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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GREEN LAKE TOWNSHIP VOTERS TO DECIDE ON MILLAGE REQUEST
Proposals Will Fund Emergency Services and Construction

Interlochen, MI – Voters in Green Lake Township will go to the polls this fall to decide on three millage proposals that would fund emergency services and the construction and renovation of township facilities including fire and EMS facilities in the Grand Traverse County municipality. Township officials yesterday filed paperwork with the County to place the proposals on the November 7 general election ballot.

The proposals include:

- 1.93 mils renewal for current emergency services including ambulance, fire and EMS services that was approved by voters in 2014.
- 1 mil increase to fund the addition of Advanced Life Support to EMS services.
- .75 mil to fund bonding for a new emergency services facility and renovations to the township municipal building.

Township Supervisor Marv Radtke said the township board approved moving forward with the proposals on a 6-1 vote at a special meeting last week following years of planning and thought. “These proposals allow the township to continue to provide critical emergency services while also adding improvements to both services and facilities,” said Radtke. “The board is giving voters the opportunity to align facilities and services with current and future township population growth, and the needs that come along with that growth.”

Township Emergency Services Director David Cutway said the proposals are based in part on recommendations from a township Fire/Emergency Services Operations report the board adopted in 2016. The study stated that the current fire station, originally constructed in the 1960s is “inadequate for the needs of a modern-day fire and EMS department.” The report also recommends upgrading the existing Basic Life Support (BLS) services to Advanced Life Support (ALS). “ALS provides the means to perform more advanced procedures in the field, rather than having to arrive at the hospital before these often life-saving procedures can be administered,”

said Cutway. “Those procedures can be critical to the survival of cardiac and other victims needing emergency treatment.”

Radtke said that while the ballot will include three separate proposals, they are all linked. “The renewal allows the township to continue the current level of emergency services that township voters approved, which is an important consideration given the future uncertainty of the county rural fire program. The facility improvements are needed in order to upgrade from BLS to ALS and bring us into compliance with federal, state and local standards. They were also called for in the township master plan.”

One mil is equal to \$1 per \$1,000 of taxable property value. The approximate annual cost to an average homeowner in the township would be as follows, based on the average taxable value of homes in the township of approximately \$65,000.

- 1.93 mil renewal - \$123
- 1 mil increase for ALS - \$65
- .73 mil increase for facility construction/renovations - \$45

Radtke said the township board will be mounting a public outreach and education initiative to provide details about the proposals and answer questions. More information can be found at www.greenlaketownship.org

About Green Lake Township

Green Lake Township, which was organized in 1883, is located in one of the most beautiful regions of Michigan. The commercial and population center of Green Lake Township is the Village of Interlochen, located along M-137 just south of U.S. 31. Green Lake Township is located in the western part of Grand Traverse County and is bounded by Long Lake Township to the north, Blair Township to the east, Grant Township to the south, and Inland Township (in Benzie County) to the west. The township population as of the 2010 census is 5,784.

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