

**GLEN ARBOR TOWNSHIP
EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
March 12, 2025**

Present: Chief Ferguson, Eric Dubord, Charlie Godbout, Sue Church, Bob Price, Linda Ihme
Absent: Jan Bauer, John DePuy
Glen Arbor Township representatives: Pam Laureto
Staff Members: Lance Petroskey, Aaron Brown, Lt. Lienard
Public: None

The meeting was opened at 10:02 am by Ihme.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Review and approval of agenda

Ferguson asked to add Boat Electronics to New Business. Godbout motioned to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Church. Motion approved.

III. Conflict of Interest

None

IV. Public comment

None

V. Review and approval of February 12, 2025 minutes

Church noticed a misspelling. Godbout motioned to approve the February 12, 2025 minutes as amended. Seconded by Price. Motion passed.

VI. Review of Monthly Check List (start with check #16163) and Payroll for February

A motion was made by Godbout seconded by Dubord to recommend payment of unpaid checks and the payroll to the Glen Arbor Township Board, and to report concurrence with the checks that were necessary to pay early. Motion approved.

VII. Review of Revenue & Expense Report and Balance Sheet for February

Godbout asked about a Clarion Events credit card charge. Ferguson confirmed that is was for a training event. Ferguson noted that a few line items are over budget and he will be preparing budget amendments. He projected that the department would be about \$199,000 under budget. He will send the budget amendment document out by the end of the week. P. Laureto asked if ESAC is okay with presenting this to board next week without discussing at a meeting. ESAC members confirmed they are okay with that.

VIII. Staffing Report

a. Introduce staff

Lance Petroskey, Aaron Brown, Lt Lienard

b. General staffing status report

Ferguson hired one of the part time employees for the full-time open position. It will make for an easy transition. She is a paramedic as well.

c. Exit interview results, if any.

None

d. Review of GLFD monthly Staff and Officer Minutes

Ferguson did not send them out yet.

IX. Operations Report

Ferguson did not send these out yet, as he spent last week at a conference. February had 36 calls. The department hosted a boater safety class. The annual hazmat refresher training was completed. The new server is up and running. The department did a stand-by for the Polar Dip in Empire. The Continuing Ed sponsorship that the department has been working on for a year was approved. They will now be able to teach 10 different Continuing Education classes and will soon be able to teach 100 different classes. The department hosted the National Park EMTs refresher training course. They had an OSHA inspection at Station 1 and had 6 minor violations. An OSHA inspection will schedule for Station 2. They are very close to having the Empire Engine sold. It is probably going to Chile.

X. Old Business

a. Water Supply in Empire

Ferguson met with Casey Noonan about using his well. This spring the department will put a valve and adapter on well pipe and make a sign to inform employees on how to turn the well on. Godbout asked if we have executed the legal agreement and Ferguson said not yet. While we still want to access water further east, this is a good start.

XI. New Business

a. Boat Electronics

Ferguson would like to replace the old electronics on the boat. The department applied for a 2% grant in each of the last two cycles but was denied. He would like to move forward with the purchase since it was in the budget for this year and he would like to have the work completed before Memorial Day so they can be ready for boating season . He noted the cost has gone from \$62,000 to \$99,000. The increase was due to an increase in cost over the last year and because they added a couple of batteries and new, brighter LED lights. Garmin has

agreed to donate some of the equipment and the vendor will be donating some of their hourly labor. Ferguson does not know how much these two donations will lower the cost. Discussion ensued. Ferguson said that the radar simply does not work and cannot no longer be repaired. He is asking ESAC to recommend to the Glen Arbor Board that they approve moving forward with his project. Church asked how many times the boat is used. Ferguson said there were 10-12 calls last year. It is the only vehicle (save the ambulance) we have that has actually saved lives. Price asked if we can just fix items that are broken. Ferguson explained that all of the electronics are integrated so even if we could just fix the radar, we would need a new control box. The electronics are from 2011. Ferguson is asking for \$29,000 more than had been put into the FY 25 budget. Discussion continued. Ihme said this is important, and if we save one life then \$30,000 will be worth it. Dubord asked if a decision needed to be made today. Church noted we need to get it started, not wait another month. Church moved that we send the recommendation to the board. Ihme seconded the motion. Three approved, two opposed. Motion passed.

XII. Board Member Comments

Church said the original boat was paid for by someone in the community, perhaps we go back to those people and see if they would donate towards the updates. Dubord shared that he has worked on the boat and the two pieces of equipment that are broken are two very important pieces. Aaron Brown confirmed. Ihme suggested we put discussing keeping or selling the boat on the agenda but noted that when we discussed it last time, we decided to keep it. P. Laureto shared that the Leelanau County Sheriff will not be staffing events this year, like the 4th of July parade, the M22 Challenge, and the Running Bear Run, and that they may have to hire their own security.

XIII. Public Comment

None

XIV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:51

NEXT MEETING: April 9, 2025

Minutes prepared by
Michele Aucello
Deputy Clerk, Glen Arbor Township