

**Fredonia Township Board Regular Meeting**  
**December 15, 2025 6:30 PM**  
**Fredonia Township Hall**  
**8803 17 Mile Rd, Marshall, MI 49068**

**MINUTES**

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**BOARD MEMBERS present:**  Terry Day, Supervisor  Meg Bosserd, Clerk  Kyler Speaker, Treasurer

Cathy Combs, Trustee  John Miller, Trustee

**STAFF present**  Phil Damon, Fire Chief  Jacob Washburn, Deputy Supervisor/FD Training Officer

Doug Damon, Sexton  George Crandall, Twp. Planning Committee

Terry Travis, Code Enforcement Officer

**CALL TO ORDER:** Terry Day called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by all.

**ROLL CALL:** Clerk M. Bosserd called the Board of Trustees' names:

"Present": John Miller, Kyler Speaker, Terry Day, Meg Bosserd

Absent: Cathy Combs

T. Day stated that C. Combs was unable to attend and had an excused absence. There is still quorum.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:** T. Day added Board of Review appointment under New Business.

**PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON AGENDA:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

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**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH:** Regular Board Meeting: November 17, 2025

K. Speaker made a motion and J. Miller supported to approve the minutes as printed for the November 17, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVED AS READ**

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**FINANCIAL REPORT:** K. Speaker provided reports to review for the month of November. Winter tax collection has begun. We will see an increase in the revenue section. We will monitor expenses and see where we can shift dollars to cover the budget deficit from the decrease in state revenue sharing.

**FILE FOR AUDIT**

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**READING OF THE BILLS by M. Bosserd**

M. Bosserd provided a complete check register for the Board to review dated November 18, 2025 - December 15, 2025, totaling \$40,592.62 from the General Fund and \$66,966.76 from the Tax Account. M. Bosserd made the annual payment for workers' comp and the township insurance premium. The remaining \$662.67 from the Weeds Fund was paid to the Lyon Lake Improvement Board. K. Speaker made the first distribution of winter taxes. He refunded any overpayments to residents. One was as little as \$.10. However, it is the law that all overpayments be refunded no matter the amount. K. Speaker said he understands that this does not make much sense considering labor and cost of postage. T. Day mentioned seeing if there is anything we can do at the township level to establish a threshold. K. Speaker said he would look further into the policy. J. Miller made a motion and K. Speaker supported to approve the check register as presented.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

"Aye": Meg Bosserd, Terry Day, Kyler Speaker, John Miller

"Nay": None

The Supervisor declared the check register approved.

**APPROVED AS READ**

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**REPORTS:**

**FIRE:** Chief Damon provided a report and stated there were 7 fire and 5 medical calls for the month of November 2025. Training this month: Winterize the pumps on the grass trucks, thermal imagine camera training. Continuing Ed: bleeding and soft tissue injuries and central nervous system injuries. Activities: We appreciate Firefighter Kenton Inman participating in the annual Marshall Christmas parade by taking Squad 8. Personnel: Chief Damon wished everyone a safe Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

T. Day said he and P. Damon need to set a meeting to go over the Par Plan materials.

**CEMETERY:** D. Damon has received a few calls from individuals interested in purchasing lots.

**ROADS:** The next meeting will be February 4, 2026.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** T. Travis said he had nothing new except other than the agenda item. He sent a letter out to the 12 Mile Road property. The resident who complained called T. Day and he said he would get back to her on January 6, 2026.

**PLANNING:** The next meeting will be on January 14, 2026.

**ZONING:** None.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** Ben Lark met with Ryan Reincke on December 1, 2025 to compile a list of projects for 2026. M. Bosserd relayed info to B. Lark regarding how much money is available to use. We are going to focus on Jenney Woods. There is now a Hunter Access Program. From the period of April 2025-November 2025, 363 people signed in to hunt. Item number one is 10 acres of prairie grass planted by the DNR. R. Reincke and his friend Tim mowed the property for the burn. City of Marshall Fire Department did the burn for free previously. Fredonia Township Fire Department will be contacted to arrange this burn between March 15 and April 15, 2026. The Fire Department will be reimbursed at a rate of \$200 per acre (\$2,000 total). Per the 2025 Parks Millage Allocation Report & 2026 Allocation Request, the Township needs to spend approximately \$950. B. Lark found a coated, heavy-duty outdoor picnic table on Amazon for approximately \$950. The south side of the Jenney Woods property is overgrown. They want to prioritize making it a walking trail. Tim and R. Reincke can clear this area in their spare time. We would potentially pay them \$25-\$30 per hour of labor. A lot of people do not know where Jenney Woods is located. The plan is to add back-to-back signage, estimated at approximately \$500-\$700. After the burn, the DNR recommends to re-seed prairie grass, estimated at approximately \$700. Boat access into a township lake was also mentioned. B. Lark met with Lucy Hough, Assistant Director of Community Development, on December 11, 2025. They do not overlook projects, but ensure the guidelines are followed. The prairie grass burn was approved. They will extend the millage into the fourth year if we have a plan. B. Lark recommends we purchase the picnic table. We will need to find a place to store it upon delivery.

