

Stanton Township Board

April 02, 2025

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Supervisor Marty Rajala called the monthly meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 6:00PM at the Stanton Township Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken. Board members present: Trustee/Jim Heinonen, Trustee/Mark Haataja, Supervisor/Marty Rajala, Treasurer/Lori Anderson and Clerk/Tina Hatman.

All present read over the Meeting Minutes from March 05, 2025. Lori **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes: **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

Lori proposed to take \$150,000 from the Road Fund and put it into a 5 Month CD. Also take a 5 Month CD that is coming up for renewal with Superior National Bank and move it over to Range Bank. Marty **motioned** to have Lori add and move the CD's as mentioned. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

The Board revisited the April 2024-March 2025 budget and the April 2025-March 2026 budget. Lori **motioned** to amend the April 2024-March 2025 and the April 2025-March 2026 budget items as mentioned. See attached for amendments. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

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

Tina presented the bills to be paid. Lori **motioned** to pay all the bills. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Roy Britz discussed the upcoming Houghton County Jail proposal for the August ballot. There will be a number of presentations in regards to said proposal, including the April 15th meeting at 10am at the Houghton County Courthouse. If Stanton wishes to be added to the list of presentations, we can let Roy know. There is a YouTube video that explains the different reasons for this proposal. Marty made a **motion** that he will work with Kiira to have the YouTube video link posted to the Stanton Township website. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** The board tabled the discussion of the ask to add a presentation at the township.

Childs Park parcel closed on March 19, 2025. Stanton Township now owns the parcel.

Ken Vrana, OHM and Marty have completed and Marty has submitted the MNRTF Grant application for Hemlock Springs, Coles Creek Park project. We may have to wait until October for a possible answer. The township should expect a bill from OHM for these services.

Marty mentioned that Barr Eng Work Orders #6 & #7 for RedRidge Dam were signed and returned to Barr Eng. Payments for the project to Barr Eng starting with Invoice #6 & #7 were submitted April 02, 2025, which is the end of the 1st quarter of 2025. The Invoice #8 was

approved for payment, and will be submitted in the Second Quarter of 2025 in July for the Second Quarter 2025. Barr Eng provided the submission package for reimbursement submittals. The reimbursement funding for this is coming from the Great Lakes Fishery Commission Grant and SIGMA.

No Admin billing yet from JP @ TES and Stan Vitton to final out FEMA project. Marty talked to Stan and was told that the way billing is done was changed. Stan will send a bill to close out of this job.

Marty received word that none of Congressman Bergmans projects submitted (including Stanton Twp's **Project Grants** of \$2,000,000 for Canal Rd reconstruct project) will be funded in 2025 due to the stop gap funding measure recently passed, which carry current funding levels through 2025. Congressman Bergman has said he will resubmit the project for FY 2026. Marty **motioned** to revise and resubmit an application for the next round (FY 2026) of Community CFP grants after the application process is received. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** The re-submittal of the application and cost sharing by Stanton Township was approved by the Township Board.

It was discussed that the road between the Oscar Cemetery approximately 500' North to the corner is in need of repair and has had multiple Township resident complaints and in need of constant maintenance by the HCRC. Marty **motioned** to talk to the HCRC to possibly contract with Bacco Construction for a quote for road repair in the Oscar Bay Area in conjunction with the upcoming HMA paving project on the Houghton Canal Rd. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

Marty mentioned that Ken Vrana is working with John Mattila on a Passport or other grants for Agate Beach Boat Ramp. No update has been given.

Marty asked the board about their thoughts on the maintenance and cleanup efforts at North Canal Park. There was an email from a concerned lady about the cleanup efforts at the NCP. Mark mentioned adding fire rings to the right side of the park may help. Mark offered to meet with the concerned lady at the park for a tour and discuss her concerns. Marty will email her back letting her know this, and also that she has permission to put together a cleaning crew for the park.

