

STANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

SEPTEMBER 4, 2024

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Supervisor Marty Rajala called the monthly meeting of the Stanton Township Board to order at 6:00 PM in the Agate Beach Pavilion 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 August 7, 2024. Marty **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes as amended. **2nd** by Lori. **Approved Unan.**

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

Mary presented Bills to be paid. Amendments of \$10,000 for contracted service for the Oscar Dome and \$10,000 creating a new account for State Grants were approved to the budget. Lori **motioned** to pay all the bills. **2nd** Mike **Approved Unan.**



There has been no word from the Township Attorney regarding the purchase of property near the Redridge Dam.

Barr Engineering work order #1 was signed. USFWS will pay Barr directly for their services using the electronic payment that has been set up between them. A copy of the invoice will come to us. There will be no expenditure of Township funds needed for the preliminary engineering items. Marty will attend a zoom meeting with the Dam Safety Committee, USFWS, Great Lakes Fishery and Barr concerning how the funding will be distributed. The funds from the Dam Safety will go into the SIGMA. Lori will sit in on the zoom meeting

There may be a shortfall in funding due to SHPO concerns and future environmental phases. Additional funding sources are being explored. Ken Vrana has found a grant funding opportunity through NOAA which may be able to address the funding shortfall for upstream rehabilitation portion of the project. Marty has directed Ken to move forward gathering information on this for the Board's approval of a grant submission.

JP @ TES and Stan Vitton will final out the FEMA project. The Administration costs have not been billed to the Township. The Township cannot bill FEMA until we get the costs.

The Federal Community Funding Project Grant of \$2,000,000 for road work in Stanton Twp has made it through the Appropriation Committee. There has been no word on the legislative vote approving the funding. The vote should be held before March 2025. This will probably be a 2026 project completion.

There has been no word from the Township Attorney on the blocked historical easement.

RFP for the North Canal Park operator was advertised by KEDA. A walkthrough meeting with KEDA and Weubben Enterprises was held on August 12th to review the park and the complete site with interested parties. Mike did the walkthrough with KEDA. There are no results until the proposal due date.

The light pole installation at the Boat Launch has not been completed and looks great. The poles are taller than requested and cameras are installed. Lori will order "Cameras in use" sign to be hung at the Boat Launch.

MOLPUS has agreed to allow Stanton Township and the MDNR to place the (1/2 mile) Freda Loop trail terminus back in the location that it always has been. There will need to be an easement agreement with MOLPUS, MDNR and Stanton Township. Marty hopes that the MDNR will provide these agreements. Marty also requested the DNR to continue the ATV/ Snowmobile trail extension out to Freda on the existing grade that they own. This may not be a possibility with the existing condition of the old grade.

Bids for the parking lot paving project will be opened on September 11, 2024 at 11 am.

A special meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at Noon to review the bids and accept the recommendations from UPEA. The notices will be posted.

A plowing contract will be placed on the Township website for bids. All bids should be submitted by the October 2 meeting.

Agate Beach is looking good. There were no issues this year. Jeffers built new tables for the park with the Ash that John Mattila donated.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mary reported that she was able to get Kara Heinonen's name removed from the November ballot. She is disqualified because she is no longer a resident.

Mike reported on the meeting held at Franklin Township Hall regarding windmills. Another meeting will be scheduled with our State Representatives.

Mike would like to attend the MTA Regional meeting held in Marquette on October 3rd. Mark and Lori will also like to attend. Lori **motioned** to send who ever wants to go to the MTA meeting. **2nd** by Marty. **Approved Unan.**

ROAD COMMITTEE:

There will be a Road Committee meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 to discuss the service agreement and other road projects.

STANTON VFD—A grant for \$66384.53 was received, there are no outstanding grants monies.

TOIVOLA VFD-- Nothing to report.

FREDA SEEWER—Jim reported the tanks were not pumped; the company has been very slow to respond. Again, there was a rag in the system, no action taken on tank options.

PUBLIC COMMENT— John Mattila will check on the price of a lawnmower to be used for Agate Beach and the Toivola cemetery.

Mark motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 pm 2nd by Lori. Approved Unan.

Submitted by: Mary Durocher Mary Durocher, Clerk

Approved by: Marty Rajala Marty Rajala, Supervisor