

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Special Meeting</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Tuesday, April 9, 2013</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Yankee Springs Township Hall 284 North Briggs Road, Middleville, Michigan 49333</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MINUTES</b></p>	<p><b>FINAL MINUTES</b> Approved April 24, 2013 As presented</p>
<p>Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Mark Englerth.</p> <p><u>Roll Call:</u> Jerkatis, J. Lippert, Englerth, M. Cook and Campbell. All Present.</p> <p><u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u></p> <p><u>Staff Present:</u> Constable Jim Orr, Interim Zoning Administrator Larry Knowles, Sandy Marcukaitis, and Frank Fiala.</p> <p><u>Visitors:</u> 9 (not including staff present).</p>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p> <p><b>ROLL CALL</b></p> <p><b>PLEDGE</b></p>
<p><b>ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Announcement was made by Jan Lippert that computer system was down today (4/9/13) and yesterday and would like to move Account Payable and Payroll check approval to the Thursday's "Town Hall Meeting" Township meeting (4/11/13).</li> <li>• Addition: Approval for March 27, 2013 Board Meeting minutes to be added to the agenda for the 4/11/13 meeting as well.</li> <li>• Addition: Zoning Administrator's March Report has been added to board member's packets.</li> </ul>	<p><b>ADDITIONS TO AGENDA</b></p>
<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES:</b></p> <p>Motion by M. Cook with support from Campbell to accept the Meeting Minutes of the Five Year Plan Board Meeting of March 27, 2013. All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>Motion by M. Cook with support from Campbell to approve minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting of March 14, 2013 as presented. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.</p>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b></p> <p>Motion to accept the Meeting Minutes of the Five Year Plan Board Meeting of March 27, 2013. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>Motion to approve minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting of March 14, 2013 as presented. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
<p><b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS:</b></p> <p>Pat Kreple, of General Federation of Women's Clubs- Gun Lake Area gave a brief description of the GFWC's (of Gun Lake) Scholarship program. This year \$10,000 worth of scholarships will be awarded (evenly) from students in the Thornapple-Kellogg, Martin, Wayland, and Delton Kellogg School districts. Home-schoolers are also included. This money is available because of fundraisers. The GFWC of Gun Lake will hold a fundraiser on May 17<sup>th</sup>, a Friday night, at Gun Lake</p>	<p><b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS</b></p> <p>Pat Kreple, of General Federation of Women's Clubs- Gun Lake Area Page 1 of 6 YST Bd Trustees 4-9-13</p>

Community Church. Master Chef, Angus Campbell, whom is highly regarded in the world will be preparing the meal at \$25.00 per person. This amount includes dinner and there will also be a silent and live auction. Every penny except for the cost of food and a few minor expenses will go to the students. Criteria for scholarships are based on: academic achievement, service to the community, extra curricular activities and staff recommendations. The scholarships are one year scholarships.

**TTES REPORT: David Middleton** distributed the March TTES Report to board members. On his way to the meeting he was diverted to a lightning strike incident.

TTES received **96** total calls this month.

**Yankee Springs:** in March (**16**) (**1** Fire, **14** Medical and **1** Fire/EMS)

**Yankee Springs:** Year to date total: **49**

**Monthly report attached to minutes.** D. Middleton also mentioned that he was working on a “wish list” for the department and some of the items on the list are: chest compression equipment and a vindicated nozzle designed to make foam more effective.

**BARRY COUNTY COMMISSIONER’S REPORT: Craig Stolsonburg**

Discussed at the Barry County Commissioner’s recent meeting on County Facilities was the Commission on Aging, Courts and Law Building, three courts, Friend of the Court, and the jail. An estimate of \$13 to \$15 million was discussed for the jail project. A May 15, 2013 meeting is scheduled to discuss the same topic of county facilities.

It was mentioned that Mark Englerth, Frank Fiala and Planning Commission members attended a county meeting regarding the township’s inquiry of County Planning Services. The County has found that it may not be the best time to offer this additional service as it is in the middle of its budget year. Consideration of such offering of services needs to be included in the budgeting process. Craig Stolsonburg mentioned also that other issues need to be addressed right now such as security in schools.

Another item to be considered is not wanting to overextend Jim McManus in this proposed position. If planning services are provided by the county, they will have to occur during the business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Nothing will be dealt with after 5:00 p.m.

C. Stolsonburg also distributed the Barry County Directory to those in attendance.

**VETERAN’S MEMORIAL - Jim Orr, Constable**

This group has established a nine person committee. They have decided on the site of the memorial. This site is at the NE corner of Payne Lake Road and M-179 near the Fire Station. The memorial will be for all veterans- both living and deceased.

The next meeting will be held on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the Township Hall. Jim Orr would like to thank the board from the Township for its support. A site plan will have to be drawn up for approval of the proposed site.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS cont’d**

**TTES REPORT: David Middleton**

**BARRY COUNTY COMMISSIONER’S REPORT: Craig Stolsonburg**

**Supervisor, Frank Fiala PC members, attend County Mtg re Planning Services from County for Y.S.Twp**

**VETERAN’S MEMORIAL - Jim Orr, Constable**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS cont'd**

Other site options considered were the YS Township Park and the Township Hall. The memorial is to be approximately 100 X 100 sq. feet.

