



## Leroy Township

### BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING January 22, 2026

**Called to order at 9:30 a.m.**

**Present:** Supervisor Laveta Hardish, Treasurer Mark Christoff, Clerk Nicole Hardish, Trustee Jon Bolton, and Trustee Michael VanHouten.

A motion to approve the meeting agenda was made by Clerk Hardish and supported by Treasurer Christoff. Motion carried unanimously.

**Guests:** None

**Citizens:** None

**Consent Agenda:**

A motion to approve as written, including the approval of the December 18, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter budget report, the January financial report, post-approve payments of the December bills in the amount of \$71,970.93, and place all departmental reports on file was made by Trustee Bolton and supported by Trustee VanHouten. Motion carried unanimously.

**Open Business:**

Supervisor handed out copies of affidavits for Laveta I. Hardish and Robert P. Benhke, Jr. regarding Michigan Tax Tribunal case with Caribbean MHC.

Supervisor handed out copies of an email sent to the city of Battle Creek's City Manager & her response regarding a resolution to the Edgebrook Capital Improvement cost. An in-person meeting with all parties has been scheduled for February 3, 2026 to discuss said resolution.

**New Business:**

A motion to post approve payment for December 2025 tax issue legal services cost of \$1,134 to Kreis, Enderle P.C. was made by Treasurer Christoff and supported by Trustee Bolton. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to post approve payment for November 2025 ordinance enforcement legal services cost of \$2,893 to Kreis, Enderle P.C. was made by Trustee Bolton and supported by Trustee VanHouten. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion to post approve payment for November 2025 general business legal services cost of \$3,456 to Kreis, Enderle P.C. was made by Trustee VanHouten and supported by Treasurer Christoff. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion to post approve payment for December 2025 ordinance enforcement legal services cost of \$4,136 to Kreis, Enderle P.C. was made by Trustee Bolton and supported by Trustee VanHouten. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion to post approve payment for December 2025 general business legal services cost of \$1,092 to Kreis, Enderle P.C. was made by Treasurer Christoff and supported by Trustee VanHouten. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion to post approve payment for 2026 Workers Compensation renewal quote in the amount of \$4,940 to Liberty Mutual Insurance was made by Treasurer Christoff and supported by Trustee Bolton. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion to approve the proposed 2026 summer school tax collection cost for Harper Creek School District and CISD was made by Clerk Hardish and supported by Trustee Bolton. Since Harper Creek Schools and CISD prefer to collect their taxes in the summer months instead of the winter the cost incurred to the Township is invoiced out to their organizations. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion to accept a bid proposal from Markos Excavation, LLC for the new septic system installation in the amount of \$14,220 was made by Trustee Bolton and supported by Trustee VanHouten. The only other bid that came in was for Linsley Excavation, Inc., in the amount of \$24,000. If the current septic tank is not in sound condition per Calhoun County Health Department, and needs replacing, there will be an additional cost of \$3,050 for materials and labor. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion to accept personnel changes and pay rate increases within the Treasurer and Clerk Departments, taking effect Tuesday, January 27, 2026, was made by Trustee Bolton and supported by Clerk Hardish. Treasurer Christoff will be decreasing the number of office hours he will keep and will be compensated \$500 per month. Deputy Treasurer Michael Dabbert will be receiving a pay increase to \$25 per hour to accommodate increased responsibilities. Michael VanHouten will be stepping in as a treasurer department staff member to assist the deputy treasurer. Deputy Clerk Jeannie Burchfield will be receiving a pay increase to \$20 per hour to accommodate increased responsibilities. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion to approve new cemetery fee schedule rates, effective April 1, 2026, was made by Clerk Hardish and supported by Trustee VanHouten. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion to post-approve payment for December 2025 snow removal cost in the amount of \$2,689.90 to Battle Creek Landscaping Service was made by Trustee VanHouten and supported by Trustee Bolton. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion to post-approve payment for the boat launch's new gate and chain link fence in the amount of \$14,241 to Justice Fence was made by Trustee Bolton and supported by Trustee VanHouten. Clerk Hardish pointed out that this invoice should have only been half the amount because the township had paid a 50% deposit before the job began. Supervisor Hardish will follow up with Justice Fence regarding a refund. Motion carried unanimously.*

*A motion to approve a journal entry transfer of \$30,000 from an investment to the general fund was made by Treasurer Christoff and supported by Trustee Bolton. Motion carried unanimously.*

*The Board will hold its second budget workshop on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 10 AM in the Community Hall.*

**Citizen Comments: None**

**Board Comments:**

*Supervisor Hardish shared that there has been some concern expressed regarding Assessor Aaron Gates' ability to keep up with the demand of the assessing position. She has reached out to a seasoned Assessor to see if he can lend any assistance.*

**Next Regular Board meeting is set for February 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. Meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.**

**Respectfully,**

**Clerk Nicole Hardish**