostling attendance. Both indicated they were fine with my presence. They asked various questions about the processes that had been explained before and that were outlined by our attorney for a free exchange of articulated concerns.

Post that meeting and per our usual posture, when we are advised of any other necessary actions, the Township Board will follow up accordingly.

On a Health of Higgins Lake note, I met with Kodiak IT Chris Fisher, Ed Panyard and Trustee Ostling regarding any technology needs or plan for the Health of Higgins Lake Committee(s).

On the Community Service front this month, most may not know, but I am in my fifth year of a six-year commitment to the Northern Michigan Children's Assessment Center (NMCAC) as a Board member for that non-profit entity. I am the Chair and have been for my 5 years. It is a non-paid volunteer board commitment that serves the victims of child abuse, neglect and sexual assault as well as the entity provides counseling for children and families. Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners are available for conducting sexual assault evidentiary exams for victims. There is also a pediatrician that does medical exams for the child victims as well. The NMCAC is in the process of a building campaign to raise over three million dollars to expand its current footprint in the CRAF Center in Roscommon, Mi. In addition, my family donated a significant amount of our own money this month to the project, I have also attended two tours of the center to answer any questions about the center and its operation. The Center is now 10 years in operation that started with one employee and only Forensic interview services to victims. We now have twelve total employees including the Executive Director. I also attended two Capital campaign meetings that address the process of the campaign and expansion planning along with the Chairing of an Executive Board meeting and Regular monthly meeting.

Also on the Community service front, I was interviewed by telephone by an incoming MSP Academy Intern about Community engagement and Service, law enforcement and legislative processes. This is an assignment for their processes. I was referred to by Lt Scott McManus of MSP Houghton Lake Post.

For the Township, I chaired the June work session, June Regular Township meeting, one public budget work session for the Police Department, one public budget work session for the Fire/EMS and finally one Special Township Board meeting to conduct the business of the Township in a public forum.

I continue to meet with Clerk Squires to prepare the work session and regular meeting agenda as well as the other meetings alluded to in the previous paragraph. This is being done to ensure we have accurate, timely information for board members prior to the meeting.

This month, I met with Treasurer Anderson as he has taken the point on the discussions regarding Short term rentals as they relate to the initial work that came out of the planning commission to include the first draft of a possible ordinance. Also, we met with Kirstie Russo, the short-term rental coordinator

with Markey Township, to review their process, ordinance and inquired about any issues they have experienced and paperwork they use after they passed their ordinance. She was truly knowledgeable. I have also heard from various residents of their postures for or against having such an ordinance.

I spent time with Trustee Ostling reviewing the Cemetery planning work he has been doing to date, so I am better educated with the discussions he has been having with our sexton and general office staff who daily sell lots, assist in planning funerals and burials for the day-to-day operations.

I have had discussions on and off for some time with the general office staff regarding Hall Rentals, Rental rules and current fees that have not been adjusted for many years. I received a proposal from their research and suggestions for possible changes for the board to review. These will be included in the board packet for July 10, 2025, a work session for an initial discussion.

As a follow up to the opening of the Gerrish Township Park on Carlos Dr this month, Scotts Septic services were contracted to pump the septic system and inspect same to gain a baseline of the condition of the system. Additionally, the Type II Seasonal water testing contract has been signed for proper tests as required by the State of Michigan.

This month saw the final fixes to the Township Hall water infrastructure and that was to replace four broken outside faucets and to have the proper interior shut off valves installed.

I was notified by the EGLE Materials Management permit section that our Compost site was due to be inspected in mid-June 2025 for compliance. The inspection took place and I received the report back with an inspection letter indicating that we are "in compliance" accordingly. You will recall from previous reports, we had to apply for a 5-year permit required by the recent Material Management Act that is administered by EGLE. We applied, paid our fee and received that permit accordingly.

I met with the Police Department, RCRC Foreman David Thompson, Building and Zoning Jason Janson regrading a fence installation, uncertified road and alleged damage on same and an Alley discussion on Church St at Hoffman to better understand a complaint that came into our general offices.

I met with Rick Fancon, Operations Manger for GFL, our provider for garbage, recycling and leaf pick up to begin discussions about a possible renewal with their service. The contract will expire in July of 2026, and we will need to negotiate a renewal contract with costs and contract length so that when we begin budget expense construction in December 2025 for the 2026-2027 budget year.

I attended a court ordered mediation hearing with Attorney Hess per the Court's wishes to have board member presence. Trustee Ostling also attended this as well to represent our board. The court case is *Case # 22-725768-CH, Gary Cronenwett et al. vs Gerrish Township et al.* to quiet title to and vacate a portion of Holton Street West of Kelley.

I am happy to report that the processes I alluded to last month with the Marina are working well to ensure a good workflow day to day and plans to streamline the year-to-year transition processes regarding all paperwork associated with the marina are being worked on.

With regard to long-term planning financially this month, we have created reserve funds from the fund balance for future infrastructure and the Health of Higgins Lake having a dedicated budget center with an expense and revenue approach for the future.

On the public relations front, I continue to meet with a representative of the "Text my Gov" application to learn what they could do and what tools for communication for the ease of the public may be available. I am hoping to have them present at a meeting in perhaps August, pending on fitting it in with our more pressing items.

I continue to answer day-to-day emails from citizens and answer questions on behalf of the Township this month via telephone and personal appearances in the Township this month.

As always, I want to remind all in understanding how I manage my day at work. I am at work at 7:00 a.m. in the morning and will be here until 3:00 p.m. Monday-Friday on most days barring other professional appointments to keep me or my family healthy. Also, not all my meetings on behalf of my office or

Township business are in the building. I also frequently visit sites in the Township when necessary to understand some stated problems that people call in on. My schedule is posted on my door. I am happy to meet personally with folks, but I do appreciate a scheduled appointment so I can give my undivided attention to your concerns. Please call me on 989-821-9313 ext. 229.

Respectfully given,

Brian A. Hill, Supervisor

Cc/file
