

MINUTES OF THE AU GRES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING April 11th, 2023 ~ 7:00 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE: Supervisor Jim Herzog, Clerk Michael Oxley, Treasurer Patricia Tremble, Trustee Penny Kurchak and Trustee Jan Bullock

ABSENT: None

ATTENDEES: Dave Albosta, Bill Bullock, Jeff Czymbor, Dave Enos, Art Gallop, Aurette Gates, Derek Porritt and Lisa Salgat

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting began at 7:00pm with the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL of AGENDA: Motion made by Treasurer Patricia Tremble to approve the agenda as presented. Supported by Trustee Penny Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Agenda approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL of the MINUTES: Motion made by Tremble to approve minutes of the March 14th, 2023 Annual Meeting. Motion supported by Trustee Janice Bullock. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Minutes approved.

Motion made by Clerk Michael Oxley to approve the minutes of the March 14th, 2023 Board of Trustee meeting. Motion supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Minutes approved.

PAYMENT OF BOOK OF BILLS: Tremble asked about the bill from the county Sheriff's Office (Patrol Officer hours). Oxley stated that the invoice just came in the email today (Tuesday - after the book of bills was generated). Motion made by Tremble to approve the March 2023 book of bills as presented. Motion supported by Oxley. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Motion approved

TREASURER'S REPORT: Read by Treasurer Patricia Tremble. Tremble spoke on the movement of monies into interest bearing CD's and a new account with the Northland Area Federal Credit Union. The purpose was to keep the funds at or below the \$250,000.00 level required by the FDIC for full coverage (in the case of a bank failure). The funds being adjusted are: General Fund (\$250,000.00 CD), Mosquito Fund (\$75,000.00 CD) and Gypsy Moth Fund (\$112,861.41 CD) . Road Fund \$100,000.00 from checking into savings and Ditching Fund \$60,000.00 from checking into savings.

Motion made by Kurchak to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Supported by Bullock. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Motion approved

BOARD REPORTS:

AUGRES-SIMS-WHITNEY FIRE AUTHORITY: No March Fire Board meeting report as Supervisor Jim Herzog could not attend due to his duties on Board of Review conflicting with the meeting date.

HERITAGE ROUTE AUTHORITY: Reported by Jim Herzog: Meeting called to order by Curt Hillman with 12 people in attendance. Treasurers report given by Mark Winslow.

Brenda Matt reported that the summer concert dates were set for this year. Also mentioning that there is a man from Alpena who has a small railroad car he would like to bring down for (the 20th) Depot Days, and would offer rides on the car (noting that permission is needed from Lake State to use the tracks).

Loyalty Day parade is on Saturday April 29th at 12:00 Noon.

The annual Give Local Bay/Arenac County fund raiser is on May 2nd, you can donate online or via mail.

The County-Wide Garage sale is scheduled for June 2nd and 3rd, and the 12th annual Vintage Car Show is on Saturday, July 8th. Ideas are being sought for the Santa Parade and volunteers are always needed.

Trustee Bullock stated that the Arenac Independent had an insert this week called "Angels Among Us" and two of the angels named in the booklet were Brenda Matt and Dennis Whitney both driving forces behind making the Standish Depot what it is today!

CEMETERY REPORT: Trustee Kurchak visited the cemetery on Easter and was delighted to see all the activity that day. Now looking forward to spring cleanup, noting some removal of the downed trees (resulting from the Amen Drain cleanout work).

