

Regular Board Meeting  
Blackman Charter Township  
February 17, 2026

The Blackman Charter Township Board convened at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at the Township Hall, 1990 West Parnall Road, Jackson, Michigan.

**Members present:** Supervisor Jancek, Clerk Elwell, Treasurer Preston, and Trustees: Ambs, Boulter, Pack and Thomas

**Members absent:**

**Public Attendance:**

|                  |                |                 |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Russell Jennings | Eric Kennedy   | Keith Steller   |
| Kevin Jennings   | Missy Kennedy  | Jessica Steller |
| Dawn Warfield    | Shelly Serombe | Sheri Butters   |
| Nancy Smith      | Monica Moser   | Alexa Scott     |

**CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS - (two-minute limit)**

1. Nancy Smith, representing Sue Shink
  - a. Supporting Rx Kids and the expansion of services
2. Russell Jennings
  - a. FOIA fee appeal.
  - b. Provided a packet of documents to the Clerk including a Notice of Intent to sue.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

1. No additions/deletions.  
Motion by Trustee Thomas, supported by Trustee Boulter to approve the Board of Trustee agenda for the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.  
***Unanimously approved by voice vote***

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

1. No changes/corrections.  
Motion by Trustee Ambs, supported by Trustee Pack to approve the Board of Trustee minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026.  
***Unanimously approved by voice vote***

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. Sheri Butters and Alexa Scott, Jackson Collaborative Network
2. Monica Moser, Jackson Community Foundation  
Motion by Treasurer Preston to approve making a monetary donation supporting Rx Kids, no support  
***Motion fails***

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of payroll for the dates 01/02/26 in the amount of \$182,345.71 and for 01/16/26 in the amount of \$179,621.65 and for 01/30/26 in the amount of \$205,056.17
2. Receive Revenue and Expenditure Report for the month of January 2026.  
Motioned by Treasurer Preston, supported by Trustee Boulter  
***Roll Call: Ayes - Elwell, Pack, Thomas, Boulter, Ambs, Jancek, Preston***  
***Nays - None Motion Approved***

SUPERVISOR’S UPDATE

**CITY OF JACKSON WASTEWATER TREATMENT AGREEMENT LANGUAGE** Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Clerk Elwell to approve the City of Jackson – [Township] Wastewater Treatment Service Agreement language.  
**Roll Call:** *Ayes – Ambs, Thomas, Jancek, Elwell, Preston, Pack, Boulter*  
*Nays - None* **Motion Approved**

TREASURER’S UPDATE

1. Summary of Accounts
2. Thank you to the office staff for their hard work during the weeks of tax payment collection.

CLERK’S UPDATE

**FOIA EXCESS FEE APPEAL** Motion by Clerk Elwell, supported by Trustee Pack to deny the FOIA excess fee appeal presented by Russell "Kevin" Jennings.  
*Discussion:* Mr. Jennings provided no proof of indigency. Mr. Jennings was granted a fee waiver of \$275.00, was charged a \$15.00 fee to gather the data and a \$10.00 fee for a media device to hold the data he requested.  
**Roll Call:** *Ayes – Jancek, Preston, Pack, Thomas, Elwell, Ambs, Boulter*  
*Nays - None* **Motion Approved**

1. No May election
2. The next elections will be in August and November including 9 Days of Early Voting before each election.
3. Road Diet update – projected plans are not moving forward
4. Bureau of Elections is recommending budgeting a minimum of \$15,000.00 per precinct in 2027 for election equipment upgrades.

PUBLIC SAFETY

PLANNING COMMISSION

1. Meeting Minutes - February 03, 2026 – Draft
2. Discussions are ongoing for zoning changes including allowing the keeping of chickens as a permitted use.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

1. Meeting next week

PARKS & RECREATION

1. Work will resume soon on the pickleball courts

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

**APPROVE WORK PROPOSAL FROM J.K OF MI; CAN STATIONS REPAIR/REBUILD** Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Trustee Boulter to approve work proposal from J.K of Michigan for Job Name: Can Stations, dated 1-29-2026, to repair/rebuild pumps not to exceed the amount of \$292,830.00  
**Roll Call:** *Ayes – Boulter, Preston, Thomas, Jancek, Ambs, Elwell, Pack*  
*Nays – None* **Motion Approved**

2. Work continues on a 3-year plan for sewer system.

ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

1. Parks Ordinance - Second Read

Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Trustee Thomas to table the second reading to review and rework the language with the attorney.

