

Stanton Township Board

March 04, 2026

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 Budget Hearing Meeting Minutes from February 04, 2026. Lori **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

All present read over the Regular Meeting Minutes from February 04, 2026. Lori **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

Lori read the Financial Statements. Jim **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 as amended. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

Lori **motioned** to amend the April 2025-March 2026 budget, as discussed. See attached for amendments. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

MNRTF grant for Hemlock Springs is being worked on for resubmission for Hemlock Springs Park prior to the April 01, 2026 deadline. Some alterations were made to it and it was available for review in its entirety at this meeting.

Public Comment period OPENED at 6:15 pm for input & discussion for submitting this grant request.

Comments:

Jackie asked if the property was already purchased? Marty responded that it was purchased last year for the creation of the park. She also asked if the connection to the Bills Nichols trail includes mountain biking on the ATV shared trail. Marty explained that a shared trail included mountain biking.

Chris asked if cars would be using the bridge and wondered what the weight limit was on it. Marty responded that the bridge would be accessible by hiking, biking, walking and ATV's, but not cars.

The grant request proposal was then discussed and a couple of modifications for the proposal were suggested.

Lori **motioned** to close the comment period at 6:27pm. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

The Board reviewed the Hemlock Springs Park Resolution 2026-02, committing the 30% Twp participation to \$144,000. Lori **motioned** to adopt Resolution 2026-02 for the Hemlock Springs Park grant application submission. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved** on a **Roll Call Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays**

The Board of Review Organizational meeting was held 3/3/26. The BOR is looking for suggestions for alternates on this Board. The board will look for possible candidates for this.

Marty discussed rescinding the previous version of Resolution 2026-01 (Poverty Exemption Guidelines) and review and replace it with the latest up to date version approved by the BOR on 3/3/26 by Resolution 2026-01R. Marty **motioned** to rescind the Resolution 2026-01 2026 Poverty Exemption and Asset Test Guidelines. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.** Next the updated 2026 Poverty Exemption and Asset Test Guidelines was presented. Marty **motioned** to adopt Resolution 2026-01R for the 2026 Poverty Exemption and Asset Test Guidelines. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved** on a **Roll Call Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays**

No word on selection or award yet of RTF Grant request to USDOT for rural communities for up to \$500,000.00 for road design services for the CFP road grant if it is received. No match required for this grant.

Redridge Dam Project – Township reimbursement requests for Barr Eng Invoices #18 & #20 to be made to EGLE will be included in Q1 of 2026 to EGLE (MDSO) at the end of March 2026. Twp reimbursement request for Barr Eng Invoice #19 made on Feb 27, to the GLFC. Likely the remainder of the reimbursement requests for Barr Invoices for this year will be going to EGLE.

OPUS Web plans to have the new township website up and running next month. The website can be updated once it is live. The board will be able to add information and forms to the website at any time. Questions and comments will be able to be submitted to board members through the website.

No email invite yet from US Treasury for final documentation of ARPA Expenditures.

Nick Djerf, Stanton Township Assessor, said he would review, update the legal boundary, name and status information with the US Census Bureau for their information on Stanton Townships' behalf, along with other Assessor duties. He is doing a great job so far.

Stanton Twp, Freda Honor roll parcel ownership/access litigation has had no progress.

Green Timber (Stanton Twp forest manager) was notified of the acceptance by the Stanton Township Board for both Timber cutting proposals for Ball Field and Agate Beach parcels. Signed contracts were sent to them on 2/24/2026.

Roads- Marty **motioned** to approve the 100% Township funded dust control list as presented, along with the 50/50 split for property owners that want dust control placed in front of their property, with a fillable form. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** The form will be available on the website, with an estimated cost for 50/50. The approved list will be published.

Road Service Agreement with HCRC for allocating the Section 19 Road Funds has not been received from HCRC as of yet.

Marty will send out Construction bid/quote packages to a minimum of 4 qualified bidders for adjusting Freda Sanitary Manholes in April or May, for a possible June start for the project.

Marty and Mark reviewed the work that needs done at the Kenner Dome in the spring. Which includes fixing the end boards and fencing, repair of rink boards hazards and exterior repairs of the building. There is up to \$50,000 in repairs needed. Mark **motioned** for OHM to do minor drafting and grant application submission, for up to \$1500.00. This is for any eligible grants with the township matching 50% or up to \$25,000 for the grant. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

Reminder of the BOR meetings scheduled for next Monday and Tuesday, March 09 & 10, 2026.

Board Member Comments: Lori closed out the 2025 tax season, it went well.

Mark discussed adding street lights to the Township Park and Ride and the Township Hall parking lot. The cost is \$10.43/mo per light fixture through UPPCO with a 3 year commitment. UPPCO will install the fixtures at no cost. Mark **motioned** to add 2 lights to the Park and Ride and 2 lights to the Township Hall Parking lot. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

Agate Beach Rec Committee- None

Stanton VFD- Anthony said the new truck at the Redridge Firehall is being used. The waterfilling station at Oskar was low and trucks had to fill up at Love Lake. He discussed the situation with Undersheriff John about the street names in Redridge, Beacon Hill and Freda with very similar names, and said that 911 can put in place a way to let the first responders/fire fighters know which area to respond to.


Toivola VFD- None

Freda Sewer- None

Public Comment- Roy Britz also had information on the similar road names in Redridge, Beacon Hill and Freda that he shared with Anthony.

Lori **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:16pm. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by:  Tina Hatman, Clerk

Approved by:  Marty Rajala, Supervisor

Amended budget changes - 03/04/2026

Stanton Township Funds April 2025-March 2026

EXPENSE

Code: Title: Change:

General Fund

265 Building And Grounds

265-920 Utilities \$800 up to \$1,800

752 Canal Park

752-920 Utilities \$300 up to \$400