

***Heath Township
Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2013***

1. Call to order

The regular monthly meeting of the Heath Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Ron Jones at 7:00 on October 14, 2013 at the township hall. Bill Harvey opened with prayer.

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

- Bob Genetski, State Representative with a legislative update from Lansing.
- Jim Storey, County Commissioner gave his monthly update.
 - Open house for the jail in February or early March. There may be a lock-up to raise funds for charity.
 - The annual budget for the county was adopted.
 - County phone system is up and running again.

5. New business

a) Adopt the resolution for the Parks and Recreation Plan. This resolution is for the park by the Hamilton Trestle so we can move forward with obtaining grants. Motion by Meiste and supported by Boerman. Roll call vote: Boerman-yes, Jones-yes, Meiste-yes, Lindholm-yes, Harvey-yes. Resolution adopted.

b) CHS rezoning was approved by the Planning Commission. Motion by Harvey supported by Boerman and unanimously supported to approve the rezoning.

c) Noxious weed ordinance. Two samples from the attorney were reviewed. Sheila questioned if the uncontrolled growth height should be 12 inches or 8 inches. The board agreed to 12 inches and liked Sample 2. Motion by Lindholm supported by Boerman to adopt sample 2. Roll call vote: Harvey-yes, Lindholm-yes, Boerman-yes, Jones-yes, Meiste-yes. Resolution adopted.

d) Request from Curt Pieper on behalf of the Boy Scouts. The township and agreed to help pay for some of the cost incurred by the Boy Scouts in brush and stump removal, cutting of trees, grading and new gravel. Rivertown Contractors agreed to donate time, machinery and manpower. The Boy Scout building is located on township park property. Total cost breakdown is \$2,678.06 and 22 works hours have been donated. Curt would

like to see the township pay for the gravel and lighting and he will cover the remainder. Motion by Harvey supported by Lindholm and unanimously supported to pay for the gravel and lighting at a cost of \$1,608.06.

e) Request from the Lion's Club in regards to the chicken barbeque pits. Stan Gates and Lloyd Becksfort presented a plan to the township for a 24 x 22 metal building with two garage doors and a cement pad. They would like the building for storage and they need a covered structure for the chicken barbeque fundraiser each May. They received a \$13,000 estimate from Jurries Brothers and are requesting the township pay for this. They feel this is needed to replace the structure they donated years ago and. Bill explained the township took down the structure due to safety issues, graffiti and maintenance.

Hilda explained the previous structure is being replaced with a new gazebo which includes grill tables and a large preparation table. They feel the gazebo is located too far from their pits. One resident asked how often the Lions Club barbeque pits are used. Stan stated it is mainly used once a year for the fundraiser.

Ron explained any new buildings put up are owned by the township and residents. This building could not solely be a Lions Club building and other people would be allowed to store items in it. In years to come, there may be a new board who may want to change what structures are in the parks.

Sheila feels it is not a good use of township funds to supply a building for a select group when we have denied requests from other organizations. She would like to see the Lions Club work with the health department in coming up with a way to use the present facilities at the township. Ron would like the board to look at all options and get back to the Lions Club next month. The Lions Club makes approximately \$6,000 a year from the chicken barbeque fundraiser. Comment were taken from the audience.

f) Hilda received some sample designs and prices from M.C. Smith for a new sign. Sheila questioned if we could use Signs Now or another company. Tiffany from M.C. Smith has other companies she works with. Hilda questioned if we could have the sign read Heath Township Community Park. Ron will check with Signs Now on a design and price.

Sheila questioned if we could take down the Allegan County Sheriff sign. Hilda will have it taken down and stored. Hilda and Ron will ask M. C. Smith what can be done with the existing wood picnic table out front.

h) There are problems with the toilets in the concession building and water on the floor in the electrical building. The plumbing company will be called.

i) Hilda gave an update on the park project. Structure covers need to be changed and some trees moved. Resident Bob Moore questioned if the township park was done without competitive bids. Ron informed him a general contractor was hired and there

were five bidders from West Michigan and some local contractors used. There was some miscommunication on this issue.

k) Nancy Jones questioned why the sidewalks were not edged. Ron explained this is not part of normal maintenance with our lawn contract.

6. Zoning update

a) The Planning Commission will be meeting on Thursday, October 24, 2013 at 7:00.

7. Bills

a) Motion by Boerman supported by Lindholm to pay township bills.

b) Motion by Boerman supported by Harvey to pay fire department bills.

8. Adjournment

a) Motion by Harvey supported by Boerman to adjourn at 8:40.

Minutes submitted by Clerk Sheila Meiste.