

**LISLE TOWNSHIP  
DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 10, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Regular Meeting of the Board of Township Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Mullen at 7:33 p.m. It should be noted that because of the COVID 19 Pandemic and the State of Emergency declared by Illinois Governor JB Pritzker this meeting was held virtually. The board interacted utilizing the Zoom platform to conduct the meeting. The meeting was streamed for the public via YouTube. Lisle Township residents were able to provide public comment via Google form on the internet.

Roll Call:

Physically Present: None

Present Electronically:

Supervisor Mary Jo Mullen  
Assessor John Trowbridge  
Highway Commissioner Ed Young  
Trustee Michael Riedy  
Trustee Michael Tams  
Trustee Kathy Chatman  
Trustee Sean Allen  
Clerk Robert Klaeren

Absent: None

Others Present:        Jim Vondran,        Bill Green        Keri Lyn Krafthefer  
   Chris Welch        Michael Murray

**Public Comments:**

The supervisor explained that public comment was made available via a Google Form for the past few days. She then opened the form and there were 14 comments which she read and these comments will be attached in an Excel format and added to the end of these minutes.

**Approval of the May 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes:**

Trustee Chatman made the motion to approve the May 13, 2020 regular Meeting Minutes as amended: Motion was seconded by Trustee Tams.

The clerk then explained at all votes this evening would be roll call votes.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Tams, Riedy, Chatman, Allen, Mullen

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed

### **Update on Covid 19 Related Operations:**

The supervisor described that the office is still mostly operating virtually however they are beginning to bring back staff as they are comfortable. Both part time front desk attendants have returned to assist in directing residents. The food pantry will still continue to operate in a drive through manor until the township can accommodate large groups. This method of service is necessary as there can often be more than a total of 50 persons in the food pantry at one time when it is operated in the typical client choice model.

Some tweaks have been made to procedures as well as the physical building to accommodate the need to ensure both resident and employee safety. One such example provided was that Mr. Green had removed the pane glass window from a door replacing it with Plexiglas. which has a slot cut into it so that documents can be safely passed between residents and staff.

The highway commissioner explained that the highway department is doing its best to operate observing social distancing and by having each individual ride one to a truck to work sites. The staff is also wearing masks when doing brush pickup in case they accidentally get closer than six feet to each other. The township is taking the temperatures of employees, and so far all of his staff is healthy.

Assessor Trowbridge said that HB 635 has passed and been signed; this bill allows that all of the those receiving a Senior Freeze in 2019 to receive a freeze for 2020 in their tax bill. This temporary exemption will reduce the number of people who would have needed to come into the assessor's office. Many of his employees are back and more are due back the next week. He has put in place sneeze guards, taking employee temperatures, as well as other steps to ensure everyone's safety.

The supervisor then introduced Chris Welch, a state representative and partner in the Ancil Glink (the township's law firm) who gave his perspective on what is going on in Springfield regarding COVID. He then mentioned that there was a bill related to relief for the holding of the annual meeting during the disaster. The township will have to have the town meeting on the third Tuesday after 6:00 p.m., following the expiration of the order.

The board then discussed the timing of the town meeting; it was suggested by counsel that the township board wait until August or perhaps even September after the expiration of the Governor's emergency declarations. Trustee Chatman, then asked counsel several questions regarding the legality and timing of the delayed town meeting. The township's attorney provided answers to the best of her abilities regarding the upcoming Open Illinois Plan and potential Emergency Declarations by the governor. Counsel finally explained that to have the meeting prior to the end of the disaster would require the approval of the county's health department, which is unlikely.

**Discussion of and Potential Action on A Resolution to Place a Referendum on the November 2020 Ballot to Establish a Mental Health Board:**

The supervisor then introduced Michael Murray, she described Mr. Murray as an advocate of the Bloomingdale Township Mental Health Board as well as expanding the boards to other townships. Supervisor Mullen said that Bloomingdale Township supervisor would not be able to attend our meeting but that she would describe what was communicated to her..

The supervisor then describe the three items in the board package: These items included aMemorandum from Ancel Glink (township counsel) regarding the specific legislation that allows the township board to place the mental health board question on a ballot, a resolution prepared by counsel which would have to be passed, then finally a packet prepared by Mr. Murray describing the functions, needs, and benefits of a township mental health board.

The supervisor then described the actions the township has taken regarding mental health since hosting a summit regarding mental health beginning in 2017. The supervisor explained that despite the current challenges, she feels that establishing a mental health board now is timely.

