



Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes July 9, 2022

Directors Present: Craig Baloga, Lucy Burby, Steve Gartland, Steve Lawrence, Margaret Marchwinski, David Martin, Melanie Most, Kathy O'Connor, Linda Schoonover, Harold Stieber, Jerry Thiel, Lois Whipple;

Excused: Dennis Szymanski, Leonard Verlinden, Rosemary Wiczorek;

Unexcused: Susan Bryson, Jerry Freeman, Terry Wiggins;

Guests and Members Present: Mike Balan, Artie Bryson, Cheryl Cardinali, Fred Cardinali, John Dickson, Roger Favrow, Sandy Favrow, Mike Galati, Doug Kaltz, Kurt Marchwinski, Dawn Mead, Doreen Miller, Chuck Miller, Jane Mount, Karen Nihranz, Spencer Phinney, George Rose, Rich Russell, Joanne Shirkey, Andrea Seifferlein, Larry Seifferlein.

Craig Baloga brought the meeting to order at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall at 9:03 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The June 2022 meeting minutes were presented. **Jerry Thiel made the motion to approve the June 2022 meeting minutes, Steve Lawrence seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, minutes to be placed on file.**

Executive Committee Reports

Treasurer Report: Harold Stieber presented the June 2022 Treasurer's Report. Harold reported that the balance in the checkbook for June 30, 2022 was \$76,448.23, with total cash on hand being \$143,225.41. There is currently around \$53,000 designated specifically for the restrooms fund. Full copies of the monthly Treasurer's Report are available by contacting Harold Stieber at HaroldS@hiscfa.org.

David Martin made the motion to approve the June 2022 treasurer's reports, Steve Lawrence seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, reports to be placed on file.

Secretary Report: Margaret Marchwinski reported that raffle tickets are in the mail, and if you (a current member) have not received them, please contact Margaret at MargM@hiscfa.org. Membership renewals are slowly trickling in. Raffle Tickets for Field Day have been sent out. The Silent Auction drop-off cards are available next to the membership forms at the front entrance of today's meeting at the Lions Hall. Additional cards can also be obtained by contacting Margaret.

Communications: A Thank-You letter was received from Lydia Kukawka for receipt of the scholarship allocated to her.

Browne's Field: Craig Baloga reported that the field is dry and ready for the Car Show next weekend and beyond. Korthals are doing a great job on the field, and the ballfield looks great and has been in use quite a bit. Lois Whipple commented that it is wonderful seeing so many people using the field as of late. The HISCFA is currently working with Flats Epoxy to acquire a quotation for resurfacing the tennis/pickleball courts.



Government Affairs: Lois Whipple reported that the Water Level updates are being provided to The Flyer. From the last HITA meeting, MDOT commissioned a research project through MSU about how they can better help islands that are serviced by ferries to provide subsidies (if they can, should they, and how much). There are currently 4 islands in their study that are subsidized by them now, and 4 that are not (including Harsen's Island). Harold, as the Harsen's Island representative for the Great Lakes Islands Alliance (GLIA), is acting as the liaison to answer questions while they study funding in general. They're going to compare their results to what other states are doing. Mainly they are looking for three things in order to determine whether they might assist with subsidizing: ferry ridership (volumes), ferry gross revenues, and ferry expenditures.

Guest Speaker, Clay Township Supervisor Artie Bryson: The Township is getting ready to have many roads repaved on the Island soon (Middle Channel, North Channel, Golf Course Drive, and Bates Highway). The massive water main project is also in progress. Federal grants of approximately \$2.5M were submitted to help pay for this project. The nature park walking path on the Island has been disallowed by EGLE on the grounds that it disrupts wildlife, and the Clay Township Board is going to appeal this decision. Four emergency sirens have been ordered and are awaiting delivery. This project is behind schedule due to the ongoing chip shortage issues plaguing many industries. The Township has finished the budget and it was a challenging year: for example, in 2009 and 2012 we received \$2k more in property taxes than this year, so it fluctuates year to year and ends up balancing out each time. Supervisor Bryson is pleased with the way things have ultimately turned out with the budget this year. The storyboards from Clay Days will be available to display during Field Day on August 6, 2022. For the October cleanup days on the Island, Emterra is having difficulty with scheduling dumpsters for this event. The Township is looking for alternative dumpster suppliers in order to support this event but the event will be tentative until a service can be locked in for the requested dates (first weekend in October).