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

**\*Telecommunications Tower:** This is at the Planning Commission stage. This is just a discussion. J. Miller does not have information regarding if this is the best location, its range, etc. Royce Low from Chaille Tower Consultants (CTC) on-behalf-of The Towers, LLC was present. He provided maps of current coverage versus proposed coverage. The Towers LLC is working with Verizon for this specific project. He said that it would be tough and expensive to find a third party to verify information. Verizon is not going to let a third-party engineer into their proprietary system. This just is not a common practice. The Federal Government requires multi-use on cell phone towers. Verizon will be the anchor carrier and AT&T and T-Mobile may jump on the tower. It was asked if Verizon could go on the existing tower north of the proposed sight. It was explained that we need to establish more sites. If you have overlapping frequencies, you will create a dead zone. The Lyon Lake and Fish Lake areas are the focus of the proposed tower. R. Low produced another map that was not given to us yet. Jill Settineri asked Jen Bomba and the Michigan State University Extension program if they had recommendations for a third-party to come in to address our questions and concerns. They did not. G. Crandall said that Robert Hawley does not know of anyone either. G. Crandall said this is a quasi-eminent domain thing due to it being a service to the public. J. Miller explained higher frequency reduces range. What the Planning Commission is looking for is whether the Township Board wants them to continue to pursue finding a third party and, if so, how much money they are willing to spend. G. Crandall explained the FCC allows a 150-day window. If we go outside of the window, they can move forward anyway. The conditional use application was submitted on October 24, 2025. K. Speaker made a motion and M. Bossard supported to deny the request for an engineering consultant on this project. Motion approved unanimously. The Planning Commission can proceed without having a third-party consultant.

**\*Fire Extrication Equipment:** M. Bossard made a motion and K. Speaker supported to take fire extrication equipment from the table. Motion approved unanimously. Using the Fredonia Township Fire Department's 5-year budget plan, K. Speaker provided Fire Equipment Fund Budget Projections for two scenarios – 1) assuming the millage renewal fails and 2) assuming the millage renewal passes. If the Board approves the fire extrication equipment and the millage fails, there will be a deficit of approximately \$50k by 2030. K. Speaker said to approve the fire extrication equipment at \$51k without knowing if the millage will be renewed or not would be fiscally irresponsible. Fire Chief Damon explained that everyone is moving towards this equipment. Our current equipment's life is 10-12 years and we purchased it in 2013. It is the next thing on the list that needs replacement. P. Damon said they use extrication equipment more than fire equipment. They average two structure fires per year. T. Day asked if there would be any major problems with waiting one year. P. Damon said the cost would go up substantially if we do not commit now. K. Speaker made a motion and T. Day supported to deny the purchase of fire extrication equipment at this time. Motion carried unanimously. This can be revisited in August.

**\*Township Plumbing Update:** Hunter Prell installed ball valves and removed and replaced two galvanized nipples on two toilet supplies on Wednesday, December 3, 2025. They were done earlier than expected and there were no issues.

**\*380 Lyon Lake Road:** T. Day has been corresponding with the Township attorney regarding the demolition of this property. The Township is not allowed to go into the building. However, we can demolish the building. The construction company who is responsible for the demolition can go into the structure. Our attorney recommends that the sheriff be present with the contractor during the demolition phase. The cost of the demolition will be added on to the tax bill of the property owner. The

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Township will not recoup costs immediately. K. Speaker is going to clarify if attorney fees can also be billed to property owner. The property owner will be called after we obtain quotes to say that the Township is moving forward with the demolition of the structure. K. Speaker made a motion and J. Miller supported to allow Terry Day to get three bids for the demolition of 380 Lyon Lake Road. Motion carried unanimously.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**\*Ordinance Committee:** T. Day said that the Township needs to get our ordinance up to date. He checked with the Township attorney and confirmed the creation of an Ordinance Committee would not overlap with the Planning Commission. T. Travis said the last time our ordinance was updated was in 1997. There is little to stand on when trying to address complaints related to trailers, junk, etc. T. Day made a motion and M. Bosserd supported to create an Ordinance Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

There is a letter from the attorney to the committee members outlining responsibilities and guidelines. T. Travis said the committee can compare our ordinance to the City of Marshall's and other townships' ordinances. Our attorney will need to review and give his final blessing. This will have to be adopted to be put in effect in 30 days. The updated ordinance will then be put on the website. T. Day made a motion and M. Bosserd supported to appoint Kyler Speaker, Terry Travis, and James Bosserd to the Ordinance Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*2026 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Dates:** M. Bosserd shared the potential dates for the 2026 Regular Board Meetings. The meetings are usually held on the third Monday of every month. January and February are two exceptions due to the third Monday being a Federal Holiday. Those meetings will be the fourth Mondays, January 26<sup>th</sup> and February 23<sup>rd</sup>. K. Speaker made a motion and T. Day supported to approve the 2026 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Dates. Motion carried unanimously. The 2026 dates will be posted on the website.