***Unanimously approved by voice vote***

2. Meeting March 5, 2026 to incorporate chicken keeping in permitted use.

NEW BUSINESS

**APPROVE BCT PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNANCE**

Motion by Clerk Elwell, supported by Trustee Boulter to approve signing the Blackman Charter Township Principles of Governance, a code of conduct policy.

***Roll Call: Ayes – Jancek, Ambs, Boulter, Pack, Elwell, Preston, Thomas***

*Nays – None*

***Motion Approved***

**APPROVE LAWN MOWING QUOTE FOR 2026 FROM JAKE’S PROP. MGMT. LLC**

Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Treasurer Preston to approve the lawn mowing services quote 2026 from Jake’s Property Management, LLC.

***Roll Call: Ayes – Thomas, Ambs, Elwell, Jancek, Pack, Boulter, Preston***

*Nays – None*

***Motion Approved***

**APPROVE LETTER OF INTENT W/ ACCELERATE JACKSON CO. \$5,000.00**

Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Clerk Elwell to approve Letter of Intent, to authorize an investment of \$5,000.00, to support the Accelerate Jackson County Capital Campaign ‘Accelerate 2030’. Each year’s investment shall be subject to annual review and approval.

***Discussion: BCT to invest \$5,000.00, BDDA to invest \$5,000.00, BL DFA to invest \$5,000.00 for a total investment of \$15,000.00***

***Roll Call: Ayes – Preston, Boulter, Thomas, Ambs, Pack, Elwell, Jancek***

*Nays – None*

***Motion Approved***

**REAPPOINT DIANE DERBY TO THE BL DFA**

Motion by Trustee Thomas, supported by Trustee Pack to reappoint Diane Derby to the Blackman Local Development Finance Authority for a 4-year term ending 03/31/2030

***Unanimously approved by voice vote***

**HIRE CHRIS MACFARLAND AS CONTRACTUAL MECHANICAL INSPECTOR**

Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Trustee Boulter to approve hiring Chris MacFarland as contractual Mechanical Inspector

***Roll Call: Ayes – Pack, Elwell, Preston, Boulter, Thomas, Jancek, Ambs***

*Nays – None*

***Motion Approved***

**HIRE LARRY CRAFT AS CONTRACTUAL PLUMBING INSPECTOR**

Motion by Supervisor Jancek, supported by Trustee Boulter to approve hiring Larry Craft as contractual Plumbing Inspector

***Roll Call: Ayes – Elwell, Pack, Thomas, Boulter, Ambs, Jancek, Preston***

*Nays – None*

***Motion Approved***

BILLS

Motion by Treasurer Preston, supported by Trustee Boulter to approve payment of bills on the Board Invoice Post Audit Report dated 02/02/26 in the amount of \$213,905.83 and Board Invoice Report dated 02/18/26 in the amount of \$950,198.40

***Roll Call: Ayes - Ambs, Thomas, Jancek, Elwell, Preston, Pack, Boulter***

*Nays - None*

***Motion Approved***

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING UPDATE

1. Post contractor interviews
2. Budget – finding cost savings
3. Working on timeframes and timelines
4. Next meeting should have budget updates
5. Treasurer discussions with County National Bank about financing and loans if needed.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT (Three-minute limit)

1. Dawn Warfield, *resident*
  - a. If public funds are used to make a donation that benefits community members, the Township Board should focus more on assisting those 65+ who own a home in Blackman Township. Many live on a fixed income and struggle to pay property taxes.
2. Jessica Steller, *resident*
  - a. Rural Non-Farm Zoning
  - b. Concerned with property that was sold without notifying adjoining property owners about a land split with plans for building 7 new homes
3. Keith Steller, *resident*
  - a. Displeased with how the board acted at this meeting

OPEN DISCUSSION

*The Supervisor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.*

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**David Elwell, Township Clerk**