

Annual Meeting of Merrill Township Electors – “People’s Meeting”

March 17, 2025

Meeting Minutes:

The meeting was called to order and started at 5:34pm

Attending at the front table included: Judy Morris, Clinton Hicks, Pete Morgan, Harold Yancy and Chuck Hanlon

Electors in attendance numbered 18 at the start of the meeting

Items 1-6 of the agenda were explained and followed.

Agenda item #7 began with item a. This item was motioned by Chuck Hanlon as written on the agenda “Merrill Township Board to work together to restore the Postal Service in Brohman.” This was seconded by Venola Walton-Stanceil. Discussion included comments from numerous attendees. The post office is being built in Brohman. A vote was taken. There were zero (0) yes and two (2) opposed to bringing this topic to the Township Board. The motion failed.

Item 7b. This was motioned as written in the agenda by Vinola Stansley “Zoning Administrator assigned a 16 – 20 - hour week” and seconded by Shirley Hall. Numerous comments were made by the attendees and overall, it was said that the township doesn’t have the money. Venola Walton-Stanceil is willing to assist in grant writing for funding. The attendees voted and 4 were in favor to bring this to the Township Board and 5 were opposed. The motion failed.

Item 7c. The motion was presented by Denise Suttles as written in the agenda “Posted office hours for the Supervisor, Treasurer, Clerk and Zoning Administrator. This motion was seconded by Chuck Hanlon. There was no discussion or comments from the attendees so the motion went to a vote. There were 10 individuals in favor of the motion and 1 opposed. The motion passed and will go to the Township Board for their consideration.

Item 7d. The item was read aloud and was “Update the Township Community building’s electrical system using Covid Funds (\$70,000) to accommodate the generator in the event of a power outages”. Comments were then made by many. The meeting was pulled back into order. The amended motion was: to update the electrical system to also include the automatic transfer switch and the generator. This amended motion was made by Denise Suttles and seconded by Chuck Hanlon. There were numerous participants in discussion and a vote was taken. The motion received 15 votes in favor and 0 votes were opposed. The motion passed and will go to the Township Board for their consideration.

Item 7e. The item was read as written “Monthly Merrill Township Board Meeting”. Comments were made that this has already passed with Township Board approval.

Item 7f. The item was read aloud as written “Merrill Township Cleanup Days Saturday May 3, 2025”. A motion was placed by Randy Fulton to extend the opening of the transfer station to Monday. This was seconded by Chuck Hanlon. Many comments were made and ultimately it was decided that Memorial Day would be the best “Monday” to be open for the community. The motion to amended to extend the opening of the transfer station on Monday May 26th. The vote was taken. 14 voted yes to move to the board and 0 votes opposed. The motion will move forward to the Township Board for their consideration.

7g. Other Topics:

Randy Fulton asked the Township Board for clarification on tire disposal at the transfer station. The board agreed to take this on and clarify the position without a vote. The Township Board agreed to address this during a monthly Township Board Meeting.

Steven Jones asked to add a second annual meeting to the summer season because more people would attend. Tabatha agreed to see what MTA would say about this and it was generally agreed that with the Township Board now having monthly public board meetings more people will be able to have their voices heard without a second annual meeting. There was no vote.

Kathy _____ asked for an update from Clinton Hicks on the propane tanks being stolen. Officer Hicks addressed the concern.

Joe Cook asked of Officer Hicks if he was an ORV officer. Mr. Hicks indicated that he was not and gave recommendations on who to call.

Randy Fulton motioned to have increased communication to the Township citizens through possibly a sign in Brohman. Joe Cook seconded this motion. Discussion occurred and examples were mentioned that when a meeting notification goes on the website citizens could receive those notices in an automated way. The vote was taken. There were 17 who voted in favor to bring this to the board and 0 were opposed. The motion passed and will go to the Township Board for their consideration.

Steven Jones motioned to make improvements to the basketball courts and this park. Randy Fulton seconded this motion. Limited discussion occurred and a vote was taken. There were 14 votes in favor and 0 votes opposed. The motion passed and will go to the Township Board for their consideration.

Venola Walton-Stanceil made a motion to improve the Township marquee/notice sign at the Township Hall. Chuck Hanlon seconded this motion. Discussion included how difficult it was to use the sign with the letters, how the letters would blow away and that the sign must be broken. Dave Miedema said he has 3 quotes already for the sign. A vote was taken. There were

15 votes in favor and 0 votes opposed. The motion passed and will go to the Township Board for their consideration.

Judy Morris motioned to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Randy Fulton. The meeting ended at 6:40pm on March 17, 20225