

Here's how to vote for a new Board with write-ins

# The choice is:

The current incompetent, law-violating Board, that conducts township business in secret, wastes your tax dollars defending their illegal actions, props up an incompetent zoning administrator, and outright lies about their actions

Or a new Board: People with experience in accounting, Michigan law, law enforcement, and health and safety.

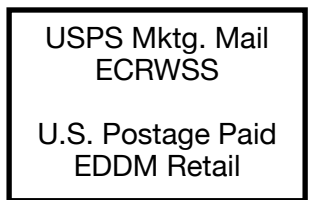
Voting has begun! We hope you have been following closely the information about the current Hayes Board of Trustees and their numerous violations of law and conducting township business in secret. We are a strong group of residents who have been attending meetings regularly for the past 3+ years and have done a lot of community organizing, bringing many new people to the meetings on gravel pit, rezoning, shoreland, master plan and finance/audit issues. We see that this Board is not being truthful to the residents. They boast about their "experience." However their lack of ethics, and their illegal actions are costing us a lot of money.

- The Clerk and the Treasurer **are not doing their jobs** with the township finances. The taxpayers are now paying for outsourced accounting help for them.
- The Supervisor (Van Zee) has been incompetent in doing his job, and **violates the laws** that his two jobs require him to do. His mailings should give you some insight.
- The Trustees' only job is to oversee the finances and vote on all matters. However they leave the finances completely to the incompetent Clerk and Treasurer, never asking questions.

<b>Township</b>
<b>Supervisor</b> Vote for not more than 1
<b>William M. Conklin</b> ● Republican
<b>Alexander Curley</b> ○ Libertarian
<b>Clerk</b> Vote for not more than 1
<b>Laura C. Ford</b> ● Democrat
<b>Kristin Baranski</b> ○ Republican
<b>Treasurer</b> Vote for not more than 1
<b>Julie Collard</b> ○ Republican
<i>Sherry Baker-McCary</i> ●
<b>Trustee</b> Vote for not more than 2
<b>Stanley Boris</b> ○ Democrat
<b>Matt Cunningham</b> ○ Republican
<b>Doug Kuebler</b> ○ Republican
<i>Kevin Willis</i> ●



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## Things of note since our last Newsletter

### Nearly \$4,000 more dollars spent in October to help the Clerk and Treasurer do their basic accounting tasks

At its October meeting the Board approved a payment of \$3,844.50 to an accounting firm, Maner Costerisan, “for outsourced accounting services through September as detailed in the engagement letter dated January 19, 2024.” Treasurer Julie Collard signed that agreement last March herself, farming out her own job tasks to an accounting firm. The Maner Costerisan contract was never brought up, seen by the Board, or approved by the Board.

Hayes Township’s finances are simple. There are only about 30 expenditures per month, most of them recurring payroll expenses. The Clerk and Treasurer do not have the skills to competently do these jobs. They boast of their “experience.” The audits told a different story. And did the two Trustees ask why the extra expense was needed? Nope!

### Treasurer Julie Collard lied at Board meeting denying she skipped out of her required hours at the township hall for collecting taxes. We had the proof.

When we reported that Collard had neglected her statutory duty to be at the Township Hall from 9 am to 5 pm that day... we knew we were 100% correct.

We had seen her posted note the week before, announcing she would be there on September 16 for only two hours, from 2 to 4 pm and knew right away—that’s against the law. No mention was made of morning hours.

On that day we witnessed her leave at 4:40 pm. **See the video evidence at:**  
[www.youtube.com/](https://www.youtube.com/@HayesVotersForChange)  
[@HayesVotersForChange](https://www.youtube.com/@HayesVotersForChange)

### ILLEGAL TAKEOVER OF EASTERN AVENUE BEACH

**The Hayes Board of Trustees is allowing a resident to encroach on and take part of Eastern Avenue Beach, a public park owned by Hayes Township.** The Township won in the Michigan Court of Appeals in a 2015 case brought against the resident, but the resident will not abide by, and the Board will not enforce the court’s order. *Why?*

See: *Hayes Twp v Robert and Brigitte Fowler*, Michigan Court of Appeals, No. 320530, May 14, 2015 on our website: [HayesVotersForChange.org](https://HayesVotersForChange.org)

**What we need in a treasurer is honesty.**  
**WRITE-IN Sherry Baker-McCary for treasurer!**

**REMINDER: This Board put us over \$1 million in debt** for the EMS Building, has been paying for insurance, fencing, and generator. If the EMS Authority’s millage ever fails to get voters’ support, Hayes Township would still have to pay the loan payments—without any help.