Marty mentioned that in regards to the Outdoor Ice Rink donor, we may not hear who the award recipient(s) are from the private donor until late 2025 or even out to July 2026. Marty may ask Mylun and/or Chet to repair/fix a few smaller things at the dome for now.

The Kenner Dome well proposal from Keranen Well Service, Inc. was discussed. Marty **motioned** to approve the proposal. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** Mark will contact Keranen Well Service, Inc.

The Township Par-Plan Insurance Renewal was discussed. Our current plan does not include cyber security. Marty will look into adding this to the plan, along with shopping around for other quotes. Mark **motioned** to allow switching to another insurance company if the cost was \$1,000 cheaper than the renewal plan with our current insurance company with cyber security included. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

The camera system at Kenner Dome was repaired by Jason Kovach, who installed the system.

Board Comments- Lori mentioned that there will be a full audit for the township this year.

Roads- Trustees Jim Heinonen and Mark Haataja have finalized the 100% Township funded Dust Control list. The Dust control request and signup sheet is posted on the Township website. Funding was previously approved for up to \$45,000 on all dust control areas. This is a higher amount as costs are estimated. The township has flags to use if needed.

The Road Service agreement for spending the AARA funds should be received soon from HCRC and will include HMA shoulder paving near Rocky Shores Rd to the Township Hall added as part of the paving project done this year on Canal Road, from Coles Creek Rd to the Township Hall. The suggested locations of Agg Base placement on Twp roads to be reviewed after snow cover is gone, are on McKilligan Rd. (swampy, low area); NC Park Hill (where left off through low area to the P Lot); Niemi Rd (if needed); Eilola Rd & Ruohonen Rd (if needed); Covered Drive (in low or wetter areas). There is no estimate yet of how much money will be left after paving shoulders of the Canal Road.

Jim talked to the HCRC to see which roads they will be painting lines on this year. HCRC has not finalized the list yet. Jim will contact them again in a few weeks to see what the status is. He will also ask if the white lines are being painted, or only the yellow center lines.

Stanton VFD- None


Toivola VFD- None

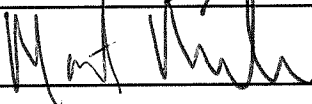
Freda Sewer- None

Public Comment- None

It was reminded that the next monthly meeting will be held in Toivola at the Toivola Rec Center.

Jim **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by:  Tina Hatman, Clerk

Approved by:  Marty Rajala, Supervisor

Amended budget changes - 04/02/2025

Stanton Township General Fund - April 2024- March 2025

Code:	Title:	Change:
<u>General Fund</u>		
101 Legislative		
101-750	Bank Charges	\$262 up to \$265
101-850	Telephone/Internet	\$1,500 up to \$1,513
101-851	Internet & Phone-Personal usage	\$1,800 up to \$1,912
101-957	Training & Education	\$1,500 up to \$2,350
171 Supervisor		
171-851	Internet & Phone-home	\$900 up to \$975
215 Clerk		
215-851	Internet & Phone-home	\$900 up to \$975
253 Treasurers		
253-851	Internet & Phone-home	\$900 up to \$975
751 Kenner Dome		
751-920	Kenner Dome Utilities	\$2,483 up to \$2,726
752 Canal Park		
752-920	Canal Park Utilities	\$300 up to \$320
756 Toivola Rec Center		
756-921	Toivola Rec. Center Electric	\$1,938 up to \$2,483
<u>Liminga Fire Fund</u>		
336 Fire Protection		
978	Vehicles/Apparatus	\$17,230 up to \$ 20,000
342 O.C. Exp.		
342-802	Plowing/Snow	\$4,000 up to \$4,515
342-922	Electric	\$2,412 up to \$2,642

Stanton Township General Fund - April 2025- March 2026

Code:	Title:	Change:
<u>General Fund</u>		
752 Canal Park		
752-930	Repairs and Maintenance	\$4,000 up to \$14,400