

Delta Township Compiled Policy Manual

Title:	Delta Township Contribution Policy
Adoption Date:	January 16, 2007
Revision Date:	

General Purpose: To provide a policy that will outline permissible contribution expenditures that may be made by the Delta Charter Township Board of Trustees (hereinafter “Township Board”).

Summary Statement of Policy: The Township Board will consider only those legally acceptable requests for contribution expenditures as authorized by Michigan law, which may include but shall not be limited to community colleges, senior programs, recreational programs, historical activities, and juvenile delinquency centers. The Township Board shall reserve the right to approve or deny any such request and is under no obligation to authorize any contribution expenditure permitted under this Policy.

Actual Policy as written:

Recognizing that: 1.) townships exist to provide quality services to their residents which are funded with local, state, and federal monies; 2.) the Township Board must serve as the responsible steward of these monies; and 3.) the purposes and activities on which townships expend money should ultimately serve to advance or achieve some greater public goal, the Township Board shall adhere to the following guidelines in determining whether a contribution expenditure request made to the Township Board may be considered for approval and/or whether such an expenditure is permissible under the law:

- 1) The contribution expenditure must be expressly authorized by state statute or a Michigan Attorney General Opinion interpreting the same; or
- 2) In the absence of such a statutory provision Delta Township must receive a specific benefit, and not a general benefit, for the contribution expenditure to be given; and
- 3) Delta Township shall not exceed its budget.

The following shall serve as a non-exclusive list of applicable statutes under which contribution expenditures may be considered by the Township Board:

- **Recreation** – MCL 123.51 authorizes the Township Board to contribute to organizations that advance recreational activities within Delta Township.
- **Juvenile delinquency** – MCL 123.461 authorizes the Township Board to contribute funds for operating centers open exclusively to youth under 21 years of age and aimed at curbing juvenile delinquency.
- **Community Colleges** – MCL 380.1607 authorizes the Township Board to contribute toward the support of a community college maintained by an area school district.

- **Historical Activities, Commissions, Districts** – MCL-399.167 authorizes the Township Board to contribute money toward the activities and organizations that the Township Board believes will advance and foster historical interest in Delta Township.
- **Senior programs** – MCL 400.572 authorizes the Township Board to contribute funds to a public or private nonprofit organization for the purpose of planning, coordinating, evaluating and providing services to persons 60 years of age or older. Township appropriations to private organizations must be followed by a published notice within 10 days in a local newspaper specifying the terms of the appropriation.

The following shall serve as a non-inclusive list of contribution expenditures that may not be considered by the Township Board and shall be rejected if received:

- A contribution expenditure to any community organizations not authorized within this policy.
- A contribution expenditure to a church or religious organization of any denomination.
- A contribution expenditure to any veterans group.
- A contribution expenditure to any nonprofit association not authorized within this policy.
- A contribution expenditure to any for-profit association not authorized within this policy.
- Contribution expenditures, including use of property or equipment, to Little League organizations, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Big Brothers/Sisters, or similar organizations.
- A contribution expenditure to any private ambulance or emergency medical service not under contract with Delta Township.

Contribution Expenditure Criteria:

In addition to the guidelines set forth herein, the following shall serve as basic criteria which the Township Board may take into account when considering the approval or rejection of a contribution expenditure request. The criteria listed shall not be deemed to be an inclusive list:

- Is the requesting entity or organization a registered charity organization.
- Would the contribution expenditure be tax deductible according to the Internal Revenue Code.
- Is the requesting entity or organization located within the corporate limits of Delta Charter Township.
- Has the requesting entity sought alternative funding sources outside of a contribution expenditure request.
- Would the contribution expenditure request, if approved, serve to advance at least one of the following:
 - recreational activities within Delta Township;
 - activities that will foster or encourage historical interest in Delta Township;
 - a youth operating center aimed at curbing juvenile delinquency within Delta Township;
 - the health, safety and well being of persons over 60 years of age.
- If the contribution expenditure serves to advance one of the purposes above, how widespread is the benefit to Delta Township residents.

- Does the requesting entity or organization keep books available for regular, independent, outside audit and make such audit results available to all potential contribution expenditure contributors.
- How urgent is the need expressed by the contribution expenditure request.
- Is the Township Board aware of exactly what the contribution expenditure funds will be used for.
- Has the requesting entity or organization previously received approval of a contribution expenditure request by the Township Board.
- Is the contribution expenditure request a specific request, as opposed to a general blanket request for funding.
- Does the contribution expenditure request exceed that portion of the Delta Township budget allocated for such requests.

Severability.

If a court of competent jurisdiction declares any provision of this Contribution Policy to be unenforceable, in whole or in part, such declaration shall only affect the section held to be unenforceable and shall not affect any other part or provision

Repeal of Conflicting Policy Provisions.

All policies or provisions of policies in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of this Contribution Policy are hereby repealed; provided that any violation charged before the effective date of this policy under a policy provision repealed by this policy shall continue under the policy provision then in effect.

Effective Date.

The Delta Township Contribution Policy shall take effect beginning January 16, 2007.