



Date: March 31, 2025

TO: Whitefish Township Board

Subject: NEMSA

At the NEMSA meeting March 19, 2025, the Board provided Budget data as it currently exists along with a projected plan of action. With this information provided to the Whitefish Township Board and the changes to the Articles of incorporation requested by Township the modified Articles of incorporation of the "Northern Emergency Medical Service Authority" are now before Whitefish Township Board for Approval and continued participation.

Draft items Provided to the Board from NEMSA are:

1. Draft NEMSA Proposed locations Staffed Ambulances License Levels
2. Draft NEMSA Implementation Plan/timeline.

During March 19th meeting NEMSA board supported bringing all Townships to service at once to begin January 2026.

3. Draft Budget packet, 3 ALS trucks 2 BLS trucks column is the approved line.

Although there remain budget adjustments as accounting costs are projected and final signed contracts are being completed the changes to the projected cost remain minimal. As the NEMSA planning committee continues to finalize services identified in the Implementation plan there will be changes.

To review the NEMSA plan.

The expected date to start NEMSA service to townships is January 2026.

Ambulance's locations: ALS level 2 Kinross & 1 Whitefish

BLS level Detour & Drummond Island

Projected Annual cost \$5,405,891.00

Short fall after projected revenue \$1,387,161.00

Whitefish Township projected annual contribution toward deficit \$142,886.00

The current payment schedule is planned as quarterly January-April-July-October. Townships will be expected to pay 3-month payment in September 2025 to have NEMSA establish accounts, label Ambulances, purchase uniforms and other services to start before revenue begins.

What I'm expecting for Whitefish Township is to still levy the ambulance millage for Winter taxes 2025. This will cover any township cost to NEMSA through 2026. With the success of NEMSA January – May 2026 we'll be able to determine expected millage rate required for Winter taxes 2027 at rate to maintain projected cost.

Edson Forrester

Whitefish Township Supervisor



Whitefish Township scheduled to take ownership of the M-123 Enhancement area with the close of construction project

Questions asked During Tourism Council meeting were.

1. Can the speed limit through the enhancement area be changed to 30 MPH?
2. Can a Double yellow line be placed through the enhancement area?
3. Do we have a design plan print of the double headed shepherd hook light poles?

The full 141-page design plan is available in the Supervisor office if further detail is desired.

Edson Forrester

Whitefish Township Supervisor



Date: March 31, 2025

TO: Whitefish Township Board

Subject: March 2025 TAP Grant Update

At the MDOT meeting March 25, 2025, Design plans for the M-123 highway project were reviewed. Tahquamenon River Bridge is scheduled to have repair construction start April 14, 2025. Hiawatha Telephone and Cloverland Electric will also have some construction during the summer 2025 moving service lines. The M-123 highway project will also have (HMA) Hot Mixed Asphalt from Curley Lewis Hwy to Tahqa Trail during 2026. Meetings were held between MDOT Real Estate staff and Property owners along the construction path.

Signage Discussion took place as to where to notify drivers of construction ahead. Eckerman Corners was mentioned however this location would detour much traffic from the Paradise area. I would suggest that construction signage be placed at the township line notifying traffic of upcoming construction and not having traffic detoured at the corner of M28/M123.

Weekend closers was discussed, dates of July 4 for Independence Day Parade, July 25 Motorcycle Rally, September 19 Canoe Race and October 9-10 for Haunted trail to have lanes open. There will be a 1-800 call line for business owners and citizens to report construction problems.

Grant Summary M-123 Corridor Enhancement Construction match \$223,230.00 and M-123 Corridor Enhancement Design match \$12,000.00 Total Match \$235,230.00. As for current design the enhancement budget remains appropriately funded. Of this amount a community contribution from Paradise Tourism Council of \$117,615.00 was committed and placed in CD account to mature December 2025. Whitefish Township has placed \$139,199.47 into CD account to mature January 2026. Whitefish Township has also paid the Design fee of \$12,000 during fiscal year ending June 2025. Discussion during the design plan meeting on the Enhancement budget explained the full match amount would be required to be in the project account at the time of award September 2025. As the two Certificates of Deposit established to fund this project are not redeemable until January 2026 the Township will need to restrict spending during October, November, December.

Project Dates of significant:

Final Design Plan Complete May 1, 2025

Public Meeting in Paradise; during June 2025 day TBD

Bidding of project during July 2025

Let the project during August 2025

Close Award of Bid during October 2025

Contractor begins project as weather allows 2026

Scheduled project completion October 22, 2026



Whitefish Township Community Library

Library Director's Report – March 2025

Report:

April 28th at 6:00 pm the library will be hosting a seminar “Pickin’ With the Champ” presented by Anthony Williams. Anthony is the five-time National Morel Picking Champion. His 90-minute educational seminar will include the how, where, when, and why of harvesting morel mushrooms.

May 3rd from 11:00am – 1:00pm, Rosemary McCormick will be presenting a card making class.

May 7th and May 14th from 6:00 – 8:00pm, Debbie Skeans will be presenting a macrame class teaching how to make a macrame plant hanger.

A sign-up sheet will be put out at the library for both the card making class and the macrame class on Saturday, April 5th.

Library Statistics for March 2025:

Adult Visitors	184
Student Visitors	57
Computer Users	34
Wireless Users	12
Added Library Members	6
Additions to Library Collection	43
Number of Items Checked Out	365