

**GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD  
Special Meeting  
October 26, 2022**

**MINUTES**

Supervisor Rogers called the special meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board to order at 6:30 pm at the Township Hall. The following members were present constituting a quorum for the transaction of business: Bill Rogers, Paulette Skolarus, Jean Ledford, Terry Croft, Jim Mortensen, Diana Lowe and Robin Hunt. Also present were Township Manager Kelly VanMarter, Township Attorney Joe Seward, and Chad Karsten and Alana Ballantyne of Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes Law Firm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Regular Agenda**

**Moved** by Lowe, supported by Hunt, to approve the Regular Agenda as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.**

The call to the public was opened at 6:31 pm with no response.

1. Closed session to consider a confidential written legal opinion pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(h).
  - a. Consider motion to enter into closed session to consider a confidential written legal opinion pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(h).
  - b. Consider motion to conclude the closed session and return to open session.

Supervisor Rogers explained that this was to review the attorneys' findings from the independent investigation authorized by the Board on June 6, 2022 regarding various issues related to the Clerk.

**Moved** by Mortensen, supported by Croft, to enter into closed session to consider a confidential written legal opinion pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(h) at 6:32 pm. **The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Hunt - yes, Lowe - yes, Mortensen - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes).**

**Moved** by Ledford, supported by Lowe, to conclude the closed session and return to open session at 8:35 pm. **The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Hunt - yes, Lowe - yes, Mortensen - yes, Skolarus - yes, and Rogers - yes).**

**Moved** by Hunt, seconded by Lowe, that no future township funds or resources be used to review the 2016/2017 payroll issue due to the fact that it was thoroughly reviewed and resolved five years ago and this is a personal matter of the Township Clerk. **The motion carried**

**(Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Hunt - yes, Lowe - yes, Mortensen - yes, Skolarus - no, and Rogers - yes).**

Ms. Skolarus stated she voted no because the question with regard to being paid in advance regarding Gary McCririe has not been answered by either the attorneys here or anyone on this Board.

**Moved by** Hunt, seconded by Croft, that the Clerk submit her resignation to the Board at or before the next Board Meeting of November 7, 2022. In the absence of a resignation, Township Staff and the attorney shall prepare a censure resolution for the November 21, 2022 Board meeting to protect the Township and its employees. **The motion carried (Ledford - yes, Croft - yes, Hunt - yes, Lowe - no, Mortensen - yes, Skolarus - no, and Rogers - yes).**

Ms. Lowe stated that she voted no because Ms. Skolarus is not going to resign because the Board asked her. Ms. Hunt responded that doing nothing condones the behavior.

Skolarus **moved** that Robin Hunt be reviewed by the same attorney as to whether or not she invested \$1 million of Township funds and withdrew them early with a 10 percent penalty, losing the Township approximately \$70,000. **The motion failed for lack of support.**

Ms. Skolarus stated that when she was found not guilty by the County, not one member of the Board congratulated her.

Mr. Mortensen stated he wanted to support the motion and voted yes because in looking at the whole report, unfortunately, there are a few things that are controversial regarding one individual.

### **Adjournment**

**Moved** by Lowe, supported by Hunt, to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 pm. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Thomas  
Recording Secretary

Approved:

Paulette Skolarus, Clerk  
Genoa Charter Township

Bill Rogers, Supervisor  
Genoa Charter Township