

Charter Township of Portage
Special Board of Trustees Meeting
47240 Green Acres Road
Houghton, MI 49931
(906) 482-4310

The Charter Township of Portage held a Special Board of Trustees Meeting on Friday, March 21, 2025, at the Township office.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Brandon Scholie at 2:00 PM.

In attendance were Supervisor Brandon Scholie, Clerk Amy Skewes, Treasurer Betsy Smith, and Trustees Dale Belanger, Janelle Datto, Nick Lanctot, and Amber Voght as stated by roll call.

Discussion Items:

1. Township wide alert system

A motion was made by Skewes to approve the enrollment of the township into an alert system for an annual cost of \$1,100.00 per year, seconded by Smith. Motion was carried by a roll call vote. Aye: Belanger, Datto, Lanctot, Scholie, Skewes, Smith, and Voght. Nay: None.

2. Personnel issue – Misuse of Township funds

- Vanessa Dietz requested the board discuss in closed session.

A motion was made by Smith to enter closed session to discuss a personnel issue at 2:15 PM, seconded by Skewes. Motion was carried by a roll call vote. Aye: Belanger, Datto, Lanctot, Scholie, Skewes, Smith, and Voght. Nay: None.

- The board returned to open session at 2:45 PM.

- At the return of open session, Scholie made the following statement, "Misuse of Township funds is prohibited under law even if there is intent to repay the funds. Our board believes this will be considered an isolated incident and will not be pressing any charges. We would like to give Vanessa the option to resign before we bring potential termination to a vote."

Vanessa Dietz responded that she was advised to request three months of severance as a term of her resignation.

A motion was made by Smith to accept the resignation of Vanessa Dietz with three months of severance pay, seconded by Belanger. Motion failed. Aye: Smith. Nay: Belanger, Datto, Lanctot, Scholie, Skewes, and Voght.

- A motion was made by Lanctot to terminate the employment of Vanessa Dietz, seconded by Belanger. Motion was carried by a roll call vote. Aye: Belanger, Datto, Lanctot, Scholie, Skewes, and Voght. Nay: Smith.

Public Comment:

- A resident that works with Vaneesa expressed support for her.
- A friend of Vanessa read a letter in support.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 2:53 PM.

Public Present:

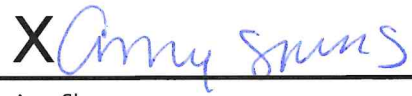
- Chris Voght
- Rebecca Patterson
- Roy Britz
- Gene Dietz
- Vanessa Dietz

X



Brandon Scholie
Supervisor

X



Amy Skewes
Clerk