



ELK  
TOWNSHIP  
*Making life better!*

Elk Township - Lake County, Michigan  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 298 - Irons, MI 49644  
Located at: 8966 N. Bass Lake Rd., Irons, MI  
Ph: 231-266-5983 E-mail: [elktwspclerk@gmail.com](mailto:elktwspclerk@gmail.com)  
Web Site: [elktwplakecomi.org](http://elktwplakecomi.org)

ELK TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

June 11, 2024

L. Fitz, Supervisor, called the meeting to order @ 7:00pm

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance, led by L. Fitz

Roll call, officials present: Lou Fitz, Supervisor; Karen Fickies, Clerk; Brandy Myers, Treasurer, Excused; Dave Bass, Trustee; Jack Hankiewicz, Trustee

Citizens in attendance (23)

Agenda Revisions:

- None. J. Hankiewicz-motion to approve agenda as printed, B. Myers-seconded, motion carried 5-0-0

Minute's approval:

- D. Bass-motion to approve May 14, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes as printed; J. Hankiewicz-seconded; motion carried 5-0-0

Board Member Reports:

Supervisor-L. Fitz

- Project of River Rd. is progressing, no completion date yet.
- Thanks to everyone who worked at our Trash Day. Fewer vehicles, but more junk.

K. Fickies-Clerk

- Non-Periodicals: None
- Request to approve all funds bills paid in May, 2024, L. Fitz-motion to approve all Fund reports as printed, D. Bass-seconded, motion carried 5-0-0
- Hall Leases, LMWCC
- Correspondence: Luther Library Newsletter; Mich. Railroad Assoc. newsletter
- Update on Sealcoating parking lot and driveway, Molan Asphalt will be doing this Saturday, June 22, 2024. Suggested to block off access until the following Monday

B. Myers-Treasurer

- Treasurer's report for May 2024, correction on date to read 2024. L. Fitz-motion to accept Treasurer's report as revised, D. Bass-seconded; motion carried 5-0-0.

D. Bass, Trustee

- None

J. Hankiewicz, Trustee

- None

Public Comments:

- Dave McIntire requested the Elk Township Board pass a resolution to oppose the Natural River's Program.
- Harry Mead opposed to NRP
- Armas Soorus encouraged not to pass resolution to oppose NRP
- Matt Akin opposed to NRP
- William Sikkenga opposed to NRP
- Mike Seroczynski, he lives on the Pere Marquette (which is a designated Natural River) and also on the Board of Review the NRP. Shared his views on the NRP
- Herb Ziebert opposed to NRP

- Mark Russeau opposed to NRP
- Armas Soorus clarified 400' "Control Area", not set back
- Joyce Durdal clarified handicap access to river under the NRP, invasive species controlled under DNR, LMWCC is completed with NRP research now in up to DNR
- Dave McIntire responded to J. Durdal comment, NRP rules discussed briefly
- William Sikkenga requested resolution to oppose NRP
- Dianne Longoria, running for Lake County Judge, she is a practicing attorney in Baldwin
- Matt Akin question on 400' control area
- Mark Delssner opposed to NRP
- Mark Russo requested a sign on 11 Mile for Hidden Drive

#### Dignitary Reports:

- County Commissioner- M. Seroczynski ORV Park is now open
- Sheriff- Shooting in Idlewild, B&E at Mr. Bibs, Cannibash July 7<sup>th</sup>, new recruitment, Drivers Ed program, animal control officer, ORV officers on patrol 2 during week days, 4 on weekends (report on file)
- SEEFire Board-Gary Nugent report 16 runs (report on file)
- Road Commissioner – No report
- Assessor- (report on file)
- Ordinance Enforcement Officer – Jeff Mather, reviewed 12 ongoing cases. (report on file)
- Big Bass Lake SAD- D. Bass, PLM is completed survey, no need to treat at this time. They will continue monitoring.
- Harper Lake SAD – D. Bass, PLM will be treating June 1, 2024
- Road Committee- No report. In need of new Chairperson and committee
- Cemetery Committee-J. Hankiewicz, Storage totes have been purchased, Veterans flags stored in tool shed. Veterans' flags in place.
- Emergency Management- New Director, Eric King, introduced, Damage Assessment Volunteer program

#### Old Business:

- ARPA Funds, Reviewed the Project List. 1) Replacement of tables and chair to use at pavilion and loan out. L. Fitz-motion to purchase 6 sets of 6 chairs, and 4 8' tables, not to exceed \$1,700, K. Fickies-seconded, discussion, L. Fitz-amended motion to "not to exceed \$2,000, roll call vote, motion passed 5-0-0. 2) Sound System, D. Bass will do more research on proposed system, L. Fitz-motion to postpone until July meeting, B. Myers-seconded, motion carried 5-0-0. 3) According to Accountant, ARPA funds must either be spent or under contract no later than December 31, 2024. Discussion regarding projects on list that cannot be contracted, may want to re-allocate those committed funds to other projects that could be "contracted" projects. Discussed putting new gravel on road around cemetery, L. Fitz will contact Fischer's for quote, dead trees at township hall, Lakeview Cemetery sign repainting, K. Fickies will contact tree service for quote.

#### New Business:

- Resolution 2024-11 Hazard Mitigation Plan read, L. Fitz-motion to adopt resolution, J. Hankiewicz-seconded, roll call vote, resolution adopted 5-0-0
- Resolution 2024-12 To Pause Collection of Big Bass Lake Special Assessment for year 2024 read, L. Fitz-motion to adopt resolution, B. Myers-seconded, roll call vote, resolution adopted 5-0-0
- Resolution 2024-13 To Oppose Efforts for the Designation of the Little Manistee River as a Michigan Natural River. K. Fickies-motion to adopt resolution, D. Bass-seconded. Discussion: This is an Elk Township resolution not just Riparian Owners, Survey results, amount of government involvement, take a stand on NRP. Roll call vote, motion failed 2-3-0
- B. Myers-motion that Elk Township does not to be included in NRP and if another resolution including Elk Twp. numbers, we would review, D. Bass-seconded, discussion, roll call vote, motion carried 5-0-0

#### Public Comment:

- Don Divis running for Lake County Road Commission
- Diane ???, NRP survey mailing
- Dave McIntiere, NRP survey, all Elk Twp. #'s vs Riparian Owners
- Nancy Sikkenga, NRP survey, #'s not accurate
- Armas Soorus, NRP survey, explained total #'s in survey

- William Sikkenga, NRP survey #'s are squeed
- Harry Meed, still opposed to NRP
- Rich Martin, questioned #'s in survey
- Carol Ziebert, received survey but ignored, thought it was about GVSU
- Armas Soorus, LMWCC tried to be transparent with survey

Adjournment:

- B. Myers-motion to adjourn at pm 9:32pm, J. Hankiewicz-seconded, motion carried 5-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Fickies, Clerk  
June 11, 2024