

MINUTES OF THE AU GRES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING JANUARY 13th, 2025 ~ 7:00 P.M.

DRAFT

IN ATTENDANCE: Supervisor Jim Herzog, Clerk Michael Oxley, Trustee Jan Bullock and Trustee Penny Kurchak
ABSENT: Patricia Tremble

ATTENDEES: In order of signing in: Kirk Olson, Arthur Gallop (Zoning Administrator), Chuck and Kay Woods, Becky Woodward, Brandy Urvin, Pam Stewart and Robert Cotter.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting began at 7:05pm with the pledge of allegiance.

BOARD COMMENT: Supervisor Jim Herzog wished everyone a happy new year.

APPROVAL of AGENDA: Clerk Michael Oxley made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion supported by Trustee Penny Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. One Absent. Agenda approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT (2 minute limit per person/group): Kirk Olson (Rumsey Road) reported on his attendance of the Emergency Management Org Meeting on December 17th at the Moffat Township Fire Hall. There was a PowerPoint presentation, Items discussed were what resources were needed, bylaws and officers (Kirk is now a coordinator). Oxley asked how many attended: Mike Bowers, Stephanie Kernstock, a 911 Dispatcher and a couple others. New meeting is in 3 months. Oxley mentioned to Olson that the township hall was listed as a Red-Cross emergency shelter.

Robert Cotter (US-23) reported flooding at his and his neighbor (Albert Schwiderson) due to lack of drainage due to his neighbor to the east (Badour) who filled in a drain ditch and crushed culverts (Consumers Energy). Asking if the board has any culvert replacement policy for situations such as these. Water is very close to entering his house, he cannot use his toilet as septic tank/field is flooded and his solar panels (worth over \$100,000) are coming up out of the ground. Herzog to visit tomorrow and get road commission to open the culverts and alert Steve Adrejewski, county drain commissioner.

Art Gallop asked about Sims township police pulling people over in our township (once on Santiago and another on US-23). They should not have jurisdiction in our township. Oxley said that in the past local police couldn't even enter the township without first being called. Herzog to touch base and to call Sims supervisor Greg Easterle.

APPROVAL of the MINUTES: Motion made by Trustee Jan Bullock to approve the minutes of the December 9th, 2025 Board of Trustees meeting. Motion supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. One Absent. Minutes approved.

PAYMENT OF BOOK OF BILLS: Oxley pointed out the incorrect title on the Book of Bills, a formula error to be corrected. Motion made by Oxley to approve the December 2025 Book of Bills as presented (with correction). Motion supported Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. One Absent. December 2025 Book of Bills approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Read by Clerk Oxley (Pat Tremble absent). The current General Fund balance is \$179,844.14. The total of all funds is \$1,822,779.31 (bank accounts, investments and interest accrued). Herzog pointed out that accrued interest showing is \$15,097.99. Motion made by Kurchak to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Supported by Bullock. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. One Absent. Motion approved

BOARD REPORTS:

AUGRES-SIMS-WHITNEY FIRE AUTHORITY: The December 18th, 2025 meeting was held at the Au Gres Fire Hall. The meeting called to order by Keith Edmonds. Treasurer Tom Brandimore was away on vacation, treasurer report was handed out. The board voted to send flowers in remembrance of Francis Semenick, the former chairman of the Fire Board.

Humerickhouse also reported four calls during the month, a structure fire in Whitney Township, a natural gas leak in Au Gres, a carbon (CO) monoxide call in Au Gres, and an outdoor burn out of control in Au Gres Township. The new fire truck is now expected in September.

The next meeting is on the 4th Thursday, January 22nd, 2026 - 7:00pm at Whitney Fire Hall.

HERITAGE ROUTE AUTHORITY: Trustee Jan Bullock did not attend the January 2026 AHRA meeting and deferred attendees to the AHRA Minutes in their agenda packets.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Art Gallop Zoning Administrator reported on a call from a couple in Plymouth, MI looking at property on the land side of Pt. Au Gres Road, with Nicole (EGLE) Kings approval to build a house on the parcel.

Two calls, one from the house on Manor/Dreyer (formerly Qualls) about the wells (sent them to Health Department), and the other from Casey Boensch on building a garage with upper floor home on an 11-acre parcel on Lentner Road.

Otherwise, a slow month.

LINWOOD CEMETERY REPORT: No cemetery report during winter months.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Set date for the annual February 2026-27 budget workshop - it was decided to meet on Saturday February 21st, 9:00 am (depending if treasurer Tremble had that date open).
- b. 4th Quarterly 2025-26 budget review. Oxley explained that the printout handed to board members for review was from BS&A. A new format - instead of separate 'Funds', all figures are in one report, with the areas of over-expenditures colored in yellow. Oxley went through the pages with the board members and touched on the over expenditures, most of which could be explained, others which needed more detail on the specific line items. Oxley stated that he is still getting used to the BS&A software. Even though some expenditure line-item figures were overspent by as much as 300%, the total of all funds was only at 89.60% of the total budget, with only six weeks left in the 2025-26 fiscal year!

BOARD COMMENT: Kurchak expressed the board's thanks for all the work that the clerk and treasurer do. Herzog thanked the attendees for coming out on such a cold night.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURNMENT: TIME – 7:55pm. Motion made by Kurchak to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Oxley. Voice vote: All yeas. No Nays. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved at the regular Board of Trustees Meeting on _____

James Herzog, Supervisor _____

Michael Oxley, Clerk _____