
Fw: History of WOMP litigation

From Maura Sanders <supervisor@peninsulatownship.com>
Date Tue 3/3/2026 5:01 PM
To Administrative Assistant 1 <adminam@peninsulatownship.com>

 2 attachments (102 KB)
JDA Time Line.docx; CCOM Action Plan_ Letter Deliveries.pdf;

Shaina,

For the meeting packet correspondence. Please include the attachments along with the email below.

Maura Sanders 

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From: WILSON TODD <magua@acegroup.cc>
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 4:03 PM
To: Becky Chown <clerk@peninsulatownship.com>; Maura Sanders <supervisor@peninsulatownship.com>
Subject: Fw: History of WOMP litigation

Dear Peninsula Township Board Members,

Please see the forwarded email and associated attachments. I received this email in error last week. It was likely intended for Todd Anson, because he shares my first name and has authored articles in our local Gazette online newspaper that align with the attached action plan. It is important for the Township Board and the peninsula residents to see and understand this information, so please consider including it in the next meeting packet and provide any helpful explanatory insight. It could allow for greater transparency into the actions and motivations of a few individuals and the Old Mission Citizens Coalition, who claim to be "just concerned citizens", when in fact they seem to be working with a WOMP funded PR firm in a concerted manner to discredit members of the Township Board, Protect the Peninsula, Preserve Old Mission, and others in our community. It begs the question: are some of these individuals also receiving WOMP funds for their efforts to do an end run around our elected board and promising legal appeal process?

Thank you for your time and effort in these matters.

Yours Truly,
Todd Wilson

From: Fred Woodruff (fmwoodruff@gmail.com)

Date: 02/26/26 03:22 pm

To: Todd Debbie Wilson (Magua@acegroup.cc)

Cc: Fred Swaffer (Fswaffer@gmail.com), Bern/Cheryl Kroupa (3183cheryl@gmail.com), Amanda Danielson (Amanda@stellatc.com)

Subject: **History of WOMP litigation**

Todd:

As you contemplate your next letter concerning the JDA, look at the Time line we (mostly Amanda, Bern and Kent Wood) have constructed that suggests that JDA is longer in effect because it was signed by the Township's old lawyer before he was fired and after Judge Maloney denied PTP petition to intervene and before the Circuit Court allowed PTP to intervene to defend the interests of 11 individual "members".

Fred

Time Line

2021–2022: Mediation, settlement rejection, intervention, and Amendment 201

Aug–Sept 2021 — Parties engage in ~25 hours of mediation; mediator announces agreement on

Sept 13 (per draft).

Oct 6, 2021 — Packed special meeting at St. Joseph Church; township board votes 7–0 to deny the mediated settlement; court later fines the township for attorneys' fees (per draft).

Oct 21, 2021 — U.S. District Judge Paul Maloney denies PTP intervention at that time (per quoted draft order language).

Oct 27, 2021 — Township and PTP execute a Joint Defense Agreement shortly after intervention is denied; later court filings include redactions (per draft).

June 3, 2022 — Court grants summary judgment: many winery ordinances ruled unconstitutional and/or preempted by state law (per draft).

July 27, 2022 — Sixth Circuit allows PTP to intervene; damages trial delayed (per draft).

Action Plan: Letter Deliveries

Monday, February 9, 2026

- **Letter 1: Financial/Administrative Treatment of WOMP Judgment (Request for Written Plan)**
 - **Recipients:** Assessor, Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer (cc: Township Board)
 - **Planned contents (brief):**
 - Request a written, technically grounded plan for:
 - Tax roll treatment of the WOMP judgment after the Board of Review adjourns in March
 - FY 26–27 budget treatment (how/where the judgment will be appropriated; whether a judgment bond is contemplated; timing assumptions)
 - March 31, 2026 financials: confirm recognition/disclosure since it is no longer a “subsequent event”
 - Require response by a stated deadline Monday, February 16, 2026 to inform next steps before budget adoption.
- **Letter 2: Agenda Demand + Board-Level Accountability**
 - **Recipients:** Entire Township Board
 - **Planned contents (brief):**
 - Request a dedicated agenda item prior to March 31, 2026 covering:
 - Treatment of the WOMP judgment in FY 26–27 budget
 - Treatment of the judgment in March 31, 2026 financial statements
 - The Township’s plan for tax roll handling post–Board of Review
 - Insurance recovery status and how proceeds will be applied
 - Request Board action in writing (motion/resolution) to prevent “informal” handling.

