

***Heath Township
Meeting Minutes
June 2013***

1. Call to order

The budget hearing was closed and the regular monthly meeting of the Heath Township Board was called to order.

2. Roll call

Supervisor Ron Jones, Clerk Sheila Meiste, Treasurer, Misti Lindholm, Trustee Hilda Boerman, Trustee Bill Harvey.

3. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Previous months minutes were approved.

4. Reports

Jim Storey, County Commissioner. There are a few items the county is looking at.

- How the nine county parks are staffed. Jim is looking for feedback from residents.
- Whether they need to add Economic Development activities to an existing office.
- A wellness plan for county employees.
- Dredging issues in the Saugatuck/Douglas harbor.

5. New business

a) Motion by Boerman seconded by Harvey to approve wage increases. Roll call vote: Boerman-yes, Lindholm-yes, Harvey-yes, Meiste-yes, Jones-yes. Motion carried.

b) Motion by Boerman seconded by Meiste budget and unanimously approved. to adopt 2013-2104 budget.

c) Sheila would like see the township look into adopting a noxious weed ordinance. Hilda will check with PCI and our lawyer.

d) Due to safety reasons, the Allegan County Road Commission has asked the board to consider abandoning a portion of Taft Rd. from M-40 east but would keep a portion of it open to two homeowners. The Road Commission would take care of the costs for noticing it and abandoning it. Motion by Boerman supported by Lindholm and unanimously approved to abandon this portion.

e) Resident questioned what the police officer sign means on our property. This is an agreement we did with the sheriff's dept. ten years ago. They use an office for phone calls and meetings.

f) The board has received an update from M.C. Smith with Phase One Improvements and pricing for the Township Park. Contractors in the township will have a chance to bid on the project.

g) Stephanie McPherson called the county about the drain by her house and asked them to clean it up. The edge of a retaining wall is the border to her property and the drain/ditch is her neighbors and is not a county drain. The drain commission told her a petition had been submitted in the 1980's and been denied. If she wants it cleaned, the county will have someone come in and charge the homeowner.

Ron explained to Stephanie the process the drain commission uses in determining if this should be a county drain and suggested some easy solutions and steps to take. She can submit another petition to the county or she can get the landowners around her to clean it. The largest problem comes from the west side of M-40. If the ditch were cleaned up, the water would be able to flow faster. The board cannot go on private party and tell them to clean it up. Ms. McPherson's property is not a designated flood plain. According to FEMA, the only designated flood plain is on the Rabbit River. Jim Storey can ask the drain commissioner to come out and look at it.

6. Zoning update

a) The Planning Commission will be meeting on Thursday, June 27 at 7:00 and will look at adopting the Master Plan.

7. Bills

- a) Motion by Boerman supported by Lindholm to pay township bills.
- b) Motion by Meiste supported by Boerman to pay fire department bills.

8. Adjournment

a) Motion by Harvey supported by Boerman to adjourn the meeting at 8:20

Minutes submitted by Clerk Sheila Meiste, approved by Supervisor Ron Jones.