

Clerk, Kathi Hanson
Treasurer, Marsha Nurkala

Supervisor
Julia M. A. Leake

Trustee, Trudy Seppanen
Trustee, John Gregg

Michigamme Township
202 West Main – Po Box 220
Michigamme, MI 49861
Phone: 906-323-6608 Fax: 906-323
Michigamme Township Board Meeting
Location: Community Building
October 13, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.

CORRECTED MINUTES -CORRECTIONS IN BOLD TYPE.

GUESTS: Debbie Kinnunen, John & Rose McBride, Carla Skytta, Nancy Ferro, William Seppanen, Paul & Virginia Olson, Laura Mattson, Nancy Ferro, Brad DeLongchamp, Viki DeMars, Don Leake, Rhonda Gravedoni, Scott Gravedoni, Antonio Adan.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6 :00 p.m. by Supervisor Leake.
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.
- III. Roll Call by Hanson. Supervisor Leake, Clerk Hanson, Trustees Gregg, and Seppanen all present. Treasurer Nurkala absent. Quorum met.
- IV. Approval of Agenda : Request for additions to agenda by Leake (Under New Business #4 add wording **hourly rate** (appoint Sandy Swiedals as temporary Treasury Administrator/**hourly rate**). Under Old Business #2 **change spelling of last name to Adan**. Motion to accept the agenda with additions by Gregg. Second by Seppanen. Voice vote. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed.
- V. Approval of Minutes for September 8, 2025, and September 10, 2025 (special meeting): Motion to accept the draft minutes for Sept 10th special meeting by Gregg. Second by Leake. Voice vote. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed. Motion to accept the Sept 8th board meeting minutes with the two corrections by Gregg. Second by Seppanen. Voice vote. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed.
- VI. Treasurer's Report: No report was turned in by the Treasurer.
- VII. Clerks Report / Bills to be paid: All bills to be paid were discussed as well as fines/fees paid out for past missed payment deadlines explained. Some accounts are still being reviewed but clerk is hopeful we are close to having all past accounts corrected going forward. Motion to accept bills

to be paid and reports by Seppanen. Second by Gregg. Roll call by Hanson. Seppanen Aye, Leake Aye, Gregg Aye, Hanson Aye. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed.

- VIII. Public Comment / 3 minutes on Agenda Items Only: Rhonda Gravedoni voiced her concerns regarding board members not doing their duties yet being paid. She also thanked Clerk Hanson for getting bills and accounts corrected. Rose McBride thanked board members for cleaning up accounts and getting audits done.
- IX. Board Comment: Supervisor Leake reported Winter Library Hours T-TH-Sat 10-5; Winter office Hours M-TH 10-1; Public Enforcement officer notices going up soon with inspections to follow. CEM Grant monies starting to come in. Hanson reported draft minutes will be available every month in the office.
- X. Correspondence: Supervisor Leake read a letter from the Bullock Family thanking the township residents for their soup supper fund raiser support to offset medical bills.
- XI. Committee Reports
1. Fire Board: Trudy Seppanen gave a lengthy report (see full report attached.)
 2. Planning Commission: John Gregg reported the board met Oct 1st. They are currently working on the public letter (see item #7 in Old Business). During their meeting there was a question raised in public comment regarding how to address a zoning question properly.
 3. DDA: Scott Gravedoni reported the DDA met on Oct 6th. Christmas Market will be Nov 8th from 10-3. The Christmas Party will be Dec 13th from 2-4 p.m. and donations welcome. Wrapping up photos for the sign shop for the billboard for the stone highway sign (still researching its location/ possible state land option now too).
 4. DPW: Leake reported the DPW is focusing Oct on leaf pickup, pulling pumps, and preparing the cemetery for winter. (If you have flowers on graves please remove by the end of the month). The boat launch will be coming out October 15th this year.
 5. Michigamme Area Seniors: Virginia Olson reported the resignation of Bill Seppanen (due to health issues). As of now there is no replacement. The Seniors also wanted to send their sympathies to the Starkey family.
 6. Friends of Michigamme: Debbie Kinnunen reported they are currently working on the sign design for the front of the engine house. Kinnunen requested the board get bids for it and the Friends of Michigamme will pay for it. They are also researching getting a bench for the area of the cemetery that the grave sites do not have head stones. The bench will say "Gone but not Forgotten".
- XII. Old Business
1. 906 Surveys: Leake reported surveys are completed and submitted to get registered in Marquette County Deeds.
 2. Antonio Adan/ Land Bank Proposal: Antonio Adan from the Land Bank gave a presentation on options for the 13 parcels the township owns. One such option is deeding select parcels to the Land Bank and they would come in and coordinate all work (their

blueprint plans meet all codes/specs) for homes to be built for future residents. The Land Bank is currently interested in 7 lots and would like to submit letters of interest for them to the board next month if the Township is interested in additional information. Motion to move forward and explore additional information by Leake. Second by Seppanen. Roll call by Hanson. Seppanen Aye, Gregg Aye, Hanson Aye, Leake Aye. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed.