Guest Speaker, Clay Township Fire Chief George Rose: During the month of June Chief Rose attended two meetings: the St. Clair Flats Association, and the St. Clair County Fire Chiefs Association meeting where general business was discussed.

Fire Boat #1's motor repairs have been completed and the vessel was placed in the water and back in-service.

Jobbie Nooner was very quiet this year, with only 1500 to 2000 boats around the island. The Clay Township Fire Department responded to two minor emergencies for the day (forehead laceration, and intoxicated male). Chief Rose would like to thank Mr. & Mrs. Bob Bryson for allowing the Fire Department to use their property for staging, and Mr. Todd Chartier for allowing them to launch their two personal watercrafts from his property. Thanks to Clay Township and St. Clair County Dispatch for the amazing job they did.

Chief Rose is working with St. Clair County Emergency Management and the US Coast Guard on a fuel spill plan for our area. In the event there is a fuel spill in the river, the Fire Department would be the first line of defense in deploying booms to block off canals and important waterways, such as the Krispin Drain, Grande Pointe Cut, and Canoe Cut to name a few. The Coast Guard has identified areas that need protection.

The CTFD assisted the Algonac Fire Department on one event: standby for the fireworks display on the river. Also, the CTFD will be working with the St. Clair County Marine Division, and US Coast Guard next month to plan out Raft Off.



Chief Rose would like to thank the Champion Auto Ferry captains/pilots and deck hands for their prompt action for getting the township's emergency vehicles across the river. All fire department equipment is in service.

Two sets of protective gear (helmets, vests) have been received by the fire department in order to protect against an active shooter in the event that occurs. Supervisor Bryson added that all members of the township offices are receiving training to assist (not just members of the fire / police departments).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- *Grant Update:* The HISCFA is still awaiting feedback about a determination on the grant that was recently applied for. The total for the grant request was for \$430,000. A request for update is still being shown as submitted but there has been no feedback yet as to a determination. This grant was submitted on May 9, 2022. Hopefully feedback will be provided soon.
- *Car Show Preparation:* The date for this year's Car Show event is July 16, 2022 from 9am-4pm. Jerry Thiel reported that this Friday a group will be setting up the field and pavilion. If anyone is available at 10am to physically assist with setup, that would be extremely helpful. On Saturday, any volunteers are welcome to start around 6am since the cars start rolling in at 7am. This year, the HISCFA will need to carefully document all of the activities to get a "playbook" together to ease setup in the coming years, and make it so that anyone can help with little direction. T-Shirts have been ordered and look amazing this year, and will be available for purchase during the show. There are also many items to raffle for this event as well.
- *Field Day Volunteers:* Preparations are underway for Field Day 2022. This event is taking place on Saturday, August 6, 2022 which is 4 weeks from now. Volunteers are still needed for this event, so please reach out to CraigB@hiscfa.org if you're available and willing to assist. Silent Auction items are being requested to be dropped off at 5275 Green Drive in the large garage.

NEW BUSINESS

- *The Delta News Completion:* Everything has been submitted to the printer and the first rough draft was received last Friday. The team was able to take the changes to the printer and we are now receiving the second rough draft in sections/pieces as they are completed. Special thanks to the newly-formed team this year for their efforts to bring everything together, and to the advertisers who continue to support this endeavor. The Delta News will be ready for distribution at Field Day. Members are encouraged to pick up their copies during Field Day if at all possible, to avoid the costly expense of mailing the publications.

Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ Jerry Thiel announced his resignation as a director effective July 17, 2022.
- ✓ Lois Whipple wanted to discuss the scholarships for 2022 and beyond. Looking back at previous years, more money was distributed through scholarships on behalf of the Orlo McLane scholarship, and the HISCFA (two scholarships with two different titles) than it was for this year. Lois discussed increasing the scholarships to \$1,000 and streamline the name as just the HISCFA (instead of having two). For this point,



the letter being sent out to the schools will need to be reworked to include this information correctly. **Lois made a motion to rework the application that goes to the school and combine the scholarships, and increase each of the 3 scholarships available to \$1,000, David Martin seconded; all in favor, motion carried.** Once the students from this year have submitted their grades in order to be awarded their scholarship, they will receive the full \$1,000.