**MDOT Maintenance Supervisor – Brian Peets, of the Hastings Garage** is also a first responder for detours on the highway. He notifies Lansing and they put it up on the website. The new TSC office is in Kalamazoo. B. Peets mentioned that he had done recent work removing trees by the Fire Station to put up a fire sign. Peets lives locally and went to Wayland High School. He offered his help to the board if they needed anything.

Tree marking systems were discussed. Blue markings are for trees to be removed. Red markings are for property lines. An Orange “H” is for Hastings. They don’t touch these unless they are a hazard. Regarding the Heritage Route (M-179), if it is a live tree, they won’t touch it.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

**TREASURER’S REPORT: by John Jerkatis**

Motion by M. Cook with support by Lippert to accept the Treasurer’s Financial report ending March 30<sup>th</sup> 2013 as presented. Roll Call: Jerkatis: yes, J. Lippert: yes, Englerth: yes, M. Cook: yes, Campbell: yes. Yes: 5, No: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

**CLERK’S REPORT: by J. Lippert**

Accounts Payable and Payroll check will be presented for approval at the 4/11/13 Meeting of the YS Township. Temporary down-time from the internet connection has caused the delay.

Public Accuracy Test will be at 3:00 p.m. on 4/10/13 for the Delton-Kellogg School Tax Bond Proposals (Election May 7, 2013). This election will take place in Precinct #2 at the YS Fire Station.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT: by Larry Knowles, Interim ZA**

**March SPR’s : (2)**

Pine Meadows approved

Shore Drive/Cobb Lake approved

**ZBA:** Meeting was held 3/12/13. The ZBA reviewed and approved both requests from residents of Lynn Dr./Payne Lake and Friendship Ct./Barlow Lake.

**Complaints/Concerns: (3)**

(1) Property trespassing issue- to be handled by resident’s attorney.

(2) Wetlands situation

(3) Encroachment/Setback issue.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS cont'd:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

by John Jerkatis

Treasurer’s Report approved

**CLERK’S REPORT: by J.**

Lippert

**ZONING**

**ADMINISTRATOR’S**

**REPORT: by Larry**

**Knowles, Interim ZA**

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: by Larry Knowles, Interim ZA cont'd**

**Planning Commission:** Meeting was held March 21, 2013. **Frank Fiala, PC Chairman,** commented on the activities and goals of the PC. In regards to the Sign Ordinance, Fiala sees the M-179 and Patterson corner as the PC's top priority. That priority being specifications made for the corner and becoming part of the overlay. Fiala would like Professional Planner, Sarah Traxler to review the work of the PC, and make any needed improvements upon the PC's work. Then the proposed ordinance amendments would go on to a public hearing.

Fiala also mention work on the Special Use section of the sign ordinance. He would like to see touch ups on it to make certain situations SEU's -Special Exception Uses. Fiala commented on a certain sign situation with Sandy's Kitchen.

Non-conforming signs would also be a priority. Fiala commented that maximum sign height for the M-179 District is 6 feet. That has caused a great deal of non-conformity. Possibly the height requirement could be made a higher number.

Also, Fiala mentioned the current ordinance on Flags/Festoons. He would like the PC to take a look at that part of the ordinance and referred to a pizza business using such items to attract business.

In summary, Fiala would like to see the PC craft necessary changes into the ordinance, go to public hearing and get board authorization. Fiala also mentioned that the remainder of the ordinance needs work and maybe a totally "fresh start" approach is needed for that. Fiala would like to make major strides towards these goals at the next PC meeting. He hopes that these goals/priorities will be accomplished by the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

M. Englerth complimented Larry Knowles, Sandy Marcukaitis and Cathy Strickland for their hard work and efforts during this transition period.

**BREAK: 8:03 p.m. RESUME: 8:14 p.m.**

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Mark Englerth**

**David Bellinger, of Parker Drive,** was present to comment on the bidding of insurance coverage. David Bellinger represents the Hartleb Insurance Agency. His company and the current insurance carrier of the township's insurance have bids with \$1,500 of each other. D. Bellinger mentioned that the companies were not bidding apples for apples. Bellinger commented that there were definite gaps or holes in the township's current coverage. He commented that one uncovered claim could cost hundreds of thousands of dollars for the township. Bellinger mentioned that he felt the water tower was under-insured. Jerkatis, Treasurer, asked what the potential risk would be in regards to the water tower. Bellinger replied that wind would be the major risk involved.