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

- **Letter 3: Alignment Letter to WOMP (Settlement Framework + Unified Strategy)**
 - **Recipients:** WOMP leadership and/or counsel
 - **Planned contents (brief):**
 - Propose aligning rather than proceeding separately; acknowledge WOMP request to “take out PTP” but sequence it strategically.
 - Ask WOMP to consider a reduction in damages tied to a Consent Judgment focused on winery operating rules (not zoning rewrites).
 - Ask WOMP to agree up front to a settlement framework the Township can pay without increasing tax levies, using:

- Known funds (Tower + Cable Council + General Fund transfers totaling \$2,410,000)
- Insurance proceeds (3 carriers; Township pursuing coverage with separate counsel; proceeds directed to WOMP)
- If necessary: voter-approved use of a portion of PDR funds (projected \$8,000,000 by March 31)
- Note: Township may later pursue malpractice recovery from former counsel; settlement should rely on known dollars first.

Friday, February 20, 2026

(conditional on WOMP alignment progress and Twp. written response)

- **Letter 4: Terminate Joint Defense Agreement + PTP/POMP Concerns**
 - **Recipients:** Entire Township Board (cc: Township attorney)
 - **Planned contents (brief):**
 - Request the Board terminate the Joint Defense Agreement with PTP (or, at minimum, require independent review and formal justification).
 - Outline concerns for Board governance review:
 - PTP's public messaging about who it represents vs. representations made in litigation posture
 - POMP charitable fundraising and potential IRS compliance questions (stated as "requires independent review," not accusations)
 - Ask for written disclosure:
 - Who PTP/POMP claims to represent
 - How funds are used
 - What obligations/risks the Township assumes by remaining tied to Joint Defense
- **Letter 5: Recusal / Conflicts Under the 2010 Code of Ethics (Separate, Surgical Letter)**
 - **Recipients:** Township Board (and/or specific members: Isaiah, Julie, Becky) (cc: Township attorney)
 - **Planned contents (brief):**
 - Request recusal from all WOMP and ag zoning matters unless Township counsel provides written advice to the contrary.
 - Identify the three conflict/appearance-of-bias issues as facts:
 - Isaiah: deposition testimony by his mother (and related implications)
 - Julie: mother's substantial donations to POMP/related fundraising (>\$100,000)
 - Becky: public statements suggesting prejudgment of WOMP claims
 - Ask for a written response confirming recusal or legal rationale for non-recusal.

Early March 2026

(Policy Normalization + Process Control)

- **Letter 6: Planning Commission Pathway (Mansfield Ag Ordinance Rewrite + “Rules for All Farmers”)**
 - **Recipients:** Planning Commission (cc: Township staff; Mansfield as appropriate)
 - **Planned contents (brief):**
 - Confirm Mansfield has been engaged to draft a comprehensive Agricultural Ordinance.
 - State intent: incorporate relevant “operating rules” in a way that applies uniformly to all farms/wineries (not one-off settlement carveouts).
 - Request:
 - Published timeline/work sessions
 - Transparent public process
 - Coordination with Township counsel for enforceability and consistency

Mid-Late March 2026

(Final Pressure Before Budget Adoption)

- **Follow-Up Letter: “No Plan = No Confidence” (Escalation if Needed)**
 - **Recipients:** Entire Township Board + Assessor/Supervisor/Clerk/Treasurer (cc: Township attorney)
 - **Planned contents (brief):**
 - Summarize outstanding unanswered questions and missing commitments.
 - Reiterate the deadline: FY 26–27 budget approval by March 31, 2026.
 - Demand final written confirmation of:
 - Budget appropriation approach
 - Financial statement recognition/disclosure
 - Tax roll handling plan post-Board of Review
- **Friday, March 27, 2026 — Final Pre-Approval Letter (If Still Unresolved)**
 - **Recipients:** Entire Township Board (cc: Township attorney)
 - **Planned contents (brief):**
 - Final request to place WOMP judgment handling on the meeting agenda immediately before adoption.
 - Explicitly note risk of judgment bond millage impacts (without hyperbole), including potential hardship and community destabilization if mishandled.