

SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP WATER BOARD MINUTES

July 15, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Bill Munsell

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Roll Call of Board Members: Bill Munsell, Jim Busha, Kathy Loup and Jim Sutton.

A motion by Kathy Loup, supported by Bill Munsell to excuse Rachel Lyons absence. The motion was approved.

Others Present: Frank Toms, Water/Sewer Superintendent and Larry Noyce, Water/Sewer Employee

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion by Jim Sutton, supported by Jim Busha to approve the agenda with the addition of "Proposing a Public Meeting to Discuss the Water/Sewer System" under New Business. The motion was approved.

Approval of the Water Board Minutes from June 17, 2025: Motion by Jim Busha, supported by Jim Sutton to approve the June 17, 2025 minutes. The motion was approved.

DPW Report and Updates: Larry Noyce reported: Fire hydrants have been checked to make sure the valves are working properly. DPW will be flushing hydrants in the coming week. Possibly looking to contact Verizon to hook up the water tower to their back up generator. Crane engineering will be here in the coming week to do repairs on Lift Station 3. DPW will talk to Crane about problems at Lift Stations 1 & 5. Information was received from EGLE for backup generators at lift stations 2,3&4. A certified Engineer is needed for quotes and a permit is needed before it can go to the bidding process. Shoreline Services will send a quote along with Crane. Crane will also give a quote on Well house 3 telemetry to switch to fiber. John Tharp's 90-day probationary period will be up on July 28th. Frank Toms and Jim Sutton will evaluate John's progress with him and make a recommendation. This led to a discussion on whether an employee should be requested to obligate a certain amount of time to remain with the Township following training.

The Water Board needs to see the contract between Verizon and the Township.

-A motion was made by Kathy Loup, supported by Bill Munsell requesting the Township Board to direct the Township Clerk to send a letter to Verizon requesting that all communication between Verizon and the Township go through the Township Clerk and that the Clerk locate the contract between Verizon and the Township. Motion was approved.

Old Business: **Motion** by Rachel Lyons, supported by Kathy Loup to waive the total amount due on the delinquent water bill for 9478 W Baird St and have DPW disconnect the water permanently. Motion was approved.

- Continuing discussion on the organizing of the water ordinances along with costs involving a reconnect fee and updating the cost schedule. Rachel will research fees and bring information back to the board.

- There was no response from Verizon in locating a contract between them and the Township other than a list of restrictions on accessing the tower. Looking into Verizon hooking up the tower to their backup generator is deferred until the September meeting.

- The water/sewer employees will write for their operator license May 2026. Frank will look into available classes that Larry and John can take in the fall and spring.

- DPW will wait for the 3rd quarter meter reading to figure the average usage for delinquent bill on S Scribner St.

- Jim Sutton received a quote of \$3200 for 3 cameras including installation for the water/sewer building. A 4TH camera was suggested for the interior of the water/sewer building.

- The Board discussed a proposed public meeting between Fishbeck, Bay Mills Tribe, the Township Board, the Water/Sewer Board, EGLE and Rural Water to discuss the water/sewer system.

Motion by Rachel Lyons, supported by Bill Munsell to table the proposed meeting due to the possibility of it being 2 separate meetings. The motion was approved.

- Jim Granger Engineering is now Granger Surveying. Frank will contact EGLE to see if they may have received digital maps of the water/sewer system and Mike Fox will contact Granger Surveying to possibly get any information.

- Discussion on sewer metering and how billing is done to the tribe for their portion. A flow meter was suggested to simplify the process. Mike will look into the possibility.

New Business: Michigan Rural Water presented an informative program on present water rates and possible raising future water rates in order to fund the upgrading and maintaining of our water/sewer system. Discussion followed on funding and possible avenues to explore. Rachel and Frank will meet with Amanda and John on the following day at the Tribal office (8/20/25) to research a plan for funding through USDA. Following the meeting, information will come back to the full board. Plans will then be made for a public meeting with all entities involved.

Adjournment: **Motion** made by Rachel Lyons, supported by Jim Busha to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.