

MINUTES OF THE AUGRES TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

March 10th, 2026 ~ 6:00 P.M.

DRAFT

IN ATTENDANCE: Supervisor Jim Herzog, Clerk Michael Oxley, Treasurer Pat Tremble, and Trustee Jan Bullock.

ABSENT: Trustee Penny Kurchak

ATTENDEES: Pamela Stewart, Mark Gellen, Art Gallop, David Mallefant

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL of AGENDA: Motion by Treasurer Pat Tremble to approve the agenda. Motion supported by Trustee Jan Bullock. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. One Absent. Agenda approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Pam Stewart's, referring to the budget handouts, asked what the difference was between PILT and Swamp-Tax. PILT is Payment in Lieu of Taxes (hunting property), Swamp Tax is a very minimal amount paid by the state for DNR properties which are too wet to be hunting properties.

Mr. Mark Gellen (Clayton Township resident) passed out a flyer promoting a **MEET THE CANDIDATES FORUM**, Monday April 6th, 2026 6:00pm at the Whittemore Prescott High School auditorium, 6001 Mills Road, Whittemore 48770. A nonpartisan presentation of the candidates running for the seat of US Representative for Michigan's 1st District (M-01). Four candidates attending (1 Republican, 2 Democrats and 1 Independent). Questions about the meeting can be addressed to Mark Gellen (989-654-4031).

STATE of the TOWNSHIP: Supervisor James Herzog giving a 2025 recap: Another productive year in Au Gres Township.

Thanks to the efforts of the Township treasurer, Pat Tremble, the Treasurer's report continues to show a healthy fun balance. Beginning in March of 2025 the accounting system in the clerk's office was upgraded from Quickbooks to BS&A Cloud software.

There was a special election in August for the Au Gres- Sims School District 'Domed Football Field'. The election was very controversial and there were many signs throughout the township opposing the sports dome. The election results showed that voters strongly opposed the project.

Township roads improved this year saw the paving of Nearman and Noggle Roads that residents felt would never be paved. Two roads got an application of Perma-Zyme (East Gordon and Nearman North of Noggle) and seem to be holding up well.

There were four ditching projects: Jose Road from Crawford Road to the Big Creek Drain, both sides of Crawford Road from US-23 North to Noggle Road, Stover Road from Hale Road East to the DNR properties. Recent drain checks show all the ditching projects are working well and water is flowing.

The Township also approved the asphalt paving of the parking lots at the Boardwalk/Pavilion Lookout Park and the Township Hall. The estimate for both of these paving projects was lower than previous estimates quoted by other companies. Both projects were paid for using the State of Michigan Marijuana excise tax money.

The properties on the West side of Crawford Road north of Jose Road had trouble draining in the Spring after the snow melted. A clogged culvert under Crawford Road which prevented water from draining the property (flowing to Big Creek Drain). The Road Commission cleaned out the culvert to solve the issues.

Total cost of the 2025 road projects was \$383,884.89 (before the \$90,000.00 in matching funds from the ACRC was applied. The next expenditure amount was \$293,884.89.

Last year the Township held two (2) "Clean Up the Township" events from which a total of nine (9) 30-yard dumpsters were filled during the May and September 2025 events. I suggest the township repeat the events again this year.

I feel the citizens of Au Gres Township should feel very comfortable with this Township Board now and in the future. I want to thank all the board members for what they do. Thanks to all!

APPROVAL of the MINUTES: Motion made by Tremble to approve the minutes of the February 28th, 2026 Budget Review meeting. Motion supported Bullock. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. One Absent. Motion approved.

BUDGET ADOPTION: Clerk Oxley explained the process the township goes through to create the budgets for the upcoming fiscal year (2026-27). Treasurer Tremble had concerns with some of the expense totals (due to the BS&A software) and asked the board to table approval. Clerk Oxley agreed, noting that he did not yet have the budget amendments finalized (same reason, the new software). A motion was made by Oxley to table budget approval and schedule a meeting for Wednesday, March 25th, 2026 at 9:00am at which the budget and budget amendments can be approved/adopted. Motion supported by Tremble. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. One Absent. Motion approved.

BUDGET AMMENDMENTS: Clerk Oxley reiterated that the Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget amendments were not yet finalized. General law townships are required to approve the budget amendments before the end of the fiscal year (March 31st, 2026).

TRUTH IN TAXATION: Oxley referred attendees to the Public Notice in the agenda packet, which was published in the Arenac Independent. Also, our assessor Jessica Landry provided a handout which detailed how property taxes were levied. This year the tax increment factor is 2.7. By multiplying your property's taxable value for 2025 by 1.027, that will be your taxable value for 2026 summer and winter taxes.

BOARD COMMENT: Thanks to the board of trustee members for jobs well done!

PUBLIC COMMENT: Pam Stewart complimented the board on how well the members work together during the year. No drama, just getting things done.

ADJOURNMENT: Time 6:45pm. Motion by Tremble to adjourn the meeting. Motion supported by Bullock. Voice vote: All yeas. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved at the regular Board of Trustees Meeting on _____

James T Herzog, Supervisor _____

Michael H, Oxley, Clerk _____