

Vassar Township Election Commission
October 14, 2016

4505 W Saginaw Rd.
Vassar, MI 48768
Phone (989) 823-3541

Clerk Clinesmith called the meeting to order at 10:13am.
A prayer was led by John Stack.
The pledge was led by Clerk Clinesmith.

Roll Call:
Present: John Stack, Michael Clinesmith, Bob Forbes
Absent: None

Public Comment on agenda items:

Onna Clinesmith mentioned that there could be contention regarding the change in positions for chair, but it is good to stagger the positions to have both people with experience who could also train newer people. She requested her comments be in the minutes.

There were multiple comments from Nancy Zuzula, Bob Forbes, Renee Aymer, Orville Hartung, Fred Welsh, Kendall Woodruff, Rhonda Schultz, Michael Clinesmith, John Stack, Erica Aymer, Cory Jacobs, Dan Zuzula regarding the election inspector list.

Mary Stack asked Michael Clinesmith regarding reasons for not placing Orville Hartung as chair.

Michael Clinesmith read from the following letter:

Dear Vassar Township Election Commission,

These are the behaviors which Orville Hartung has exhibited that lead to my concern over him being a co-chair as an election inspector:

Destruction of property (campaign sign).

Campaign finance violations by using a public facility with unequal access for other candidates.

Intimidation by initiating and manufacturing hostile interactions with the Clerk, writing a letter distributed to all Planning Commission and Board members, placing a line item on the October 11, 2016 Board meeting to create a group atmosphere to intimidate the Clerk despite his concerns.

These are behaviors that have been demonstrated in the last election cycle and related to the current election.

These are not behaviors I can support for a chair or co-chair position for election inspectors.

The Vassar Township Election Commission has a choice to make. It either believes these behaviors are acceptable, or they are not, and its vote will show accordingly.

I request this letter be included in the Vassar Township Election Commission minutes.

Michael Clinesmith 10-14-2016

There were more comments from Mary Stack, Kendall Woodruff, Onna Clinesmith, Fred Welsh, Dan Zuzula, Michael Clinesmith, John Stack, Erica Aymer and Bob Forbes.

Orville Hartung requested the following comments in the minutes: He stated that at the private meeting where Michael Clinesmith stated he felt intimidated, Hartung asked if Clinesmith had made a decision. Clinesmith had stated he hadn't decided yet. Hartung said everyone had gotten a call besides him. Clinesmith had brought up the 2011 election. Hartung said he spoke in a normal tone. Clinesmith had said that there was a lot of garbage going on in the election, and Hartung was right in the middle of it. Hartung stated that when Clinesmith gets to the point where he can't determine what to say, he says a prayer. Clinesmith had said that there was a mention of Hartung being involved with voter intimidation. Hartung said nothing in the minutes involved voter intimidation. He found a sign in the ditch and he determined to recycle it. It wasn't his sign. That was his determination. It was purely for revenge.

Nancy Zuzula, Michael Clinesmith, Bob Forbes, Fred Welsh, John Stack and Renee Aymer made more comments.

Approval of October 3, 2016 Election Commission Minutes:

Motion by Stack, seconded by Clinesmith to approve the October 3, 2016 minutes with corrections.

Vote 3-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Recommendation for Public Test, October 31, 2016 @ 1pm Vassar Township Hall:

There was discussion about waiting for hours at the public test, and a request to come about two hours later. Clinesmith stated it was the responsibility of the Commission to oversee the process. There were suggestions of talking to the County Clerk and getting training.

Recess at 11:12am.

Meeting called to order at 11:16am.

County Clerk Jodi Fetting was called to ask about Election Commission duties regarding the public accuracy test. Fetting stated that feeding the ballots into the machine was part of the public accuracy test and that the Commission was to be present for the test.

Motion by Stack, seconded by Forbes to change the date for the public test to October 28, 2016 at 1pm at the Vassar Township Hall.

Vote 3-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Appointment of Election Inspectors:

The list presented:

Precinct 1:

Vassar Ambulance Service
5450 W. Saginaw Rd.
Vassar, MI 48768

Precinct 2:

Vassar Township Hall
4505 W. Saginaw Rd.
Vassar, MI 48768

Party	Name				
R	Kendall Woodruff	Chair	D	Erica Aymer	Chair
D	Ellen Brookins	Co-Chair	R	Alex Campbell	Co-Chair
R	Heidi Sowa		D	Karen Godmer	
D	Rhonda Schultz		R	Rachel Hunt	
R	Jerry Dutcher		D	Renee Aymer	

D Fred Welsh
R Grace Proffer
D Orville Hartung

R Barb Walker
D Cheryl Kuzma

Alternates:

R Judy Neblock
R Nedene Monforton
R Roberta Jean Putman

D Wendy Morley
D Connie Hart

Receiving Board A:

R Grace Proffer
D Erica Aymer

Receiving Board B:

R Kendall Woodruff
D Ellen Brookins

Motion by Forbes seconded by Stack that Orville Hartung be appointed as co-chair at precinct 1 and he be on the Receiving Board B in place of Ellen Brookins.
Vote 2-1, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Clinesmith, seconded by Forbes, to replace Grace Proffer on Receiving Board A with Alex Campbell.
Vote 3-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Clinesmith, seconded by Forbes, to replace Rhonda Schultz at Precinct 1 with Wendy Morley.
Vote 3-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Stack, seconded by Clinesmith that Ellen Brookins stays as an election inspector at Precinct 1.
Vote 3-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Stack, seconded by Forbes to approve the election inspector list with the motions that were passed October 14, 2016.
Vote 3-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Apology:

Forbes made the following comments. He stated he was making an apology for swearing. After being called a liar 6 times, and for telling Orville he was God, Mike tried to shut up his father. His father went out and came back in and said "I'll be waiting outside to put you in the hospital." He felt "we need an apology from his father."

Public Comment:

Orville Hartung, Dan Zuzula, Michael Clinesmith, Rhonda Schultz made comments.

Recess called at 12:00pm.

Meeting called to order at 12:02pm.

There were comments from Orville Hartung, Fred Welsh, Michael Clinesmith, Dan Zuzula, Sam Tester, Kendall Woodruff, Bob Forbes, John Stack, Rhonda Schultz, Renee Aymer, Bill Gray, and Cheryl Kuzma.

Motion by Clinesmith, seconded by Stack to adjourn.
Vote 3-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.

Minutes prepared by Clerk Clinesmith.

Vassar Township Clerk

Vassar Township Supervisor

Vassar Township Treasurer