- ✓ Jeanne Burczycki asked whether windscreens can be added to the pickleball courts because it is quite windy. Craig Baloga said it could possibly be included in the grant request that is being submitted.

Next meeting will be Saturday, August 13, 2022 at **9:00 am** at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall.

Jerry Thiel made the motion to adjourn; Steve Lawrence seconded. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 10:07 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary

MelanieM@hiscfa.org



APPENDIX

Fire Department Incident Reports for Harsen's Island (June 2022)



Clay Township Fire & EMS

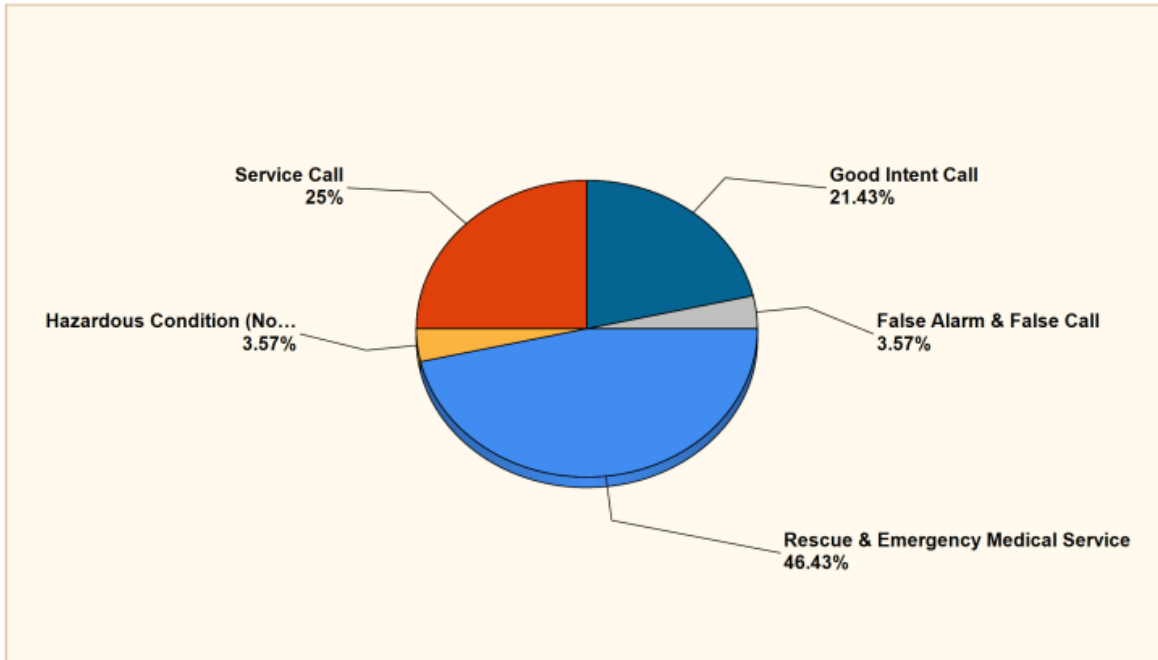
Clay Township, MI

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Breakdown by Major Incident Types for Date Range

Zone(s): 3 - HARSENS ISLAND | Start Date: 06/01/2022 | End Date: 06/30/2022



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	13	46.43%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	1	3.57%
Service Call	7	25%
Good Intent Call	6	21.43%
False Alarm & False Call	1	3.57%
TOTAL	28	100%

Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type		
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	1	3.57%
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	10	35.71%
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	2	7.14%
444 - Power line down	1	3.57%
500 - Service Call, other	2	7.14%
550 - Public service assistance, other	1	3.57%
561 - Unauthorized burning	1	3.57%
571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup	3	10.71%
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	1	3.57%
631 - Authorized controlled burning	5	17.86%
715 - Local alarm system, malicious false alarm	1	3.57%
TOTAL INCIDENTS:	28	100%