

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

@AGATE BEACH PAVILION

Supervisor/Marty Rajala called the monthly meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 6:00PM at the Agate Beach Pavilion with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Treasurer/Lori Anderson, Supervisor/Marty Rajala, Trustee/Mike Pionke, Trustee/Mark Haataja and Clerk/Kara Heinonen.

All present read over the August 2, 2023 Monthly Meeting Minutes. Lori **motioned** to accept the Monthly Meeting Minutes as read. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Lori read the Financial Statements. Marty **motioned** to approve the financial statements as **amended**. **2nd** by Kara. **Approved Unan.** Kara will transfer \$932 from the Toivola Fire Fund Pct#2 to the Toivola Rec Center in the General Fund to pay for the well project charges from Keranen Well Services.

Kara presented Bills to be paid. Lori **motioned** to pay all bills as presented. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

The USFWS is going to start a feasibility study for improvements at the Redridge Dam and they will shoulder the cost themselves. The board must approve anything that the USFWS does and will read over the document from them.

Rec Plan coordinator Ken Vrana said that he plans to have the board review the finalized rec plan in the next few weeks and possibly seek approval at the October board meeting.

The Redridge Dam clean out project bid(s) came back and the township received only one bid. The bid was \$20,000 over the projected FEMA funds that we are purported to receive to pay for this project. We are not recommending this bid be awarded until we are sure we will receive the FEMA funds. This will be tabled until we get results from FEMA. Let it be noted that TES is working on the remaining FEMA questions for the balance of the previously spent funds. There is nothing outstanding right now and they need nothing from us right now.

Concerning the township easement issue...Marty **motioned** to go forward with litigation to open the blocked easement on township property. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** This issue affects multiple landowners and we can possibly cost share with said landowners. Marty **motioned** to make a few contacts with the adjacent landowners to be a part of the litigation. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Stanton Township sent the signed agreement to USACE/USCG concerning the property adjacent to the steel sheeting at the N. Canal Park. So far there has been no response/receipt from them yet.

Does the board want to sign the EGLE Covenant for the N. Canal Park? The board will read it over (review) in the coming weeks and bring it up at the board meeting in October.

We need a signed, stamped former survey for the N. Canal Park. Does anyone know if we even have one or where it can be found?

Marty revised Ordinance #3 for the boards review and shall we vote on the ordinance at this meeting? Mark **motioned** to table the vote until the October board meeting with some more revisions. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

John Paul Pietila of TES is still working on a cost estimate of the Redridge Dam parcel survey for posting signage.

There was a suggestion for more signage for Agate Beach Park on M-26. It would need M-DOT approval and it was decided that it was not needed at this time.

The HCRC is still working on providing the sale price & documents for the lot adjacent to the township hall for a car pool lot. The HCRC has already approved the sale for a minimal amount, possibly for documentation/transfer fees only.

The township audit is almost complete.

The State of Michigan is forcing all municipalities to change over to a Uniform Chart of Accounts. Our township is not in compliance at this time but we will work on getting a quote from BS&A and other townships to see how this can be done.

Marty will modify last years bid document for the plowing of all township properties. Kara will have Kiira post the revised bid document on the township website and she will also check with MTA to see if it is necessary to post it in the newspaper. The bid deadline will be at 6PM at the start of the October 4, 2023 Stanton Township Board Meeting.

Next the board looked over the Agate Beach Building Improvements w/estimates list that John Mattila provided to the board. The board told John to go ahead with the proposed list.

It was mentioned that there is pending legislation in the State of Michigan for wind farm implementation that the townships or Counties will have no say in. If you are against this, please call your legislators to state your disapproval of this matter.

Per board member Mark Haataja...The parking lot out at the Redridge Dam is in terrible shape and severely needs to be fixed so we will fix it! Mark will get quotes to bring back to the board at the next meeting in October and we will proceed from there.

Liminga Fire Dept. Pct#1 Update: Per Mike Pionke standing in for new Fire Chief Anthony Lampinen...There will be a live fire training at the Liminga training building and it will be sponsored by the Ontonagon Fire Dept. Several other fire departments will be in attendance and this training will be held in the evening.

Toivola Fire Dept. Pct#2 Update: Per Fire Chief Garry Hoekstra...The Toivola Fire Dept. Pct#2 has been awarded a DNR Grant at present and they have applied for another DNR Grant for this fall. Way to go!!

*Lori said taxes are due by next Thursday, September 14, 2023!

Per the road committee...The County may start on the Canal Road project in late September of 2023, but this is not set in stone.

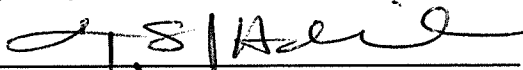
Public Comment Accepted.

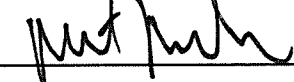
The Freda Sewer is operating well and the board will ask Sewer Operator Jim Morin for details pertaining to the \$1,600 charge for internet.

Public Comment Accepted.

Someone wanted to know when Election Inspector Training was going to be held for the 2024 Election year so Kara will check with the County Clerk to see when that is being held and will send notice to all involved.

Mark **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:15PM. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by:  Kara Heinonen, Clerk

Approved by:  Marty Rajala, Supervisor