

Stanton Township Board

September 02, 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 August 04, 2026. Lori **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes. **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 as amended. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.**

No Amendments were needed for the April 2026-March 2027 budget.

Marty reminded everyone that there will be a Special Public Meeting at the Township Hall on October 8th at 6pm to discuss the future of the Redridge Dam project. Barr Eng will be doing a presentation of the options that were considered, and why the Board has motioned and approved to move forward with the removal of the timber crib and steel dams, while keeping a lamprey barrier.

Marty mentioned that reimbursement to be requested by Barr Eng from EGLE (MDSO) at the end of September for Q3 of 2026.

Trav Eng to administer the Ballfield parking lot project with Charlie Mitch. The project did not start yet. The project completion date is set for October 15, 2026 to allow aggregate base to winter stabilize.

Marty had a meeting with Adams Twp Schools Superintendent about a use and maintenance agreement for use of the Stanton Twp ballfield. Adams Twp School is drafting an agreement for Board review, consideration and possible approval. Marty will also discuss this with Daron Durocher.

Two sealed bids for the Project Bids for Kenner Dome safety project were returned to the township. Tina opened, and read the bids. Marty reviewed the bids. The Wall Street Construction bid was read and checked low at \$26,500 for option 1 and \$31,300 for option 2. Lori **motioned** to accept the option 2 low bid of \$31,300 from Wall Street Construction. **2nd** by Mark. **Approved Unan.** Completion date for this project is Oct 24, 2026.

Lori said that the township will need to fill out the ARPA form every year until all townships have submitted their ARPA forms. Once this is done, then the township will get the invite from the US Treasury for final documentation of ARPA Expenditures.

Mark discussed a new pricing proposal for a digital informational sign which would be mounted on the Township Hall. Mark **motioned** to order a 2'x10' digital sign for \$13,822. **2nd** by Marty. Lori, Jim and Tina opposed. **Motion denied.**

Mark Haataja discussed the proposed Pickleball Courts at the Kenner Dome. With an estimated \$80K for the project. Lori will look into grants to help with the cost for this project.

A discussion for replacing the Toivola Ice Rink floor base was held. Mark **motioned** to allow John Mattila, on behalf of Stanton Township, to work with an engineering company for this project for up to \$5,000. **2nd** by Jim. **Approved Unan.** John will contact an engineering company.

Timber Sale Update - Stanton Twp Forest Manager, Green Timber, said log delivery receipts are finalized. Total Scaled timber = \$ 77,852.70-\$5,487.05 (exp) = \$72,365.65 net. The Agate Beach harvest bid proposals to go out soon according to Green Timber (Stanton Twp Forest Manager).

USACE, North Canal Park project is projected to be completed by the end of September.

Roads- No word from Congressman Bergman's office about interpretation of the fund language for the CFP project on the Houghton Canal Rd construction project.

Road Service Agreement with HCRC for allocating the Section 19 Road Funds not received from HCRC yet. HCRC is still unsure if it's coming due to last year's events.

Unsure if the USDOT, Rural & Tribal Assistance (RTA) grant for \$500,000 for Engineering Costs will be available yet. The grant app was previously approved for re-submittal. The township will apply again if this becomes available.

Marty and Mark to work on designing a HMA skip paving project with HCRC in multiple locations based upon the current 5-year road plan in conjunction with HCRC and Neighborhood Road funding possibly received in near future which is a modification of the Act 51 gas tax.

The Freda Sanitary Manhole project has started with minimal work.

HCRC plans to finish agg base placement on McKilligan Rd in the fall.

Marty is passing on the keys to Timmer Loukus and family for the NCP & Kenner Dome for maintenance, including trash duties, cleanup, nail & fire pit cleanup, monitoring outhouses, pavilions, etc.

Redridge/Freda Loop trail repair waiting on funding according to Mi DNR trail supervisor. The trail ends at the Salmon Trout River Bridge.

Board Member Comments: Lori received a complaint on someone carving steps in the ground on the eroding hills in Toivola on private property. John looked into it and had not found any evidence on this as of yet. Lori mentioned that steps were also being carved out by someone by a tree that is falling over at Agate Beach Park. The tree is currently taped off with caution tape.

Lori mentioned that Doug L. contacted her inquiring on wanting to purchase an old wooden road sign that is at the corner of Canal Rd and Liminga Rd. The board decided to keep the historic sign where it is and not sell it.

The status of a grant request for Hemlock Springs was brought up. The grant award recipients will be notified by the beginning of December. If the grant is not approved, the Township may look into modifications or other grant options.

Agate Beach Rec Committee- John said some tree trimming was done on some hazard trees in the park. Gravel will be brought in for low spots in the roads in September or October. The HCRC graded and added some gravel to some areas that had washouts. HCRC will also look into the washouts, for fixing this issue, when they have time. John also is looking into different options for replacing road signs/fixing some signs with stickers, in Toivola.

Stanton VFD- Anthony had talked to Marty who verbally approved Anthony to submit a fire safety grant request. Marty **motioned** to reauthorize Anthony Lampinen and John Mattila to be able to apply for any fire safety and/or fire related grants on behalf of Stanton Township. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

Toivola VFD- None.

Freda Sewer- Jim said the system is working fine. Filter maintenance has brought up efficiency. The flow rate was 1,970 gal per day for August. The letter for the sewer customers regarding the input of seasonal water into the sewer system was sent out in their sewer bill.

Public Comment- A community member requested having work done to Agate Beach Road. She will contact HCRC about this issue and look into getting a car counter for said road.

John mentioned using the Keweenaw Report for posting Special Meeting Notices on their community calendar. Tina will look into this.

The last timber harvest that was done at Agate Beach, the money went to an account for future use at Agate Beach. Lori will look into putting these funds into a CD to collect some interest.

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

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

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