

**Heath Township
Meeting Minutes
July 2016**

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 July 11, 2016 at the township hall. Misti 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

Jim Storey, County Commissioner reported on items addressed at the county.

- The county agencies worked very well together on the new radio system.
- Meeting was held to get private support on Economic Development in the county.
- Authorized use of new tasers for county deputies at a cost of \$45,000.
- County parks are being well utilized.

5. New business

a) Dave Haverdink, Fire Chief reported on the new radio system. He is pleased the county has approved the 800 MHz system for all emergency entities as well as funding new pagers which are currently on 150 MHz's. This is a \$150,000 savings to the fire department. Any accessories added on to the pagers will be at their own expense. The new system will go live in September 2017. In the future, replacement costs will come from each department.

b) Reviewed the park and recreation ordinance. Discussion followed and a motion was made by Boerman supported by Harvey to approve. Roll call vote: Jones-yes, Meiste-yes, Lindholm-yes, Boerman-yes, Harvey-yes. The new sign is up and looks wonderful. A note of thanks will be sent to Eagle Scout, Austin Hamelink.

c) The township board received a letter from Carol Vander Poppen's sister, Arla Richter, in regards to our Potters Field fence and sign in the Riverside Cemetery. They do not feel the wording is appropriate and believe we are calling attention to people who couldn't afford a cemetery plot and are not honoring those who have been through hard times. They would also like to see the fencing around the area be removed.

The sign and wording was a joint effort between the girl scouts and the township in 2012. The sign is a part of history and the fence was put up to respect those buried in this area and to keep people from setting their chairs in this section on Memorial Day. Ron stated the board put a lot of thought and effort into this and it was not meant to offend anyone. We need to look at the general consensus of the whole township and have had positive comments on the sign and explanation.

Sheila suggested we remove the first paragraph from the sign but leave the second one. Carol felt this would be appropriate. The fencing around the area will be staying. A motion was made by Harvey supported by Lindholm and unanimously approved to order a new replacement sign.

6. Zoning update

a) The ZBA will be meeting on Tuesday, July 19 at 7:00 and the Planning Commission will be meeting on Thursday July 21 at 7:00.

7. Bills

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

8. Adjournment

a) Motion by Boerman supported by Lindholm to adjourn the meeting at 7:50.