

Board Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2025

Meeting called to order by Toren Stanton at 7:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Toren Stanton

Board Members in attendance: Supervisor Stanton, Treasurer Brubaker and Clerk Smith, Trustee Courliss & Trustee Brott

Reading of the minutes and a motion to approve the February minutes, first by Clerk Smith second Supervisor Stanton. All in favor 5-0. Accepted and passed.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Sheriff Blankenship was in attendance tonight and reported that 24 hr road patrol will start in mid april. Hiring Marine Deputies, weekend and holidays. If you know of anyone, please apply online at the sheriff's website. He offers to do a quarterly report if we would like.

Contract with Diamond Service LLC, asking for an increase in \$3,000/year. Current rate is \$26,900 and the new current rate would be \$29,900. The contract states that he is able to negotiate years 4 & 5, this is year 5 of their contract. Trustee Courliss thinks they do a really good job at keeping our lawn cut and keeping the snow removal up. Supervisor Stanton moves to increase Diamond Service LLC \$3,000 to \$29,900, second Trustee Courliss. All in favor 5-0. Accepted and passed.

Fire Department: Slow month. 1 lift assist. Went to some training for solar panel fires. Otherwise a quiet month.

Treasurer: Balance of \$93,165.43 as of 2/28/2025. \$30,965 was received in our revenue sharing account. Today, Treasurer Brubaker and Clerk Smith went to KCCU and applied to open 2, 7 month CD's at a rate of 4%, totaling \$65,000. Tax collection rates are written and maintained with these minutes. Tax collection amounts will be over \$70,000 for 2024. Increase from 2023.

Clerk: I hired Payton Smith, my daughter, to do office work. She scanned all meeting minutes dating back to 2002 onto a flash drive so we have them ready to upload on the website when that becomes ready. She will help clean the storage room and do other clerk work. Organizing drawers, helping organize cemetery papers, QVF and more. Just a few hours a week. All bills for February have been paid. Nothing out of the ordinary. EMC, which is our insurance company, went up \$2,000 from the previous year. They did great with our tornado repairs. Greg Cook, works for Wolverine Mutual Insurance called and would like to use our conference room space for a deposition. There are 5 residents of Sherwood involved and being deposed. There will also be 2 attorneys and a recorder. I don't mind if they want to use the conference room, thoughts on renting vs using?

Treasurer Brubaker states that we have never charged for people renting our building. Supervisor Stanton moves to use our hall for the date provided as long as it doesn't interfere with any other activities and a board member present for the deposition to take place, second Clerk Smith. Trustee Brott worries about setting a precedent, Trustee Courliss would like to check into our liability insurance to make sure we are covered. Trustee Courliss moves to amend the motion to allow Wolverine Insurance Company the use of the Sherwood Township Hall provided our insurance liability covers the use of the hall and we have a board member present. All in favor 5-0. Accepted and passed.

Supervisor:

Working on dust control for 2025. Looking for public input as to how it went this past year. The company we used this past year was terrible to work with. Marjorie Whitcomb states that they were terrible. They didn't come until mid July and had a lot of excuses of why they were late. Trustee Brott states that it wasn't that great of a job. It was late, they kept promising we would be first on the list and they would get it done. It was reported by a public comment that Stanton Road never got done. Supervisor Stanton states he will look around and come to the board with a few quotes.

Supervisor Stanton moves to go into a closed session at 7:55 pm by a roll call vote pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(e) in connection with the pending litigation of Burns v Sherwood Township, Case Number 2024-1005-10-AA pending in the Branch County Circuit Court as discussion of the matter in an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigation or settlement position of the Township.

Treasurer Brubaker- Yes

Clerk Smith- Yes

Supervisor Stanton-Yes

Trustee Brott-Yes

Trustee Courliss-Yes

Supervisor Stanton moved to close the closed meeting session at 8:08 pm, second Clerk Smith. All in favor 5-0. Accepted and passed.

Public Comment:

Marjorie Whitcomb states that our EMC insurance went up \$2,000 over the year. They treated us very well with the tornado and were great to work with. Up over 15%.

Supervisor Stanton moves to approve the bills for the month of February, Treasurer Brubaker second. All in favor 5-0. Motion carries.

Supervisor Stanton adjourned the meeting at 8:11pm , Trustee Brott second. All in favor 5-0. Motion Carries. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hannah Smith
Sherwood Township Clerk