Motion by Campbell to accept Hartley Insurance Agency for the township's insurance coverage failed due to lack of support.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: by Larry Knowles, Interim ZA cont'd**

**Frank Fiala, Planning Commission Chairman**

**BREAK**

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Mark Englerth**

Motion by M. Cook with support for J. Lippert to return to Burnham & Flowers for continued coverage at the amount of \$12,051. ROLL CALL: Jerkatis: yes, J. Lippert: yes, Englerth: yes, M. Cook: yes, Campbell: no. Yes: 4, No: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

**Trailer Bid Opening:** Advertisement for the trailer bid opening was put in The Sun & News and The Reminder regarding taking bids for the trailer. Sealed bids were to be received by 4/1/13. At this moment in the meeting, Mark Englerth opened the two bids received. A bid was received from Al McCrumb, former YS Twp. Supervisor, for the amount of \$387.00. The other bid was received from Ron Heilman in the amount of \$167.00.

Motion by M. Cook with support from J. Lippert to sell the trailer to Al McCrumb, highest bidder. ROLL CALL: Jerkatis: no, J. Lippert: yes, Englerth: yes, M. Cook: yes, Campbell: yes. Yes: 4, No: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

Other items discussed at this time were the cement bumpers that did not go out for bid yet and the furnace blower mower repair at the YS Fire Station for \$287.00.

**Gun Lake Sewer and Water Report** was covered by M. Englerth. Necessary boiler work was completed.

**Contract with Barry County Sheriff's Department and GLPA** for additional marine patrol was signed after approval by township attorney. The township is acting as a go-between with the two entities. The township's only function is as a clearing house for the transfer of funds between the Sheriff's Department and the GLPA. Funds are received from the GLPA by the township. Those funds are then transferred by the township to the Sheriff's Department.

**Whispering Pines Update-** A meeting is to be held Tuesday, April 16 at 4 p.m. with a representative of Whispering Pines, a Whispering Pines attorney, Mark Englerth, Mary Cook, and the YS Township attorney. Englerth commented that the goal was to hammer out an agreement that is sensible to both sides and hopefully stay out of court with the situation. Results of this meeting will be brought before the Board of Trustees. J. Lippert inquired as to whether or not a recording secretary needed to be at the meeting of 4/16/13. This inquiry will be considered in the near future.

Discussion occurred regarding the usage of services of Jim McManus, County Planner as a "pilot program" for approximately four hours per month. These hours are restricted to the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Mike Cunningham, PC Member,** commented on the fact that Jim McManus, County Planner, would not be attending the PC meetings which are held in the evening. Because of this, McManus wouldn't be an asset during the PC meetings. He mentioned the possibility of pressure to follow county opinion(s) rather than residential (opinions).

**Richard Beukema, PC Member,** commented that his understanding was to use J. McManus as a sounding board.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:**

**Mark Englerth**

Motion to accept Hartley Insurance Agency for the township's insurance coverage failed due to lack of support.

Motion to return to Burnham & Flowers for continued coverage at the amount of \$12,051. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion to sell the trailer to Al McCrumb, highest bidder. MOTION CARRIED.

**OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Mark Englerth** mentioned that Sarah Traxler of McKenna & Associates, a professional planner, mentioned that she feels she wastes township funds.

**Frank Fiala** commented that he feels the county will provide services that McKenna didn't take advantage of. However, his gut feel is that J. McManus should be at the meetings.

Discussion took place about changing meeting times. It was mentioned that Cathy Strickland, PC Secretary, would not be able to come to daytime meetings.

Discussion turned to the tree near one of the township hall parking lot entrance/exits. The tree obstructs the view of drivers and could lead to a serious accident.

Discussion continued regarding remedies of making one driveway an entrance only and the other driveway an exit only. M. Englerth mentioned that the engineering company who designed the parking lot was paid to take care of the issue.

Motion by M. Cook with support from Jerkatis to save the tree by removing the illegal driveway and request Fleis & VandenBrink to assist in the matter and restore grass turf and fence at recovery cost of same. Roll Call: Jerkatis: yes, J. Lippert: yes, Englerth: yes, M. Cook: yes, Campbell: yes. Yes: 5, No: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by M. Cook with support from J. Lippert to move to immediately barricade driveway entrance and allow Fleis & VandenBrink time to resolve the problem. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

It was mentioned that a road limit sign at Briggs and M-179 had a hi-speed internet sign ad stuck over it.

The annual Road Tour with the Barry County Road Commission will take place April 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

A brief discussion took place of gravel roads and school closings. Fiala, of the BC Road Commission, mentioned that local schools ask what other schools are closed when determining school closings and that seems to have a result of more frequent and widespread school closings.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by M. Cook with support from Campbell to adjourn at 9:29 PM. Approved by all.

Respectfully submitted:  
D. Mousseau  
Recording Secretary 4-9-13

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved : \_\_\_\_\_  
Janice C. Lippert, Township Clerk

Final Approval of Minutes: April 24, 2013

**OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT: continued**

Motion to save the tree by removing the illegal driveway and request Fleis & VandenBrink to assist in the matter and restore grass turf and fence at recovery cost of same. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion to move to immediately barricade driveway entrance and allow Fleis & VandenBrink time to resolve the problem. MOTION CARRIED.

**ADJOURNMENT**