

**GRAND LEDGE AREA EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY
MEETING
MARCH 16, 2026
6:00 p.m.**

AT 500 N. CLINTON STREET, GRAND LEDGE, MICHIGAN 48837

1. Roll Call: Present: Chairman Willems, Secretary Lantz, Treasurer Schultz, Vice Chairman Stahelin, Trustee Mulder, Chief Roman. Also, Present were Members of Glaesa, and the Township, and Mr. Gillespie.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was given.
3. Audience Participation. Mr. Keller was present to ask if the DDA would capture funds from the Bond proposal for the new fire stations. Chairman Willems and Mr. Mulder both said that it would not as did Mr. Weaver.
4. Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion was made to approve the Minutes of February 16, 2026 Meeting by Mr. Lantz and supported by Mr. Mulder. Motion Carried.
5. Approval of Regular Agenda. Motion was made by Mrs. Schultz and supported by Mr. Mulder to approve the Regular Agenda. Motion Carried.

6. Committee and Board Reports:

A. Building Committee: Mr. Gillespie presented the Board with Bond Proposal fact Sheets, Ballot language Breakdown Sheets and Facility Condition Assessment of the Current Fire Station. He also discussed the press releases and social media releases as well as releases for the following weeks.

He noted that we have 4300 households and noted that it may cost \$2,485.00 for mailings to all households. If the Board decides to send them out. He further discussed postcards to be mailed on the 26th or 27th of March when the AV ballots go out. Mr. Lantz asked if it made sense to send to the AV voters now and the others later? Mr. Gillespie said that it did. Mr. Lantz made a Motion to recommend splitting the mailings and send to the AV voters now and the rest of the likely voters later. Mr. Stahelin supported. Motion Carried..

Mr. Gillespie asked if the Board had decided on the northern location for the new station. He said it would be helpful to have it before the mailing of the AV ballots.

Mr. Lantz said he wishes to have the satellite station remain on the current site. He said he felt that the safety concerns could be dealt with, as did the Chief. He said he did not like having to back the equipment in to the bays. With the new station there would be fewer bays. The Chief said he liked the vantage point of being able to see right straight down Bridge Street.

Mr. Lantz asked if we knew whether or not we can build here. Chief said we have nothing yet from Williams on the matter. Mr. Lantz noted some disadvantages of building at the Industrial Park such as increased response times. Mr. Stahelin did not see how we could give a location to the voters at this time, he doesn't want to mislead voters, but does not feel that we can make a decision at this time. Mr. Mulder said some drawings with three bays at the industrial park had been discussed. There was discussion on keeping the building in the DDA. Mr. Stahelin asked who would own the building? He felt that the voters would want the Fire Authority to own the building. Mr. Mulder said the Department would own the building and lease the land. Mr. Lantz said there were some financial benefits to keeping it in the DDA. Mr. Stahelin questioned whether Bond Funds could be used for a building belonging to the City? Mr. Mulder said the Building would belong to the Fire Authority. He noted that the land has to belong to the City to have the DDA benefit from it.

Mr. Stahelin said he was not ready to decide at this time about the ownership of the building, he did not want to make an assumption at this time. He wanted to make the best business decision for GLAESA. Mr. Lantz said we could wait until we get information from Williams as to whether Or not we can build here safely. We must decide land and ownership. There was discussion at the last Meeting on demolition versus renovation. And a \$7000.00 cost to compare the two sites this one and the industrial park. The feasibility to build here was the question.

Chief let the Board know that survey results show 65% were in favor of new station on Hartel and renovation of the current site.

After all discussion Mrs. Schultz made a Motion to keep the location here on the North side. Motion carried with one no vote by Mr. Stahelin. Mr. Weaver questioned the land ownership.

7. Fire Chief / Staff Reports.

A. Monthly Run Activity: EMS total runs 169 Fire Runs Total 66.

- 1. Chief discussed the Second Street Fire and the need for smoke detectors and fire extinguishers.**
- 2. Chief discussed making Grand Ledge a Heart Safe City. He noted that Laura of the Chamber of Commerce was assisting him.**

8. Old Business:

A. No action.

9. New Business:

A. Financial Transactions for February 1, 2026 thru February 28, 2026 Motion to pay the bills as presented was made by Mr. Stahelin and supported by Mr. Lantz. Motion Carried.

B. Motion to authorize the Chief to remove Tom Campbell from all Dart Bank Accounts was made by Mrs. Schultz and supported by Mr. Mulder. Motion Carried.

C. Resolution 04-2026 a Resolution Authorizing the GLAESA Board to expend funds for the costs associated with the May 5, 2026 Special Election regarding the Fire Station Bond Project, was offered by Mr. Lantz and supported by Mr. Stahelin. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mrs. Schultz, Mr. Stahelin, Mr. Mulder, Mr. Lantz and Mr. Willems. Nay: None. Resolution Adopted.

10. Audience Participation: Mr. Weaver said that Bond funds cannot be used for the leased site from the City. He said the last negotiation rights were given away by designating this site. We need a site plan and also the ladder truck cannot turn into this building.

11. Communications from the Board. Mr. Lantz noted that one of the operational millages is due and should be put on the August Ballot, for which the deadline is getting close. He also discussed combining the two operational millages.

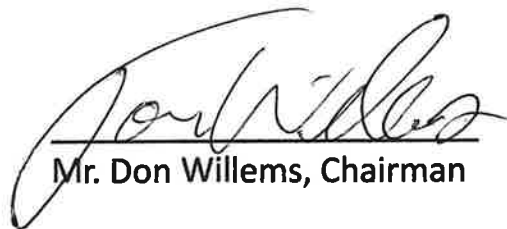
Chief wanted to inform the Board about the Open House that was held on the 14th of March. They had a good turnout about 200 people.

12. There was no Closed Session:

13. Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jan Schultz.

APPROVED:


Mr. Don Willems, Chairman


Mr. Rick Lantz, Secretary