

The regular meeting of Macon Township was held on June 1, 2026 at 7:00p.m. with Supervisor Dean Montrief presiding. Roll call: Dean Montrief: present; Julia Marshall: present; Beth DeJonghe: present; Joe Rine: present; Charley Downing: present. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Important Dates:

Election Commission Meeting July 6, 2026 at 6:45p.m.

Township Board Meeting July 6, 2026 at 7p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting July 15, 2026 at 7p.m.

Dave Squires, past Macon Township Board of Review member, passed away and a moment of silence was observed in his honor.

Public Comment:

Mary Tommelein – Tecumseh & former Macon Township Resident – Public Comment regarding Lake Ridge Cemetery. Notes are attached to the minutes.

Kathy Kuhlman 7600 Clinton-Macon Rd. – Public Comment regarding Lake Ridge Cemetery. How are Macon and Osborne Cemetery different? Do the right thing and take over Lake Ridge Cemetery.

Discussion followed regarding Lake Ridge Cemetery.

Lori Ritter – 10649 Welch Rd. – Public Comment was heard regarding any updates to the Solar Project and if the roads being repaired due to the project. Dean Montrief gave an update on the Solar Project.

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Joe Rine to approve the May 4, 2026 minutes with a correction to the year. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Ledger Account Balances:

Solar Account Balance remains the same at \$1,764.46

Road Account: No Disbursement. Receipts: \$84.30. Total balance in the Road Account: \$21,791.03

Fire Account: Disbursements: \$60,000. Receipts: \$183.02. Total balance in the Fire Account: \$103,201.30

Cemetery Account: Disbursements: \$2,110. Receipts: \$350. Total balance in the Cemetery Account: \$23,697.02

Perpetual Care Fund: No Disbursements. Receipts: \$1.66. Total balance in the Perpetual Care Fund: \$16,051.27

General Fund: Disbursements: \$12,557.25. Receipts: \$24,952.42. Total balance in the General Fund: \$266,703.38

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Charley Downing to approve the ledger account balances. Motion carried.

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Joe Rine to pay all bills. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Tom Belanger donated \$500 toward the Macon Cemetery Program

New Business:

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Joe Rine to approve the following resolution: The house structure located at 4219 Hack Rd., Britton, MI 49229 predates the original execution date of the PA 116 farmland agreement of September 15, 1987. Roll call: Dean Montrief: yes; Julia Marshall: yes; Beth DeJonghe: yes; Joe Rine: yes; Charley Downing: yes. Motion carried.

Dean Montrief met with a DTE Vice President, Operations Manager and Supervisor regarding the continual power outages affecting Macon Township. They are going to increase Tree Trimming and there is only 1 Circuit Breaker in Macon. They are doing a study to potentially put additional circuit breakers in the township. They are going to be adding equipment in the 1 circuit breaker to trip it remotely.

Macon Township Election Commission will be meeting on July 6, 2026 at 6:45p.m. to appoint the Election Inspectors for the August Primary Election.

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Charley Downing to adjourn the meeting at 7:50p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Marshall
Clerk
Macon Township

Guests: 13

Good evening.

Mary Tommelein – resident of Tecumseh I am speaking tonight as a descendant regarding the future of Lake Ridge Cemetery.

Earlier this year, descendants and residents presented a petition requesting that Macon Township take action to address the long-standing ownership and maintenance issues surrounding Lake Ridge Cemetery. In response, the Township's attorney sent a certified letter indicating that a legal process exists to resolve this matter. However, the letter did not identify what that process is, nor did it provide any steps the Township or descendants could follow to move toward a resolution.

Rather than simply accepting that answer, we have spent the last several months researching the issue.

Descendants have once again contacted the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, LARA, which advised us that a formal request for investigation may be submitted. This was completed in late May. Several descendants also met with Senator Jeff Irwin's office to better understand the applicable laws and available remedies. Senator Irwin's staff indicated they would be willing to contact the Attorney General's Office if local efforts fail to produce a resolution.

We were also encouraged to contact the Veterans Affairs agency because Lake Ridge Cemetery is the final resting place of nine veterans, including five Civil War veterans and three World War II veterans. This cemetery is not only a burial ground for our families it is an important part of Macon Township's history.

Through our research, we also learned that state law provides a process whereby ten residents may petition for a cemetery to be vacated. If that occurred, the Township could ultimately become responsible for the expense of relocating remains to another cemetery. I do not believe anyone in this room wants to see that happen.

In addition, the Quiet Title process has been discussed and documentation regarding that option has been provided to the Township. Given that the cemetery association has not functioned for generations, no known claimants have come forward, and many historical records may have been lost when township records were damaged during the move from the former township hall on Welch Road, this appears to be a practical avenue worth exploring. I assume similar legal processes were followed when Macon Township assumed responsibility for Osborn and Macon Cemeteries.

Tonight, we are not here simply to identify problems. We are asking once again for dialog and a partnership.

Would the Township Board consider forming a committee consisting of township representatives, descendants, residents, and other interested stakeholders to explore available legal options and develop a path forward? We believe a collaborative effort could identify a

practical solution that honors those buried there, preserves an important piece of township history, and provides clarity for future generations.

We are committed to working with the Township in good faith.

"We are looking for progress, not conflict," can also be very effective if the atmosphere becomes tense during the meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration.