

APPROVED MINUTES
PINE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026
7900 Second St. NW, Stanton MI 48888

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Drews, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

PRESENT: William Drews, Supervisor; Marla Sprague, Clerk; Misty VanGessel, Treasurer; Darcy Krause, Trustee;
Rodney Palmer, Trustee

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Julie Drews, Deputy Supervisor; Barbara Kaaikala, Deputy Clerk; Steve Buchholz, Zoning Administrator

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to approve the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Donna Seelman, Hunter Lake, presented complaint of a commercial business being run out of a rental home and using easement to store business property. Complaint will be handled by the Zoning Administrator.

Adam Munn, owner of property near the intersection of Willard Rd and N Johnson Rd, sought resolution of neighbor using 30 feet of his property, trespassing and dumping illegally.

James Hohler expressed concern regarding making the township website ADA compliant by the deadline of April 27, 2028 and offered to work on it.

Judy Graham expressed concern regarding ordinance enforcement.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 13, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Drews requested corrections to 1) Zoning Administrator Report – the name is Wiggins, not Wireman; the cabin is on Moore Lake, owner's name is Lichtman. 2) Birch Landing – there was not a sale, costs were being recovered; 3) Hall Water Treatment – quote was not sought from Aqua Pure of Sheridan.

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to approve the minutes with corrections.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS

- **Treasurer/Financial Reports/Bank Update (on file)**

Treasurer report was provided.

Palmer moved, supported by Sprague, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Zoning Administrator Report – Steve Buchholz, Zoning Administrator**

2 zoning permits were issued and no land division applications were received in April. \$80.00 in receipts was turned in.

Completing software training through weekly zoom meetings.

Several blight complaints, work slowed due to Buchholz's illness in April, will be resuming in May.

Asked the Board to seek an individual to take over the ordinance enforcement portion of the Zoning Administrator's responsibilities.

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Road Report – Bill Drews, Township Supervisor**

Road contracts have been received. Brining is taking place.

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Fire District Report – Bill Drews, Township Supervisor**

26 runs in April, 2 being in Pine Township. Training was road rally and active 911.

Bi-annual audit will take place August 31, 2026 and will be reported to the member townships.

2 Pine Twp. residents have not paid the bills that were sent in response to structure fires.

VanGessel moved, supported Sprague, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Cemetery Report – Marla Sprague, Township Clerk**

0 burials in Riverside Cemetery in April; 2 in West Pine Cemetery. West Pine water pump to be opened soon.

VanGessel moved, supported by Kause, to approve the report. Wind damage at West Pine was cleaned up by Pitcher Perfect at the cost of \$1840.00. Motion was made by Misty Vangessel supported by Darcy Krause to have ~~Bunker Tree Service~~ **Dave Fuller Stump Grinding** remove stump at a cost of \$500.00.

MOTION CARRIED
(Corrected 06/08/26)

- **Library Board Report (Jamie Gorby/Jeremy Korpall)**

No representative present.

- **Supervisor Report – Bill Drews**

The attorney fees incurred during the resolution of the Spring Lake Birch Landing Lot 1 issue will be recovered.

Upcoming events: Blood Drive at Twp. Hall - Monday, May 25 (Memorial Day), July 27, Sept 28, and Nov 30

Tire & Electronic Recycling – Saturday, May 16 @ MMDHD pkg lot from 9 to noon

Household Hazardous Waste Recycling – June 27 @ MMDHD pkg lot from 9 to noon

IM Safe Child Advocacy is seeking donations

Van Gessel moved, supported by Krause, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Clerk Report – Marla Sprague**

Perpetual Care CDs – only the interest can be used, not the principal. Will report to the Board the amount of interest that is available for use.

The primary election will be August 4, 2026. All election inspectors will receive training.

The voter file has been updated to eliminate duplicate registrations.

New shelving will be installed in the Clerk's office to create more workspace.

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Planning Commission Update – Darcy Krause**

PC is preparing for the July meeting and discussing with Ethan of McKenna Planning the most cost effective way to send Master Plan surveys.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Birch Landing**

Drews drove to Spring Lake, Michigan to obtain the last two signatures. Property owners will record the deeds with Montcalm County. Township responsibility is now complete.

- **Siren Status** – siren is installed, final electrical hookup anticipated soon. Testing will occur one Saturday per month.

- **Clean Up Day** - Went well, bill will be coming from Republic Services for use of the dumpsters

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to approve the Birch Landing, Siren Status, and Clean Up Day reports.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

- **Budget Workshop**

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to schedule the budget workshop for Monday, May 18, 2026 at 1:00 PM

MOTION CARRIED

- **Website ADA Compliance**

James Hohler offered to work on the Township website so that it will be ADA compliant by the 2028 deadline.

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to authorize James Hohler to work on making the Township website

ADA compliant before the 2028 deadline, with compensation being reimbursement for costs and time incurred.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Blood Drives at Township Hall**

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to authorize the use of the Township Hall by

at no cost for the purpose of holding blood drives on May 25, July 27, Sept 28, and Nov 30, 2026

MOTION CARRIED

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to pay checks 4529 – 4565 for monthly bills in the amount of \$18,957.59 (including EFT).

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Randy Robson congratulated the Board on the successful resolution of the Birch Landing Lot 1 issue.

BOARD FINAL COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

VanGessel moved, supported by Sprague, to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Sprague
Pine Township Clerk

Minutes typed by Barbara Kaaikala