

**Minutes from the
Almira Township Board Regular Meeting
April 8, 2013
7:00 p.m.**

Supervisor Mark Roper called the meeting of the Almira Township Board to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Almira Township Fire & EMS Facility.

Supervisor led the Pledge to the Flag.

Supervisor called for roll call. Members present were: Mark Roper, Mandy Gray Rineer, Tammy Clous, Matt Therrien, and Ann Beaujean.

Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda by Board and Citizens: None

Approval of Meeting Agenda: *Motion by Therrien*, and supported by Beaujean, to approve the meeting agenda. All ayes, motion passed.

Approval of Consent Agenda: *Motion by Therrien* and supported by Beaujean, to approve the consent agenda:

- I. Approve regular Board meeting minutes dated March 11, 2013.

- II. BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF March 2013: None

- III. APPROVE PAYMENT OF CHECKS #'s 34273 – 34370. SEE CHECK REGISTERS INCLUDED IN PACKET. BILLS AVAILABLE FOR EXAMINATION UPON REQUEST.

- IV. RECEIVE AND FILE THE FOLLOWING REPORTS:

BENZIE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:	Included in Packet
ASSESSOR:	No Report
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:	No Report
RECREATIONAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE:	No Report
FIRE & EMS DEPARTMENT:	No Report
PLANNING COMMISSION:	No Report
VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE:	No Report

- V. MISCELLANEOUS: None

- VI. RECEIVE AND FILE THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCES:

Lake Ann Village Council Draft Meeting Minutes	No Report
Benzie County Road Commission meeting minutes	Included in Packet
Eastern Michigan University Report	Included in Packet
MGB Technologies Balance Sheet	Included in Packet

All ayes, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Received and Filed.

Brief Public Input: None

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County Commissioners: Commissioner Bates shared that the sheriff has asked for 5 new deputies, but was told that a decision could not be made due to lack of current funding but to look into different funding options. He also shared that the County currently has about a \$200,000.00 fund balance thanks to the help with savings from county personnel. The International Property Code was also discussed at two meetings and was rescinded. Commissioner Tucker share that the International Property Code had been turned down. She also shred that they are still taking committee application as well as Bob Roelof was appointed as the County Veterans Representative to Grand Traverse County. Also that the Maples is still being cash flowed from the county for the first couple of weeks each month but they are paying the county back by the end of each month and that the amount they need each month is becoming less.

Department Heads: None.

Guests: Bill Honer: motion by Roper and supported by Therrien to support Bill Honer, with no cost to the township, to contact & receive information from insurance companies and FINRA for the purpose of finding out what we may want to implement to reduce our State of Michigan Fire Code Rating. All: Ayes. Motion Passed. This could possibly save money for the tax payers of our township by reducing their homeowners, auto and liability insurances.

Old Business:

- A. Committee Appointments: None

New Business:

- A. Charter Quote: Motion by Therrien, supported by Rineer to switch to Charter for phone and internet services with check of Century Links prices before final switch made. All: Ayes motion passed.
- B. Advent Church: Motion by Roper, supported by Rineer, to allow Advent Church to put a fridge in the basement of the Townhall with compensation to the Township for electrical costs. All: ayes motion passed.
- C. Bank Depository Letter: Motion by Therrien, supported by Beaujean to continue using Honor Bank and Huntington Bank as our depositories. All: ayes motion passed.
- D. Longevity Calculations; (Supervisor Roper taking minutes on this issue) Motion by Matt second by Ann to all Mandy and Tammy to abstain themselves from vote on longevity for financial reasons. All: ayes motion passed. Discussion took place on the options for payoff to the former employees that had it. Motion by Matt, second by Ann to go with Option #1(see packet sheet). Matt, Mark, Ann ayes. Mandy, Tammy abstain Motion carries.
- E. Open Fire & EMS Position: Discussion took place as to which direction to go with this position. Motion by Therrien to head into looking at a full-time fire

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chief. No support, motion dies. Motion by Beaujean, supported by Rineer to move forward to explore the reorganization of the Fire & EMS Department to combine the EMS Manager, Fire Chief and full time duty crew into one management position. All: ayes motion passed.

- F. Cherryland: Discussion took place on changing all of the lights and fixtures of all the township buildings. It was decided that we would like to do more research into this programs proposals and bring the information to the next board meeting.
- G. Park Sign: Discussion took place on adding a display sign to the current township sign. We would like to look at different sign option to possible meet the zoning ordinance. Therrien is going to do more research into options of signs.
- H. E.S.G.R.: The board decided to take no action. Mark is going to contact them.
- I. Park & Rec. Resignation: Motion by Therrien supported by Beaujean to accept Mike Willsey's resignation with regrets from the Parks & Rec. Committee with regrets. All: ayes motion passed.

Extended Public Input: Dale Flaherty stated that the Village was notified that Grand Traverse County will be redoing North Long Lake Road with a detour using Lake Ann Road. Diana Nolan shared that if we are looking at possible building improvements to consider replacing or redoing the Town Hall steps.

Board Comments: Clous made the board aware that the next Benzie County MTA meeting will be held April 24th at Benzonia Township.

Adjourn: There being no other business the Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 9:10p.m.

Tammy Clous
Almira Township Clerk