Mr. Murray presented his view on the benefits of a mental health board. He told the board that they will not be setting up a new bureaucracy, as the board is a “Funder of Last Resort,” and this board will provide additional funding to other organizations. He said that they are asking for what would be \$37.00 per household.

Trustee Tams asked who would be served by a Lisle Township Mental Health Board. Mr. Murray said that the board could only direct funds to Lisle Township charities and organizations, such as police departments. His example was that some grants go to providing funding for a social worker to accompany police on domestic violence calls. Mr. Murray then also noted that in some cases such as when a specific type of assistance is needed, a for-profit provider could be paid from the mental health board’s levy. Mr. Murray said that they would be seeking \$37.00 from an average household to added to the property tax levy.

Trustee Chatman asked why approach the township level instead of the county level of government. Mr. Murray responded first that there are county mental health boards, but that in DuPage County the townships have a population equal to many counties. He believes that each DuPage township has its own specific needs.

Supervisor Mullen then described that Mr. Murray’s group would have liked to gather signatures on petitions to put the question on the November ballot. They are now coming to the townships because COVID 19 has made gathering signatures impracticable. Trustee Chatman was sympathetic to the challenges to this effort due to COVID, but said that she still needs to be able to have more data before she can consider adding a tax to the residents.

*(Continued)*

**Discussion of and Potential Action on A Resolution to Place a Referendum on the November 2020 Ballot to Establish a Mental Health Board (Continued):**

Trustee Chatman then explained that mental health is an especially important matter for her. She then explained that she is reluctant to add a new taxing body for mental health, particularly before she has a better understanding of mental health funding as a whole. Trustee Tams then spoke to the State of Illinois not meeting its financial obligations in the area of mental health. He feels that creating an additional agency is a band-aid which allows the state to continue ignoring its responsibility.

The board and Mr. Murray then discussed several other points regarding; funding, responsibilities of the boards and potential organizations who would/could receive the funds

Trustee Chatman asked if she could find out where Trustee's Riedy and Allen stand on the issue. Trustee Riedy explained that he could not support the referendum even given the current circumstances; this is because as he learned tonight there are already agencies who are supposed to be addressing these issues who are not, and he is not in favor of adding to the public's burden. Trustee Allen said that he recognizes everyone's hesitation to add another taxing body but that he feels that this vote is only to put the issue on the ballot, that the board would not be creating the taxing body itself but asking the people if they wanted it. He then went on to note that it could help first responders by adding social workers to some police calls.

The supervisor and board took no action on this matter.

**Update on Transition to Lakeshore Recycling Services for Waste Hauling Services.**

The Supervisor explained that Lakeshore has been doing a lot of work in preparation for the changeover in August. A flyer has been mailed out to the affected residents and some questions have come about. The biggest issue residents have expressed to date is what should residents do with their older Republic stickers. The township is going to facilitate the buyback of Republic Stickers from residents. Residents will be able to come to the township supervisor's office and get money for their old stickers, and then Republic will buy these stickers back from the township.

Trustee Chatman asked if the supervisor could ask Republic for a "COVID" clause extending the buy-back timeframe if the state has to go back to full lock down.

While there have been a few transition issues, both Lakeshore and Republic are being reasonable in trying to accommodate residents' concerns.

## **Reports of Elected Officials:**

**Highway Commissioner Young:** His department intends to dispose of a 1991 International truck, a 2003 truck, and another piece of equipment through a government bids website.

They have not yet released the MicroSeal bid since there is only one bidder and the price seemed high. They may release it soon as their investigation is finding this bid may be a better deal than at first thought.

Also, his department finished the second brush pickup without incident.

**Supervisor Mullen:** The supervisor first spoke to grading at the former assessor's office site. Green Demolition dropped off the equipment needed to grade the site and will use the highway department's fill. This work should be done in the next week to ten days.

Paula Garcia, the pantry garden chairperson has written a letter informing the township board of the generosity of individuals and corporations which contributed to the garden this year. This letter will be added as an exhibit to these minutes.

There has been a complaint regarding a concern of residents on Plank Road. The highway commissioner's department put out the speed trailers near the site. This was done to analyze speed, and the preliminary results are typical.

**Assessor Trowbridge:** The assessor noted that he and supervisor both looked at what they thought could be a more economical option for the assessor's office. However upon investigation, this site would be more expensive to adapt to the security and operational needs of the assessor's office.