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Art Gallop Zoning Administrator reporting. A house on Rumsey road is looking to add a second story and Kitchen renovation, with work to start in the Fall. On Lola Lane Mr. Kanto has dropped off the shed, which was discussed last month. Gallop reported that he had been driving around the township checking on blight status, as the Planning Commission has been discussing enforcement procedures of a township Blight Ordinance (from 1992). Gallop also requested work be done on the ditches in front of Schwidersons (on Santiago south of Gordon), standing water never flows.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Resolution was made to take \$250,000 from the Horizon Bank General Fund and put it into the Northland Area Federal Credit Union (to meet the FDIC's \$250k coverage limit should there be bank troubles). The credit union is offering 4.9% interest rate for 12 months. Motion made by Bullock to move the funds (\$250,000.00) from Horizon Bank to Northland CU. Motion supported by Oxley. Roll Call Vote: Oxley ~ Yes, Herzog ~ Yes, Bullock ~ Yes, Kurchak ~ Yes, Tremble ~ Yes. All Ayes. No Nays. Resolution adopted. UPDATE: the following day, rates changed and the monies were never moved to the credit union, rather a CD at Horizon was obtained.
- b. Cemetery maintenance contract for 2023 (D & J Landscaping - Dominic Ruiz). Oxley told the attendees that Ruiz was the groundskeeper last year and that the township board was satisfied with the job he did. Ruiz's quote was the same pricing as last year. Motion made by Oxley to renew the contract with D&J Landscaping. Motion supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. D&J Landscaping 2023 contract approved.
- c. Eastern Dust Control (Mylan Haas) quote for 2023. Oxley included last years quote to show the board members the increase over last year charges (23 cents per mile (up from 22 cents), (\$230.00 per 1000 gallons (up from \$220.00 last year) and (\$460.00 per 2000 gallons -2 pass up from \$440.00 last year). The board agreed that we would be having two passes twice a during the spring/summer seasons. Motion made by Oxley to approve the Eastern Dust control contract. Motion supported by Tremble. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Eastern Dust Control contract approved.
- d. Road Commission work orders: Herzog spoke on the road work plans for this year, noting that the board was holding off on any large project (such as paving Manor road in 2022) in order to gear up for a future high cost project next year. Herzog then presented the projects for 2023: Booth Road from Santiago to Rumsey road (1.75 miles). Noting that originally the plan was to chip-seal Booth road but analysis by ACTC engineer Brad Stauffer, said it would not work, and proposed shoring up the sides of booth road and then paving a thin layer on the road. The object was to give Booth road a few more years of life before complete repaving would be needed. Cost (max townships cost) \$71,429.38 (Total project cost shown as \$122,112.50) Note: the original quote for paving was \$250,000.00). Motion made by Oxley to approve the Booth Road work order. Motion supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Booth road project work order approved.

Shenfield ('extension') Road Project work order. Herzog explained that the survey for the extension right-of-way properties was completed by SSI, and the ACRC had no issues with the project. Township assessor is currently approving the land divisions required (Bilacic on the West, Enos and Lutz on the east). Cost to upgrade Shenfield (US-23 to Noggle) and make it into a township road maximum cost is shown as \$71,070.00. Motion made by Oxley to approve the Shenfield Road work order. Motion supported by Tremble. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Shenfield road project work order approved. Board members to sign the work orders - Oxley to scan and email to ACRC.

Herzog presented one more work order to the board, which was for crack sealing (Overband Crack Fill) 2.66 miles at \$4,000.00 per mile (totaling \$10,640). Roads in question were Santiago and Swenson. Motion made by Tremble to approve the crack sealing work order as presented. Motion supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Herzog's opinion that Swenson road did not need any crack sealing and was to hold the work order from being signed by the board until he could review the need with the ACRC engineer.

BOARD COMMENT: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Aurette Gates (Swenson Rd) asked about the cost of the land needed for the Shenfield road project, was the land being donated or taken? Herzog reported that 4 parcels were being divided for the necessary right-of-way on the west and east sides of the current extension. Lois Bilacic had two parcels on the West side (\$6,000), David Enos had one parcel on the Northeast side (\$3,000) and Victor Lutz had one parcel on the Southeast (\$3,000). All total \$12,000 using Marijuana fund monies.

Gates suggested using the Marijuana fund to pay for the crack sealing, as Swenson road is heavily used daily by marijuana facility vehicles.

Art Gallop (Booth Rd) wanted to warn people about a phone scam, where the phone rings once, and only once, and if you pick it up you could be charged for a long distance call to another country.

Dave Albosta (Lola Lane) reported that there was a need for a new culvert as the one under their road is crushed and water not flowing. Herzog to come and take a look at it.

Dave Enos (Noggle Rd) asked about the culvert(s) on Noggle and Shenfield roads and whether they were going to be replaced or extended as part of the Shenfield road project. Herzog responded that there is a culvert cost in the work order, but is not positive where those culverts would be going. To which Tremble asked if the drain commission should be in on the project, as there is a drain that runs through Enos's and Lutz's properties.

Lisa Salgat, when asked about the GIS project, reported that there is now a seven (7) member board - Mark Heideman is still the chair, and Kim Anderson is the secretary. Also that Larry Davis has gotten grant monies from the Tribe so Spicer has funds for the updating of the GIS system. And a contract is being written to keep the system up and running.

ADJOURNMENT: TIME – 8:10pm. Motion made by Tremble to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No Nays. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved at the regular Board of Trustees Meeting on _____

James Herzog, Supervisor _____

Michael Oxley, Clerk _____