

Stanton Township Board

April 01, 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 Regular Meeting Minutes from March 04, 2026. Lori **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes. **2nd** by Mark. **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, with the addition of the Hannula Insurance bill. Marty **motioned** to approve the payment to Hannula Insurance. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.** Lori **motioned** to pay all the bills as amended. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

No budget amendments were needed.

MNRTF grant for Hemlock Springs was resubmitted for Hemlock Springs Park ahead of the April 01, 2026 deadline. Notification of awards for this grant are usually by Nov of the same year, for next year's construction.

Marty submitted a grant to Copper Shores Community Health Foundation for a safety and improvement project for the Kenner Dome. Marty is sending out bid invitations soon for this project. This will be a summer/fall project to fix end boards and fencing, repair of rink boards hazards and/or exterior repairs of the building to comply with a possible Copper Shores grant award, if one is received. If no grant is available, a possible project scope modification may be needed depending on the bids received for the project and funding amounts approved by the Board.

The Board of Review meetings were held on March 9 & 10, 2026.

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 awarded. No match required for this grant.

Redridge Dam Project – Township reimbursement requests for Barr Eng Invoices #21 & #22 to be made to GLFC. Previous payments (Invoice #19) not reimbursed by GLFC, will be submitted to EGLE for 2026 Q1 reimbursement in the next week or so.

Based upon the recent inspection report prepared by Barr Eng, there are some repairs needed on the dam. These are estimated at about \$10,000, and may not be covered by the current Grant awards from EGLE and GLFC. The future of the Redridge Dam, and investing in the preservation of it was discussed. It was decided to table the repairs discussion until it is determined if the current EGLE grant for the Dam project would be able to cover these repairs. Marty **motioned** to work with Ken Vrana to draft language for special legislation for Stanton Township for the Redridge Dam. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.**

OPUS Web plans to have the new township website up and running soon. Jim has a Google Form for Dust Control submission that will be put on the current website soon, and it will be added to the new website once it is up and running.

No email invite yet from US Treasury for final documentation of ARPA Expenditures. Remaining ARPA funds all expended on road work with the HCRC last year.

Stanton Township's, Freda Honor roll parcel ownership/access litigation has a pre-trial conference on Nov 02, 2026 in Marquette. With a, Dec 07, 08 & 09, 2026 for trial in Marquette. The supervisor is required to attend these meetings and the trial. Marty plans to look for old maps showing an old road through the parcel, possibly at the HCRC and the MTU Archives.

Green Timber (Stanton Twp forest manager) will be soliciting bid packages to local loggers soon for the Ball Field and Agate Beach parcels. The Ball Field parcel amount was reduced in size, but will still bring in at least the same amount of profit.

The overhead lights to be installed by UPPCO at the Township Hall and Park & Ride Parking Lots were discussed. Each parking lot will have 2 lights. Mark **motioned** to approve UPPCO putting in the lights. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Adding a Porta Potty at the North Canal Park down by the lower parking area was discussed. Lori **motioned** to approve having one Porta Potty from A-1 Toilets from May-Nov. **2nd** by Tina. **Approved Unan.**

There will be a 2026 Election Committee meeting immediately following this meeting for the upcoming May election.

Roads- Mark and Jim are working on this year's dust control areas and will need to send the final list to the HCRC by Mid-May. Prices from last year's program to be used for the time being until contracts are signed with the HCCR and Contractor.

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.

Board Member Comments: Tina presented a letter from the auditor for the F-65 that needs to be completed. Lori **motioned** to approve and sign the F-65 letter. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

Lori mentioned someone is interested in selling her property that is next to Liminga Cemetery. The potential seller will be in town in August. Lori will look into this further.

Agate Beach Rec Committee- None

Stanton VFD- None

Toivola VFD- None

Freda Sewer- Jim said things are going good. There is water from the snow melt but it's holding up well. The cooler weather also helps.

Public Comment- A citizen questioned the Redridge Dam project. Marty explained the history of the Dam and its current condition and ongoing project options for it. The Stanton Township Board needs to decide whether to either preserve, or remove the Redridge Dam.

Marty **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Submitted by: _____ **Tina Hatman, Clerk**

Approved by: _____ **Marty Rajala, Supervisor**