## **Other Business:**

Trustee Riedy asked if the second installment of the township's tax levy could be forgiven, abated or potentially refunded this year. His suggestion is due to the unprecedented circumstances in which many township residents find themselves. He expressed his thoughts that the reserves could be used to fill the gap since the current circumstances are in his opinion the type of circumstances for which the reserves were built.

The entire board with the assessor and highway commissioner discussed the complexity and cost of such a proposal. Highway Commissioner Young said that he had contacted the county treasurer regarding this issue, and was told that they could not at this date change the amount collected. The assessor relayed issues from when Bloomindale Township attempted a similar rebate some years ago and the complications he recalled they had with uncashed checks, change of ownership issues, as well as some other challenges.

*(Continued)*

**Other Business (Continued):**

The township's attorney conveyed similar issues surrounding a DeKalb area rebate and advised that it is a costly endeavor. Then it was suggested that the best course of action may be to extend then abate the levy next year.

The supervisor then thanked the Trustee Riedy for bringing up the issue. She then said that she will give it some thought as to how to move forward with item prior to the next levy. She also said that she will work to remind those who are hurting of the services the township offers to assist them.

Trustee Tams said that he had an additional item. He and his family will be selling their house and will be moving out of the township. He said that he will resign his position at that time.

The board expressed their appreciation and sadness for his resignation. All the understand the reasons for his move, and appreciate his efforts and thoughtful approach to issues before the board. It was noted that he has been on the board for 11 years.

The board and counsel discussed the process of how it can go about the process of replacing him within 60 days of his resignation.

The board then again thanked Trustee Tams for his years of service.

**Audit of Expenditures:**

A motion was made by Trustee Allen to go to audit of expenditures it was seconded by Trustee Chatman.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Tams, Riedy, Chatman, Allen, Mullen

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion passed

The following total expenditures in each fund were reviewed:

Town Fund	\$ 97,707.87
General Assistance Fund	\$ 6,102.77
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 63,637.78

*(Continued)*

**Audit of Expenditures (Continued):**

A Motion was made by Trustee Allen to approve the audit of the expenditures; it was seconded by Trustee Chatman.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Riedy, Tams, Chatman , Allen, Mullen

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed

**Executive Session:** None

**Adjournment:**

A Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Tams; it was seconded by Trustee Riedy. Voice vote, all present in favor, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:43p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Klaeren  
Township Clerk

## Exhibit A: Paula Garcia Letter

Mary Jo and Township Board,

I am sorry I am unable to share the Thank yous with you in person but they need to be shared.

Thank you to Wheaton Mulch for a donation of 3 cubic yards of garden soil compost to enrich our garden. Scott the owner has been fantastic in always helping out. A big thank you to Marty from the Highway Department for picking this up for us so we could prepare the garden.

A thank you to Home Depot on Butterfield for donating at 75% off broken bags of dirt and compost also

Thank you to Woldhuis Sunrise Gardens in Grant Park Illinois for donating all needed plants once again. They actually let us have them early as the plants were selling out very quickly.

Thank you to Lisle Women's Club for grant money to go toward more upright wooden plant boxes. It is so wonderful to be working together with other community groups.

If we could have thank you notes sent to these businesses and community groups from the Township I would appreciate it.

Update on the compost project. When I last heard from the girl scout doing the project she thought it would be done by the end of June, but I have heard nothing further. I have had interest from some boy scouts in the project, so if it does not get completed by June I will pursue the other leads.

A big thank you to many of the volunteers who grew some of the plants from seed. All the tomato plants were hand grown.

We will be moving the shed we have to the east side as it has been knocked down a couple of times and so we are moving it to spare its life.

Last I am sorry to say my co-chair Sheryl Fonner has stepped down and so if you have any concerns or questions please direct them to me.

Working together with you to help the food insecure.

Paula Garcia  
630-921-9874

## Exhibit B: Written Public Comments

Please provide your first and last name, your address, for the official record.

