

MINUTES OF THE AU GRES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING October 8th, 2024 ~ 7:00 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE: Supervisor Jim Herzog, Clerk Michael Oxley, Treasurer Patrica Tremble, Trustee Jan Bullock and Trustee Penny Kurchak **ABSENT:** None

ATTENDEES: In order of signing in: Jesse Young, Bill Bullock, Pam Stewart, Art Gallop, Jeff Czymbor, Kirk Olson, Dan Snyder, Ben Seago (APM), Brent Adam, Wes and Gail Crumby.

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

BOARD COMMENT: None.

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

Ben Seago Advanced Pest Management speaking during public comment so he might leave to another meeting: Early start of the mosquito season with a warm winter and a warmer spring, by the 2nd week of May APM was treating woodland pools (earlier spraying than usual). August was pleasant, dry and chilly and September was dry. During the 2024 season they had 83 resident calls mostly off-road service requests. Ariel larvaciding was completed by April 25 with 809 acres for flood plains treated. 97 water sites were treated by ground crews, with a total of 750lbs Vectobac G), Truck spraying started earlier due to warm temperatures in May – total of 767 miles of roads sprayed in 2024 (3 routes – 215 off roads). If ever there are missed off-roads – call the office for verification/correction. Overall APM ran over budget by about \$1,059 for the season, mostly from spray miles (650 budgeted/767 sprayed) The current contract with APM expires at the end of the 2025 season, expect an increase in the new contract. APM is moving to a flay \$45.00/mile for truck spraying (state-wide for all renewed contracts).

PUBLIC COMMENT (2 minute limit per person/group): Jesse Young said this was the first year he had not a mosquito problem since having APM spray behind his house. Kudos to Ben and his teams.

Dan Snyder presented himself as running to County Sheriff in the November 5th election, discussing his qualifications and background. Grew up in this area, worked for the DEA at the southern border, now back home.

Kirk Olson, running for Au Gres Township Trustee, gave his background, qualifications and his desire to serve on the township board.

APPROVAL of the MINUTES: Motion made by Tremble to approve the minutes of the September 10th, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting (with corrections). Motion supported by Bullock. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Minutes approved.

PAYMENT OF BOOK OF BILLS: Motion made by Tremble to approve the September 2024 book of bills as presented. Motion supported by Clerk Michael Oxley. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Motion approved

TREASURER'S REPORT: Read by Pat Tremble. Total of all funds is \$1,525,732.71 with the accrued interest on investments at \$23,049.91. No questions or comments from the public. Motion made by Oxley 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: Meeting held at the Au Gres Fire Hall, called to order by Olen Swartz. Tom Brandimore gave the treasurer's report, reviewing the monthly bills. There is ongoing discussion with the IRS to prove that the fire board is a government agency and should not pay taxes. Currently under a 90 day appeal by the IRS resulted in a payment of \$3,325.02 to the IRS for taxes. The cost of a new roof for the Au Gres Fire Hall is \$21,521.00. Fire Chief Hummerickhouse reported fire fighters responded to 21 calls the previous month (14 weather related, 3 personal injury and 3 residents with outdoor fires. Next Fire Board meeting will be on October 16th at the Whitney Twp Fire Hall.

HERITAGE ROUTE AUTHORITY: Jan Bullock reporting. Depot Days was this past weekend, nice weather, but surprisingly not a lot people attending (perhaps due to other activities that weekend). The vendors were happy and said they would come back next year. At the AHRA meeting there was discussion on how to get more people to these events.

December 7th is the Santa Train from 8:00~8:30am, and the Santa Parade is scheduled for November 29th.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Art Gallop Zoning Administrator reporting. Having driven Shenfield road, commented on it being dusty but a huge improvement now that it is a township road. A pole barn has gone up on Shenfield (Hello Farms) and a garage on Green Drive. Derek Cantu has been working on a fence for Kola Farms. A call from folks with a 4-acre parcel wants a pole barn for storage. Work is moving along at Atwater's place on Santiago, and Pat Schwiderson is putting up lean-tos.

LINWOOD CEMETERY REPORT: Cemetery Board member Penny Kurchak reported that locations for the new benches and trash cans had been decided upon. And Humpert & Vansickle were hired to pour the cement slabs and install the benches. Plans were made to move the bench parts and cans from the hall to the cemetery garage.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Advanced Pest Management – Ben Seago – 2024 Mosquito Season Report. (See public comment above).
- b. Supervisor Jim Herzog gave a summary of road and ditching projects over the summer season. Including the 'Shenfield Extension' being turning into a township road, cleaning of the ditch on the north side of Jodway Road, mowing the Manor Road ditches (north side – Santiago to Davis Road) and the building up of Dreyer Road with 6-8" of rock (last improved in 2010). Ending by saying he was deciding on next year's road projects.

BOARD COMMENT: Tremble thanked Herzog for the time and effort put into managing the road projects as well as the spring and fall clean-up drives. To which Herzog added that outside the hall was the 3rd 30-yard dumpster left by GLF for the Fall cleanup drive. And that a "Spring Clean Up Your Township" drive is planned for 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Thanks to everyone for attending!

ADJOURNMENT: TIME – 7:50pm. 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 _____