

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

NOVEMBER 6, 2024

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

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

All present read over the Meeting Minutes from September 4, 2024. Lori **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes as amended. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Lori read the Financial Statements. Mike **motioned** to approve the financial statements as read. **2nd** by Mary. **Approved Unan.**

Mary presented Bills to be paid. Lori **motioned** to pay all the bills. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

Barr sent an invoice #3 for \$36,186.49 for work on the Redridge Dam project. Following a discussion on paying the bill, payment was tabled until December's meeting. At this time we have not been reimbursed for the payment of \$ for invoices #1 and #2. Lori **motioned** not to pay Barr until we see what the turn around time is on our reimbursements. **2nd** by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

Marty submitted a bill from Smart Creative LLC for \$290.00 to be paid for our website host.

Marty submitted the invoice for #1 from Wuebben Construction for \$55,338.99. Marty **motioned** to pay the bill. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Marty signed work order #5 for \$42,000 for Barr and TES to continue more topographic survey work.

A meeting was held with Sara Topp, from Trout Unlimited, to determine in any funding is available from them for upstream rehabilitation if the impoundment is lowered or removed. She will pass the information on to see if there is any help with the funding and design. At present there is no plan for rehabilitation.

No bill has been presented from TES or from Stan Vitton for the finally out of the FEMA project. The administration costs invoice should be coming, so Stan can start the reimbursement and finalization process.

There has been on word on the Federal Community Funding Project Grant of \$2,000,000 for road work in Stanton Twp. It is still in the House Appropriations Committee. A discussion took place on modifying the existing HMA service agreement for using some of the AARPA funding that is split with Houghton County for widening the HMA shoulder from Rocky Shores Road to the Township Hall. At present there is no shoulder on this portion of the road. There is no estimate at this time, but it may be about \$30,000. Marty **motioned** to use AARPA funds to modify the road agreement with Houghton County to include adding work on the Shoulders from Rocky Shores to Liminga Road. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

There has been no response from MDNR or MOLPUS regarding the easement of shared us language for use of the trail from the MDNR split to the old terminal. Marty will stay on them.

Wuebben has completed the first part of the parking lot project. There will be some construction work to be done in the spring after the winter plowing. Marty will meet with Anthony, Josh Stien and Wuebben to discuss the hole by the Fire Department.

There has been no new information on the Township's blocked easement in Freda.

Per John Mattila, there is no closure date for Agate Beach campground.

The results from the election will become official on November 12 or 13. 106 Stanton residents voted at the Early Voting Center in Houghton. 961 votes were cast in Stanton. Newly elected Board Members will take their position on November 20. Marty Rajala will remain as Supervisor, Lori Anderson as Treasurer, Tina Hatman as Clerk, Mark Haajata as Trustee and Jim Heinonen as Trustee. Everyone must take an oath before being seated on the Board.

A thank you was given to Mary Durocher for serving as the Clerk.

A huge Thank you was given to Mike Pionke for his many years of service to the people of Stanton as a Township Board Member and Fire Chief. His experience will be missed.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Lori mentioned that she has renew a CD for the Toivola Fire Department and the General Fund. She is working on the tax bills.

Mark has set up a new email (stantontrustee1@gmail.com) that he will be using. He will be looking into how to get the roadside cleaned up. Mark **motioned** to have Marty look into getting the centerlines of the road painted in spring. 2nd by Mike. **Approved Unan.**

ROAD COMMITTEE:

The AARPA monies have to be committed at the December Meeting. Marty **motioned** to put aggregate base on several of the township roads. 2nd by Mark. **Approved 4-1.** The Road Committee will meet in January.

STANTON VFD—Per Mike: The MFR are still looking for a new vehicle. They held a training with Adams in the Fire Building and the presentation at the school went well.

TOIVOLA VFD---

FREDA SEEWER—

PUBLIC COMMENT— No comments were offered.

Mike **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:21pm. 2nd by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by:  Tina Hatman, Clerk
Approved by:  Marty Rajala, Supervisor