Time Stamp	What comment do you wish to offer?	Name	Address
07/2020 15:47:42	Creation of a Lake Township Mental Health Board would be advantageous to the community. I have read the bylaws and plans of the Board and I would contribute my talents to making a happen for Lake Township. I was employed by MHR for 3 years as a Resource Specialist. I chaired a LTV study group on mental health services in 1988 and supervised John Case as part of the study. I come from a large family with numerous diagnoses of mental disorders and substance abuse issues. The one thing that I have learned is that every family has issues regardless of income, education, politics, class, or anything else. And, always, always, resources are scarce.	Donna Prepejchal	3004 Spencerauld Lane, Woodbridge
07/2020 19:10:16	A Mental Health Board would be a benefit to all citizens of Lake Township. Please vote to establish such a board.	Lynn Treverthen	815 McKee St, Camden NJ, NJ 08105
07/2020 19:10:42	I'm in favor of a mental health board for Lake. As a parent of young children, this pandemic has demonstrated a strong need for access to better mental health services in our community both now & in the future. I support a mental health board for Lake Township. I have heard positive things from Bloomington Township and recognize there is an unmet need for services, particularly for youth, in our area. The benefits to our community of this small investment cannot be understated.	Karlene Baerlin-Gamboni	2799 Camden Ct, Lake NJ 08105
07/2020 19:37:36	To often our police officers become social workers and our job mental health providers. Bloomington Township was able to provide grants to local police departments. Naperville has granted many officers in crisis intervention and de-escalation. This was evident in their measured and peaceful handling of recent protests in town. A Lake Township Mental Health Board could facilitate more training for area officers. This in turn would improve the quality of life for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Illinois lags behind other states in funding programs for developmentally disabled adults and children. The mental health board could fund desperately needed services and supports for these families.	Holly Blasse	65541 Brotherspark Naperville, Naperville
07/2020 11:10:15	I am a Lake Township resident, voter, and taxpayer. As a person that lives in the area and volunteers with youth at my church, I believe that having mental health resources in the area would be very advantageous for the all the people in this area, but especially the young people. Please allow the voters to decide in November whether we would like to see a Mental Health Board for our area.	Mary Wu	1309 Dartford Ct., Naperville, Naperville
07/2020 19:25:11	Regarding a Mental Health Board, my concern would be that it is another level of bureaucracy. Supervisor Mullen and Board - I am asking that you all vote to please put the referendum on the November 2020 Ballot to Establish a Mental Health Board. This is important to my family (and many other families) as the stigma needs to end regarding mental illness. I have a grown son who suffers from depression and social anxiety and we are still searching for ways to help him. A Mental Health Board would give us a grasp to get information from and learn from. It would also bring information out that mental illness is a study that an illness and people should not be ashamed or stigmatized. I feel strongly that this board is needed in DuPage County as I know many families such as mine that would benefit. Please place the referendum on the ballot.	Donna Prepejchal	3004 Spencerauld Lane, Woodbridge
07/2020 21:59:33	A Resolution to Place a Referendum on the November 2020 Ballot to Establish a Mental Health Board - yes! Mental health is something that needs to be addressed. Look at the amount of high school students who are dying by suicide just in our area! Add in covid, there have been even more suicides within the past few months in all age ranges, just in our area. Besides deaths by suicide, a lot of other mental health issues affect all ages, including abuse, domestic violence, etc. As we see this big push to have police reform, one of the recommendations is to add more mental health boards. What if you could call a mental health person to come to your house during an issue instead of police? Or if an autistic neighbor child gets out of control, instead of calling the police you could call a mental health rep? Something needs to be done to support mental health issues.	Paulo Garcia	5307 Meadow Ln, Lake NJ 08105
07/2020 19:55:20	I am a schoolteacher at Kennedy Junior High in Naperville District 203, which serves a portion of Lake Township. Over my thirty years in the classroom, I have seen our schools and our community grapple with mental health issues. This includes, tragically, teen and pre-teen suicide. My Kennedy community is currently grieving over the unnecessary, pre-nature death of a rising eighth grader. While mental health is an increasingly growing concern here and broadly around the country, what cannot be challenged is that less and less public resources are being used to confront the issue. I am interested to know if the residents in Lake Township would support the use of public resources for the establishment of a Mental Health Board. So I write in favor of the resolution for a ballot referendum to establish a Mental Health Board. Thank you for your consideration and resolution for a ballot referendum to establish a Mental Health Board.	Ananda Raymond	2160 Teils Lane, Lake NJ 08105
07/2020 12:15:02		David Holbender	330 Elmwood Drive, Naperville, Naperville

Timestamp

What comment do you wish to offer?

Please provide your first and please provide your address, for the official record.

