

**Austin Township Board Meeting
Tuesday August 13, 2019**

Austin Township board meeting called to order by Supervisor Kenneth Vredenburg at the Township Hall at 14132 Pierce Rd, Stanwood, MI 49346

Present were Kenneth Vredenburg, Lisa Lambert, Carolyn Towsley, John Brockway, and Sandra Mayo. Six guests present.

I. 7:35 - Call to order – pledge of allegiance

Public Comment

- Road commission proposal possible 2020 Ballot
- Insurance rep – suggestions regarding manual/policies, discussed insurance rates

II. Approval of minutes

Sandra Mayo moved to approve July 9 Board Meeting. Supported by Kenneth Vredenburg Motion carried.

III. Approval of Treasurer's Township and Cemetery Reports

- Accounts receivable still off by 1
- Matches with first numbers on Clerks report
- Chip Hills School paid May election
- Three hall rentals
- Property split funds
- State of Michigan revenue sharing
- Cemetery report matches
- Payment for computer for Township Treasurer, insurance, fixed sink, BSA software,

Fires

Payment of Bills Moved by Carolyn Towsley. Supported by Sandra Mayo. Twp checks 9587-9610 Cemetery check 1639, and 1640. Motion carried.

V. Unfinished Business

1. Assessor's and Supervisor's Report – Junk complaints not closed yet but are better.
2. Treasurer's Report – Attended Mecosta County Township Association – census bureau discussion – need to get as many as possible. Renewed staples account, PRE exemption reduction taxpayer complained not on bill – has to do with how it is set up to pay out however the exemption is calculated. Received a clerk salary report completed by County Clerk regarding Twp Clerk salaries for Mecosta County. Almost received FOIA request – however public information so sent without completing FOIA.

3. Clerk's Report: Election MOTA 11/5/19. Morton Twp fundraiser 9/20/19 at 7:00pm.

4. Clerk's Position: Resignation of current clerk Lisa Lambert effective 8/21/19. Motion to accept Lisa Lambert resignation letter by Carolyn Towsley. Supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.

VI. New Business

1. Clerk's Position: Board conducted secret ballot. New Clerk Billy Jean Barnes. Billy Jean accepted effective 8/22/19. Can pick her own deputy and must submit information for background check. Motion to accept appointment of Billy Jean Barnes by Carolyn Towsley. Supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried.

2. Charter communication franchise renewal.

3. Ford Drain: Drain commissioner is redistricting, she says jurisdiction stops at certain point others feel it should continue past. Can't do larger without petition, Cost to Austin is 5%. One time cost for redistricting. Kenneth Vredenburg to attend information meeting. Motion to allow Kenneth Vredenburg to act on behalf of Austin Township Board at drain meeting moved by Carolyn Towsley, supported by Sandra Mayo. Motion carried. Board agrees redistricting should be done right to encompass all areas.

4. Discussion regarding rental policy changes, damage to walls from rentals recently, possible revamping of policy needed.

Adjourned 9:55.

Lisa Lambert

Austin Township Clerk