

**Minutes from the
Almira Township Board Regular Meeting
August 19, 2013
7:00 p.m.**

Supervisor Mark Roper called the meeting of the Almira Township Board to order at 6:59 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: Under Guest: C. Persson Property; Moved from new business. Under Old Business: C. Surveillance System.

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

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

- I. Approve regular Board meeting minutes dated July 8, 2013.
- II. BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF July 2013: None
- III. APPROVE PAYMENT OF CHECKS #'s 34596 – 34683. 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:	Included in Packet
FIRE & EMS DEPARTMENT:	Included in Packet
PLANNING COMMISSION:	No Report
VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE:	No Report
- V. MISCELLANEOUS: None
- VI. RECEIVE AND FILE THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE:

Michigan Township Participating Plan Grant Letter: In Packet
Benzie County Road Commission Minutes: In Packet

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Treasurer's Report: Rineer presented the treasurers report. Report was received and filed.

Brief Public Input: Shirley Ransom stated that there were 39 patrons and 6 new sign-ups over the homecoming hours.

County Commissioners: Commissioner Bates said that there is not much new going on at the county level. Marlene Wood has been hired for the Solid Waste Coordinators position. Ads have been placed seeking application for County Administrator. The Maples census is down a little; however they are still able to make their payments. There will be a meeting on September 24th to discuss the 1.0 mil for roads as well as the 105 mil for the sheriff's department which is an increase of 0.6 mils over the current operating millage.

Department Heads:

- A. Fire Department:** *Motion by* Therrien, and supported by Rineer to appoint Jason Pierce as a Fire & EMS department member upon passing a pre-employment physical. All ayes motion passed. *Motion by* Therrien, and supported by Rineer to appoint Andrew Gary as a Fire & EMS Department member upon passing a pre-employment physical. All ayes motion passed. *Motion by* Therrien, and supported by Rineer to appoint Michael Kantz to the Fire & EMS Department upon passing a pre-employment physical. All ayes motion passed. Chief Morse stated that we may need to amend the Fire and EMS training budget to cover the costs of education and training for these new members. Discussion took place on if we can get people preliminarily signed up for training classes and it was agreed to that the process could be started. Chief Morse asked that if anyone calls looking for a department member please take a message and pass along to the Department Head or the individual whom the information is being asked of. He also stated that after our hose testing was done we were notified that we need to replace some hoses that failed as well as others that do not meet current NFPA compliance. He also said that we are done with the "Fight Night" participation at the Lake Ann Camp. This year approximately 1000 kids were exposed to our department through this activity.
- B. Library-** Librarian Ransom stated that she would like to compile a new member count for summer versus winter new member enrollments.
- C. Planning Commission:** Chairperson Nolan said they have started the "Almira 2033" master plan coordination. The commission is going to try to get together with all the boards and committees on Thursday, October 24th to begin the master plan process.

Guests:

- A. Gary Persson-** The board was presented with a few parcels of property that MR. Persson is looking to sell. It was stated that we are currently not looking to expand the property, but may in the future. Mr. Persson's said that he would also be interested in a parcel swap of equal acreage amount if we were interested in that. The board said that they would consider that and let him know what they decide.

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Old Business:

- A. **Beach Property Line Fence:** Motion by Therrien, and supported Beaujean to purchase a fence for the east side property line from current privacy fence to the water's edge. 3:Ayes 2:Nays Motion Passed.
- B. **Department Chief:** The steps taken in this process were again stated to the public. Each member told the public how they each reached their decision based on their personal review of each applicant. Motion by Therrien, and supported by Beaujean to enter into negotiation with Steve Adams for the Department Chief position with negotiations being completed by September 1, 2013. 4:Ayes 1:Withheld. Motion Passed.
- C. **Surveillance System Grant:** We were approved for the Par Plan Grant that we applied for. Mike Buchanan submitted a time frame for project completion. Motion by Roper, and supported by Therrien to allow Mike Buchanan to precede with the installation of the surveillance systems at the Almira Twp Park and The Lakefront Park Restrooms. All:Ayes. Motion Passed.

New Business:

- A. **EMS Coverage for Music in the Park and Snow Pine Fest:** Motion by Roper, and supported by Therrien to pay 2 people \$8.00 per hour for EMS coverage for Music in the Part from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm and Snow Pine Fest from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. All:Ayes. Motion Passed.
- B. **Geocaching Request:** Motion by Rineer, and supported by Therrien to allow Kati to place a Geocache container on Almira Township Park Property in a place the board approves. All:Ayes Motion passed.

Extended Public Input: Jay Morse- Jay is stepping down from the Fire and EMS Department as Chief as well as a member. He will have his stuff turned in and office cleaned out by Wednesday August 21, 2013 at noon.

Board Comments: Therrien shared that he will be doing the MC work at Music in the Park. Beaujean stated that there is an identity issue with the Almira Township Park as to its location. Clous thanked all those who applied for the Department Chiefs position. Roper stated that the road millage is going to be tough to pass. The proposed millage is said to cover some coverage for night maintenance and winter road clean-up. He told the Road Commission that a plan needs to be made that prioritizes which roads will be repaired and that they must stick with the plan. Also that some visual plans should be available to look at as well as Townhall meetings need to be held to answer the public's questions.

Adjourn: There being no other business the Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:32p.m.

Tammy Clous

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Almira Township Clerk

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