

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 13th, 2025 – 7:30 pm
In Township Hall at 2024 Cleveland St. E. Coopersville, MI. 49404
www.wrighttownshipottawami.gov

Approved at 09/10/2025 Board Meeting

Supervisor VanTimmeren called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. Board members present include Supervisor VanTimmeren, Clerk Theresa Frank, Trustee Brad Anderson, and Trustee Rick Schoenborn. Treasurer Sharyl Dietrich was absent. The meeting was held at the Township Hall located at 2024 Cleveland St. E. Coopersville, MI. 49404.

APPROVE AGENDA and ADDITIONS

- Motion made by Frank to approve the Agenda with changes made to 7 d. Seven d. needs to be moved to Public Comments, and approval of resolution 2025-08-02 needs to be put in its place on the agenda. This was supported by Anderson. Four (4) ayes, one absent, motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVE

- Motion made by Anderson, supported by Frank, to approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$111,663.00 for July 2025 expenditures. Due to Treasurer's absence there is no Treasurer Report this month. Large expenditures this month include \$59,298.75 for Fire Operations, company credit card for \$3,550.74, the Township Audit \$8,300.00, and down payment for retention pond chain-link fence for \$7,500.00. Four (4) ayes, one absent, motion carries.
- Motion made by Anderson, supported by VanTimmeren, to approve meeting minutes from July 09, 2025. Four (4) ayes, one absent, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Caleb Worple, the Community Outreach Specialist with the Department of Veterans Services was going to speak at the meeting tonight, but found he had a conflict and could not make it. He will try to be at the Townships meeting in September.
- Mary Alt, President of the Historical Commission was at the meeting and asked the Board to accept the resignation of Mike Keefe from the Commission. Frank motioned and Schoenborn supported the acceptance of the resignation of Mike Keefe. Four ayes, one absent, motion passed.
- Mary also let the Board know that Kathy Lothschultz would not seek another term on the Commission after her term ends in November 2025. Accepting the approval of Rodney Klein to the Commission was requested to replace Kathy in November. Anderson motioned and Frank supported the approval of Rodney Klein to the Historical Commission in November of 2025. Four Aye, one absent, motion carried.
- Township Hall neighbor R.J. Graftema had comments regarding the drainage affecting his property and wanted to clarify with the Board what was going to be the plan to correct the problem. After some discussion, a plan was made that both sides agreed too.
- Joseph P. McCarter was at the meeting, and he spoke for "Save The Campbell". He would like Wright Township to pass a resolution requesting Consumers Energy to forego seeking cost

recovery to keep the J.H. Campbell generating plant operationally available but instead offset those costs by reducing the Net Zero expenditures and delaying its Net Zero implementation, as well as seriously exploring providing an AI data center with some of the electric provided by the Campbell, in order that residential electric rates can be reduced. The Board will consider this and report at the September Board meeting.

- Steve Quirk commented that he was proud of the Wright Tallmadge Fire Department. They were taking down flags in town, and at the same time they were engaging with the little kids in the area. The kids were having so much fun. It was commented that the firefighters need to know that they are noticed and it was so nice to see this interaction with the public.

REPORTS

- County Commissioner, Allison Miedema, was not at the meeting with a report on the County.
- VanTimmeren gave the Fire Department Report. There were 91 calls in July 2025. The new pumper/tanker process is ongoing; the color chip has been approved (green). The Department has made a push for paid on call firefighters. They will be interviewing 6 applicants at the end of the month. LT/Fire Inspector Thibault has officially started to do fire inspections of commercial structures within Wright and Tallmadge Townships.
- Steve Quirk reported there was nothing new for the New Town Hall Committee to share.
- No Senior Services report - summer break.
- Planning Commission report given by Brad Anderson. The Commission has a meeting on August 18, 2025. The meeting is on Farm Labor Housing. He reported that Ken Zahm mentioned the hauling and dumping of dirt on the property on 24th Ave. He was wondering if the dirt was assessed to make sure the dirt was not contaminated. It is possible we should get it assessed. Planning Commission has requested curtains windows behind the dias.
- Election Report was given by Frank. Up until the middle of August Wright Township was slated for no elections in 2025. Unfortunately, at the last minute the Kent County Intermediate School Districts have requested to be on the ballot. There is now a school election for Sparta and Kenowa Hills Schools on November 04 2025. Wright Township has one precinct. This precinct is located at the new Town Hall Community Center, 2024 Cleveland St. E. Coopersville, MI 49404. This is a local election so there will not be any early voting. The precinct will be open on Election Day November 04, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Voters that are on the Permanent Ballot List will receive ballots automatically. If any one not on the list wants an Absentee Ballot, they will need to call the Clerk for an application or get one on-line.

OLD BUSINESS; None.

NEW BUSINESS

- Frank motioned, and Schoenborn supported the approval of Resolution 2025-08-01, regarding the support of an application for a grant to get automatic doors for the Township. Three ayes, one nay by Supervisor VanTimmeren, one absent. Motion carried.
- There was a discussion about getting all the office computers updated to Windows 11. It was decided that this is something that has to happen to keep township information secure.
- VanTimmeren motioned and Anderson supported to approve the new Election Equipment Agreement with Ottawa County. Four ayes, one absent. Motion carried.

- Schoenborn moved and Anderson supported the approval of Resolution 2025-08-02, regarding the Poverty Exemption. Four ayes, one absent. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

- The easement on Township property needs some work. Estimating about two thousand dollars to make it useable. The farmer leasing the Township property is willing to put some crushed concrete down at his cost. VanTimmeren will make calls to get some bids for excavators.
- Lions Club has asked for a trimmer and blower for the Lions Park landscaping. The Township will let them have this to use and store for the parks landscaping, but the equipment will be Wright Township property. The equipment will not be more than \$500. The Township leases the park property.

Board Comments

- Schoenborn said he called the Ottawa County Road Commission to let them know there is a bad wash-out on 20th Ave. They told him they would put this on their list.
- Anderson wanted to say regarding the Mr. Graftema situation, we need to get his request taken care of as soon as possible.
- VanTimmeren commented on the Fire Station's new roof. It is finished and all went well.
- VanTimmeren adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully prepared by Theresa Frank, Wright Township Clerk.

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(Any documents referenced in these minutes are on file in the Clerk's office)