3. Accept Pending Resignation of Treasurer now Dated October 13, 2025: Motion to accept the resignation of Treasurer Marsha Nurkala effective immediately at the close of today's October Board Meeting by Gregg. Second by Seppanen. Voice vote. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Passed.

XIII. New Business

1. Post Treasurer Position: Motion by Leake to post the position of Treasurer immediately for 30 days. Second by Seppanen. Voice vote. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed.
2. Scott Kenney Report (accountant): Leake read accountant Scott Kenney's report and Mr. Kenney then answered questions the board had as well as residents in attendance.
3. Resolution for new line item to General Fund Budget: Budget to be amended as follows.
 - 1- Create a new line item 101-253-703-100 in the General Fund for the position of Temporary Treasury Administrator until the new Treasurer is installed.
 - 2- Transfer funding from 101-253-702-000 Treasury Salary in the amount of \$5000.00 Supervisor Leake read the resolution out loud. Motion by Hanson to mend the budget as presented, second by Gregg. Roll call by Hanson. Trustee Gregg Aye. Trustee Seppanen Aye. Supervisor Leake Aye. Clerk Hanson Aye. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. 0 Abstain. 1 Absent. Motion passed.
4. Appoint Sandy Swiedals as temporary Treasury Administrator/ **hourly rate**: Motion by Leake to appoint Sandy Swiedals as temporary Treasury Administrator. Second by Hanson. Roll call by Hanson. Gregg Aye, Seppanen Aye, Hanson Aye, Leake Aye. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed. Motion to set the hourly pay rate for temporary Treasury Administrator at \$22.00 per hour by Leake. Second by Seppanen. Roll call by Hanson. Leake Aye, Gregg Aye, Seppanen Aye, Hanson Aye. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed.
5. Cable across Brush Pile Road: Motion by Gregg to take down current cable going across the brush pile road entrance and replace it with a gate. Second by Hanson. Voice vote. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed.
6. Permission to apply for Spring West End Health Grants: Motion by Gregg to give Leake permission to apply for Spring West End Health Grants. Second by Seppanen. Voice vote. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed.

7. Approval of Planning Commission Public Letter: The Planning Commission drafted a letter to be sent to all Lake Michigamme Property Owners informing them of the Township Zoning Ordinances regarding preservation of natural shoreline on our lake. The objective is to educate lake property residents of expectations within the zoning guidelines. Motion to approve the letter created by the Planning Commission by Leake. Second by Seppanen. Voice vote. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed.
8. Temporary employee employment extension: Temporary employment for Ernie Smet runs out Oct 31st, 2025. Last year we paid him \$4,448.00 in unemployment. This year he was given the option to stay on at a pay rate of \$160.00 per week. Note: this amount is less than he would make collecting unemployment, but he would be able to accumulate PTO hours if he continued to work this winter. Ernie accepted the offer to stay on if the board approves it. Motion by Gregg to extend temporary employment of Ernie Smet. Second by Hanson. Roll call by Hanson. Gregg Aye, Seppanen Aye, Hanson Aye, Leake Aye. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed.
9. Permission to sell John Deere Tractor with attachments and old sidewalk brush. Motion by Gregg to sell John Deere Tractor with attachments. Second by Hanson. Voice vote. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed. Note: Leake getting price quotes on value of each item.

- XVI. Public Comment: William Seppanen/ congratulations Sandy Swiedals. Rhonda Gravedoni/ If you run for an office you need to be willing to train for the job and do the job, not have your deputy do it for you. Debbie Kinnunen/ agrees with Rhonda Gravedoni comment, also congratulations to Sandy Swiedals. Vicki Demars/ inquired on building access to exercise plus if Facebook Page created. Scott Gravedoni/ In the past some board positions were filled by people with full time jobs that cannot commit enough time to do the job correctly. We need to find someone who will put the time in here. Also, there is no sign up on Max and US 41.
- XVII. Board comment: Hanson/ addressed WEX CARD and election law questions from earlier and wished Marsha Nurkala good luck in the future. Gregg/ wished Marsha Nurkala good luck, congratulated Sandy Swiedals, and thanked all board members for working so hard to have our board run smoothly. Leake/ wished Marsha Nurkala good luck.
- XVIII. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Seppanen. Second by Gregg. Voice vote. 4 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned by Leake at 8:07 p.m.