Beaver Township
Special Board Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2019

I. Call to order
The special meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. on January 7, 2019 at the Beaver Township Hall, 1850 S. Garfield Rd., Auburn, MI 48611.

II. Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance was said in unison.

III. Roll Call
The Clerk conducted a roll call. The following board members were present: Gray (Supervisor), Koch (Treasurer), McCarry (Clerk), Retzloff (Trustee), and Tomczak (Trustee).

IV. Approval of Agenda
A motion “to approve the agenda” was made by Mr. Retzloff and seconded by Mr. Koch. AYES: 5; NAYS: 0. Motion carried.

V. Special Order of Business
A. Attorney Interviews: Attorneys from two law firms (Smith & Brooker PC and Poznak, Dyer, Kanar, Schefsky, Thompson PLC) were interviewed by the township board due to the current township attorney’s (Jim Hammond) retirement. Each township board member asked a question which included the following: fee structure, opinions on civil municipal infractions as a zoning approach, which other municipalities the firms represented, what their experience was in handling township zoning issues, where the attorneys saw themselves in 5 or 10 years, recommendations on zoning notifications to property owners, knowledge of special use permits, stance on wind energy and ordinances, and an overview of what the firms can do for Beaver Township residents.

Mr. Chuck Hewitt and Justin Ebel from Smith & Brooker were interviewed first followed by Andy Thompson. They answered all questions posed by the Board.

VI. Public Comment
A motion “to move to Public Comment” was made by Mr. Retzloff and seconded by Mr. Koch. AYES: 5; NAYS: 0. Motion carried.

Doug Brinks commented that he liked the attorneys from Smith & Brooker. Rosalie Andrzejewski felt that both firms were knowledgeable and comprehensive.

A motion “to return to the regular order of business” was made by Mr. Retzloff and seconded by Mr. Koch. AYES: 5; NAYS: 0. Motion carried.
The Board continued to discuss the interviews and offer opinions on which firm would be the best fit for Beaver Township.

A motion “to award the township counsel job to Poznak, Dyer, Kanar, Schefsky, Thompson PLC for a one-year trial basis” was made by Mr. Tomczak and seconded by Mr. Retzloff. Roll call vote: Gray (Yes), Koch (Yes), McCarry (Yes), Retzloff (Yes), Tomczak (Yes). AYES: 5; NAYS: 0. Motion carried.

A. Other Board Matters: Mr. Gray passed out copies of a letter received from the Bay County Drain Commissioner in preparation for the next regular board meeting.

Mr. Koch mentioned that he assembled the shelves and started organizing files and boxes in the shed.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion “to adjourn” was made by Mr. Tomczak and seconded by Mrs. McCarry. AYES: 5; NAYS: 0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary J. McCarry