

MARCH 2009

The regular meeting of the Heath Township Board was held on March 9, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Heath Township Hall.

Trustee Boerman called the meeting to order and offered opening prayer. Jones was absent. The previous months minutes were approved as read.

First item of business was to here comment and questions about the Hamilton Dam. Sheila read the report from Ron stating he has sent a letter to Lansing to the Dam Safety Unit requesting they inspect the dam and return the report to us. After the report comes back we will have someone give us an estimate for repair and look at other options at that time. This could take over a year and until the inspection is done, nothing will happen. It is not the intention of the board to take the dam out at this time. We will keep people posted on the web site. A short question and answer time followed.

Dean Kapenga, County Commissioner presented his monthly report. He handed out an Allegan County Transportation Prospective Rider Survey to the people present. Their responses will be used to evaluate and understand local countywide transportation issues so solutions can be sought. Brochures were also given to the board from the MSU Extension office on Mortgage Foreclosure Intervention which will help people understand the mortgage foreclosure process so that they can make the best decisions for themselves and their families. The commissioners are working on ways to cut administrative costs for townships whose contracts with community police are expiring. There will be another 2 year community policing program put in place with federal stimulus money.

Three Planning Commission members terms are about to expire. A motion was made by Meiste and supported by Schipper to re-appoint Don Wickstra, Irv Immink and Hilda Boerman to another 3 year term. All ayes. Motion carried. Dick Schipper also needs to be re-appointed to the ZBA. A motion was made by Lindholm and supported by Meiste to approve Dick to another 3 year term. All ayes. Motion carried. The Construction Board of Appeal members Joe Cross, Stan Gates and Leon Meiste's term are set to expire. A motion was made by Schipper and supported by Lindolm to approve a 3 year term. All ayes. Motion carried.

Allegan County Road Commission is requesting approval to replace a failed culvert on 36th St. north of 128th Ave. at an estimated cost of \$11,000 which would be shared equally with Monterey (\$5,500 for each township). A motion was made by Schipper and supported by Meiste to approve. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Planning Commissions next meeting will be Thursday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m. They will be working on the Master Plan.

A Planning Commission Ordinance was presented by Hilda. Under the new PA 33 of 2008 all townships are now required to adopt an ordinance in order to facilitate the performance of its duties. A motion was made by Schipper and supported by Lindholm to approve. All ayes. Motion carried.

Citizens questioned the open burning as outlined in the recent township newsletter. They also noted that due to the early snowfall, some leaves still remained to be picked up. Sheila will be contacting Straight Line.

Peggy Van Order questioned when the gate by the old dump would be fixed or the lock replaced. Since the board was not aware of this issue, we will have someone look into fixing it.

A citizen requested the monthly agenda be posted in the box outside a few days before each months meeting.

The township bills were presented. A motion was made by Lindholm and supported by Schipper to approve the payment of these. All ayes. Motion carried.

The fire department bills were presented. A motion was made by Schipper and supported by Meiste to approve. All ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Meiste and supported by Lindholm to adjourn at 7:35. All ayes. Motion carried.

Sheila Meiste, Clerk