## Misinformation abounds in Supervisor's mailings

The recent mailing by Supervisor Ron Van Zee is very notable for its misinformation and distortion of the truth. For just one example, he states that former Supervisor Tim Boyko “**was appointed to serve the remainder of a Supervisor’s term, was not reelected to the position.**” Van Zee is figuring you will think he is talking about Hayes Township, and you would be wrong. After being elected twice and serving as Supervisor of Hayes Township, Tim Boyko moved to Norwood Township. Norwood’s Supervisor suddenly resigned and knowing of Boyko’s accomplishments in Hayes Township, the Norwood Board asked him to become their Supervisor. Tim Boyko agreed to serve out that term but insisted he would not run for reelection.

### **We want the reader to observe two things.**

First how Van Zee totally obscured the actual events and more importantly how many words and sentences it took to correctly explain it.

It would take a 50-page newsletter to correctly document and explain all the inaccuracies and misinformation that Mr. Van Zee spewed about the gravel pit and what he considers to be “rampant” development in the township. Henne, Simpson, Boyko and Rudolph are proud of vigorously following the zoning ordinance. During their tenures they stopped a massive residential development that would have funneled “back lot” owners to have waterfront rights, and encouraged developers to use Planned Unit Developments, a tool that decreases density, limits development and preserves open space in conservation areas.

**It’s the Current Board that is pro-development and backed financially by the big land owners & developers!**

### **Truths about the gravel pit:**

- "Intervenor" is a term given by the courts to a party that intervenes in a case. JoEllen Rudolph was the lead intervenor among 35 people in the 1980s case and was first president of **Concerned Citizens for the Bay Shore Area** which organized the community to fight the gravel pit. They secured a consent judgment that gave the residents and Township assurance there was an end point to the mining. Everyone knew that.
- The Consent Judgment was an agreement among 3 parties: Hayes Township, H&D (Reith-Riley now) and the Intervenor. Last year the Intervenor **brought it back to court for enforcement, after 4 years of no action by the Township Board to enforce the agreement. It was not a new lawsuit.**
- The Township sided with the company, providing a 2-party agreement between just them. **The Intervenor, who proposed one year, did not sign onto the 5-year extension order.**
- Rudolph spoke to the Board in 2019 to tell them the gravel pit’s time is up, wrap it up and make them reclaim the land. Instead the Township did nothing, and then was in on plans with Manthei to rezone nearby parcels for a new batch plant that would allow Reith-Riley to continue mining south of Pincherry Road beyond the agreed upon terms. **Van Zee got so many other facts wrong— too many to go into here!**

**“Higher density development” of “2000 acres of prime farmland [mainly] on the water?” Not true! [See historic Zoning Maps at HayesVotersForChange.org](https://HayesVotersForChange.org)**

**ELECT FOUR TO HAYES BOARD**

**ON THE BALLOT**  
**CONKLIN**  
for **supervisor**  
**FORD**  
for **clerk**

**WRITE-IN**  
**AND FILL IN THE OVAL**  
**Sherry Baker-McCary**  
for **treasurer**  
**Kevin Willis**  
for **trustee**

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**The illegally-purchased FIRE TRUCK is unusable, uncertifiable and can not lower anyone's insurance rates**

- The fire truck illegally purchased by just Supervisor Van Zee, Clerk Baranski and Treasurer Collard prior to approval by the Hayes Township Board is not and cannot be an “authorized emergency vehicle” as defined in **MCL 257.2** because it is not a “vehicle of the fire department.” **Hayes Township does not have a fire department.** Only fire departments have authorized fire vehicles. **READ ENTIRE ARTICLE AT [HayesVotersForChange.org](https://HayesVotersForChange.org)**

**Bitcoin factory allowed by Van Zee, against the zoning ordinance**

Van Zee allowed a resident to have a bitcoin manufacturing operation, approving a 3,000 sq. ft. accessory building on a Lake Charlevoix parcel (R-1 residential zoning), exceeding the size for a “cottage industry.” After the resident claimed it’s only a hobby, Van Zee let it slide. This kind of use should have gone through a special use permit process and should have been turned down, by the Planning Commission. **The Board allows this violation.**

**HOW TO CHANGE YOUR BALLOT** – Did you vote absentee for the current Board or Ron Van Zee and change your mind after reading our newsletter and seeing Van Zee’s slanderous, untruthful mailings? Before Election Day go to the Township Hall and request a new ballot and ask to spoil the ballot you previously sent in. You don’t have to say why you want a new ballot.