I am a licensed clinical professional counselor with a private practice in Lisle call Forward Emotion. I specialize in treating people who have anxiety, depression and PTSD. My practice is seeing a significant increase in levels of anxiety, panic attacks, fear, depression, social isolation, marital conflict, spousal abuse, grief and increased social isolation causing loneliness, hopelessness and helplessness. This is leading to an increase in addictive behaviors such as alcohol, drugs, gaming and online pornography consumption. While I treat adults, I am witnessing an increase in mental health symptoms of my client's family members, including their aging parents and children. I am witnessing an increase in physical issues such as headaches, body aches, fatigue, chest pain, abdominal pain and overall lethargy in many clients because mental health is directly related to our physical health. We need to be more aware, do things to prevent worsening symptoms and to alleviate current mental health stressors for all affected. These issues are not going to disappear. In fact they are most likely going to get worse and impact more and more people the longer we are dealing with Covid-19 and it's consequences to business, communities and relationships. This is the time to highlight mental health and do all that we can to help people who are struggling. Please establish a Mental Health Board within the upcoming Nov. 2020 Ballot.

6/9/2020 19:44:08

1440 Maple Ave. 2B, Lisle, IL 60140

Laura Clay

My name is John DeCanto, a Lisle Township resident for 23 years, graduate from Benedictine University, and an employee at a community bank in Lisle for the last seven years.

Some of you may know someone who has been affected by mental illness, substance abuse disorder, or developmental disabilities. They may have shared their story with you. For many people affected, these topics are personal. My brother Evan, having recently graduated from UIC Chicago, bright with life and looking forward to finding an entry level position job that would propel him into adulthood, suffered a sudden mental health crisis in 2015 that changed his life and our family forever. Shortly after his initial emergency hospitalization, Evan was diagnosed with bipolar major depression. He spent the next twelve months battling his mental illness with various prescriptions, therapy, and two more emergency hospitalizations. In Autumn 2016, Evan's suffering ended when he took his own life. In DuPage County, there have been a total of 827 suicides from 2010 to today and the overall trend is rising. Drug and alcohol related deaths in 2019 alone totaled 136.

Often, it is not until after a crisis occurs that a person or family becomes relieved and thankful to learn that helpful resources are available. I am writing today to voice my support for a Mental Health Board so that the people of Lisle Township may find comfort and relief knowing there are valuable resources available in the community for those in need when they need it.

The DuPage County Budget provides mental health-related funds to the DuPage County Health Department, the County Courts, Department of Community Services, Regional Office of Education, and County Sheriff. Most of the funds go towards training and accrediting staff, awareness initiatives, and putting people in touch with local organizations that provide most of the actual care needed. It is these local organizations, often non-profit, that decrease increased funding. People living with mental illness, substance abuse disorder, or developmental disabilities rely on these local organizations for their ongoing support and health needs. In this stressful time of coronavirus and 10% unemployment, it is especially important for us, as a community, to unite to make sure these local organizations can continue providing ongoing care for the people in our community. Voting for a Mental Health Board can make sure that happens.

Secretly.

John DeCanto

6/9/2020 22:34:34

329 Brookhills Ct, Naperville, IL 60563

John DeCanto

Please support the referendum question on the November 2020 ballot, concerning creating a Mental Health Board, and let the voters decide if this is something they would support. We don't know what our new normal looks like yet. Coming out of this period of pandemic, record unemployment and massive changes to how we shop, dine out and mingle in public will only add to the stressors already in place. Mental health is often overlooked, and often not available through long-waiting insurance policies. Offering this service to residents can only be a positive.

6/10/2020 11:52:59

1577 Marquette Avenue, Naperville, IL 60563

Steve and Jean Page

I believe that there should be a Mental Health board created. As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who works directly with individuals with mental health issues, I believe that this is overdue. We have to look at mental health as though it is as improved as a physical health issue. As we are in a pandemic, I have had an increase in clients requesting therapy and support. Being on track with today's problems will keep us better prepared for the tomorrow's solutions. We are being through a traumatic event with more circumstances to come. I also believe that the people should also decide so putting it on the ballot will make this possible.

6/10/2020 13:13:42

310 Eastland Ct, Naperville, IL 60563

Denala McMillen

I really hope the board approves a ballot measure for a mental health board. Suicide rates with Covid, civil unrest, and the rise of mood disorders among our youth are an easy problem to ignore, but one that will have a severe impact if not addressed. This is not an issue to sit on until things get dire. Mental health programs save people money in the long-term and decrease crime. Please approve this measure for referendum. Thank you

6/10/2020 17:01:37

646 59th Street, Lisle, IL 60140

Dr. Antonio Sahra