**\*Updated Burial Rates and Fees:** JR Brunner, the Township's vendor for cemetery services, increased his rates for 2026. To cover the increase, the Township will need to increase its rates. Jacob Washburn provided an updated cemetery fee document and letter to the various funeral homes for the Board to review. K. Speaker made a motion and J. Miller supported to proceed with these new rates. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Speaker made a motion and T. Day supported to make an amendment to the previous motion to approve the new rates with the exception of lines 2-6. The current language under the plot section should be replaced with "See cemetery rules."

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

"Aye": John Miller, Kyler Speaker, Terry Day, Meg Bosserd

"Nay": None

The Supervisor declared the Fredonia Township Burial Rates and Fees amended and approved. M. Bosserd will send along with the letter to the funeral homes.

**\*Planning Committee Appointment:** With the addition of the Vice President position to the Planning Commission, there is an opening for another member effective January 1, 2026. T. Day made a motion and K. Speaker supported to appoint James Bosserd to the Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*2025 Parks Millage Allocation Report and 2026 Allocation Request:** Per the 2025 Parks Millage Allocation Report, Fredonia Township's ending millage balance must be less than \$15,232.63 to receive a fourth-year allocation. Our current balance is \$16,186.58, which is \$953.95 over the amount needed. K. Speaker made a motion and J. Miller made a motion to spend approximately \$950.00 on a picnic table for Jenney Woods.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

"Aye": John Miller, Kyler Speaker, Terry Day, Meg Bossard

"Nay": None

The Supervisor declared the motion approved.

**\*Jenney Woods Project:** T. Day said that B. Lark could start getting quotes for a two-sided sign and its installation for Jenney Woods.

**\*Hall Rental Agreement – Liquor Policy:** M. Bossard said that the Township needs to revisit the hall agreement once again due to recommendations from our Par Plan risk control representative regarding alcohol. M. Bossard suggested adding the language "It is the renter's responsibility to provide the Lessor with a copy of a Liability Insurance Policy for the day of the time of the events. Lessor will not be liable or held responsible for use of alcohol on the property or in the building" to item number 12 in the agreement. K. Speaker made a motion and T. Day supported to approve the additional language to item number 12 in the Fredonia Township Hall Rental agreement effective on any agreement signed moving forward. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*Early Voting Agreement:** M. Bossard said that the Early Voting agreement is set to be signed by all County Clerks at the January 21, 2026 meeting. She sent to the Board to review. K. Speaker made a motion and T. Day supported to approve the Calhoun County Early Voting Agreement.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

"Aye": John Miller, Kyler Speaker, Terry Day, Meg Bossard

"Nay": None

The Supervisor declared the motion approved.

**\*Board of Review Appointment:** T. Day made a motion and K. Speaker supported to appoint Jim Bossard to the Board of Review. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (for any new issues):**

\*Resident expressed disappointment at Short-Term Rentals not being on the agenda. Article 7 addresses existing rentals being grandfathered in. Short-Term Rentals have never been lawfully approved. There needs to be a thoughtful process on when to implement the proposed new policy as renters probably have lined up for the summer.

\*B. Lark sets on the County Planning Board. He said that's one of the longest conversations they have had. Jen Bomba encourages the Township to revisit. Residents should come to the county meetings.

\*D. Damon is going to verify the cremation rate. He said that the Township typically gets allocated \$5,000 per year for the Parks Millage. He brought up a petition going around regarding showing identification when voting.

\*G. Crandall addressed the telecommunications tower. He said the signal gets bled off quickly going from 4G to 5G. This is not something that will go away. If anything, we will see more of these types of proposals. This tower may not fix cell service for all of those that think it will. The Short-Term Rentals

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policy is very ambiguous as far as properties being grandfathered in. At this moment, all short-term rentals are unlawful as the Township never registered them.

**BOARD COMMENT (TIME LIMIT-3 MINUTES PER ISSUE PER PERSON):**

\*J. Miller said the telecommunications tower will ultimately come down to the Board and public comment.

\* K. Speaker said he appreciated the diligence everyone is showing like making calls to MSU Extension. Parks is going above and beyond. He will be in the office on December 26, 2025 for winter tax collection.

\*T. Day thanked everyone for coming. He will be attending a County meeting tomorrow, Tuesday, December 16, 2025. He will report back at the January Regular Board Meeting.

\*M. Bosserd said her hours will be 9:00am-12:00pm next Tuesday, December 23, 2025.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

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Minutes prepared by M. Bosserd

Meg Bosserd, Township Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Terry Day, Township Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

Date: