

**Laird Township Board**  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday March 13, 2024

Supervisor Spencer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Supervisor Patricia Spencer, Trustee John Juntunen, Trustee Ryan McGahan and Clerk Robin Henry. Absent was Treasurer Krajnak.

The Minutes of the February 14, 2024 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer and seconded by Trustee Juntunen to accept the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting. With all in favor, motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. A motion was made by Clerk Henry and supported by Supervisor Spencer to accept the Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of the bills. With all in favor, motion carried.

Petitions and Communications: There will be a public meeting on March 25, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at the Houghton County Road Commission in Hancock regarding transportation improvement projects. N. Laird Road is the only road in Laird Township that is included in this plan.

Fire Department Report:

- Three (3) firefighters attended CPR/Fire Fighter Down training in Baraga.
- A FEMA-Go grant was submitted for a new pumper/tanker.
- There were no fire calls this month.

Constable Report:

- Monthly inspection for the Church in the Valley was done.
- Playground equipment needs a bracket and some bolts and a load of sand. Constable Peterson will purchase supplies and handle these repairs.
- Constable Peterson has several more dead trees to cut down.

Transfer Station Report:

- Waste Management has not been emptying dumpsters regularly, but H. Smith-Grannis and Supervisor Spencer are working together on this and it should be better going forward.
- Transfer Station has been very busy.
- Discussion ensued regarding moving the transfer station to the township hall parking lot to save money and avoid being affected by road restrictions. Alston Ave. is still a restricted road. The majority of those present prefer to keep the transfer station where it is at this time.
- City of Houghton has two (2) sizes of trash bags for sale. A motion was made by Trustee Juntunen, seconded by Trustee McGahan to purchase 20 boxes of the large bags and 15 boxes of the small bags. With all in favor, motion carried.
- Transfer Station hours were discussed. A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer, seconded by Clerk Henry to have the Transfer Station open 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturdays and 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. on Tuesdays from May 1, 2024 through December 1, 2024. Winter hours will go back to Saturdays only.
- Bag prices will be increased to \$3.00 per large bag and \$2.00 per small bag as of May 1, 2024 to help offset the rising costs of running the Transfer Station. A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer, seconded by Clerk Henry to raise the bag prices and adopt new hours. With all in favor, motion carried. H. Smith-Grannis will make a sign with the new hours to hang on the building.

Recreation Committee Report

- Copper Shores Grant has been submitted and has been moved on past the first round in the selection process.
- Sign has been put up on the hiking trail, and trail is being bulldozed.

- Easter Egg Hunt will be at the township hall on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. Posters will be distributed in the next week.

Assessor's Report:

- Board of review met one day and will meet again on Thursday.
- The new Board of Review member is John Juntunen, but not John Juntunen, Trustee.

Ambulance Committee Report:

- Per Trustee McGahan, there has been no regular board meeting at Bay Ambulance yet this year.
- Special meetings on February 7<sup>th</sup> and March 6<sup>th</sup> were held to discuss upcoming financial needs of Bay Ambulance.
- L'Anse Township will work on ballot language for increasing millage and will share it with other municipalities so we will not have to seek legal advice for this.

Public Comment – none

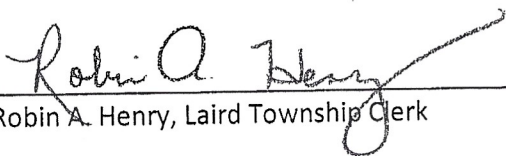
Old Business:

- Presidential Primary election turnout was good, with 146 people voting. No one from Laird Township voted in the 9 Days of Early Voting at the Houghton City Center.
- Reimbursement for election expenses will be submitted by Clerk Henry.

New Business:

- A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer, seconded by Trustee Juntunen to approve the 2024/2025 Budget as presented. A roll call vote was taken – Ayes: Henry, Juntunen, McGahan, Spencer. Nays: None. It will be posted on the website as soon as the final numbers are available for prior year costs.
- A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer, seconded by Trustee Juntunen to approve the 2024/2025 Meeting Dates. A roll call vote was taken – Ayes: Henry, Juntunen, McGahan, Spencer. Nays: None. They will be posted on the website as well as on the Facebook page for Laird Township Happenings. Meetings will continue to be the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
- Mowing bids for 2024 were discussed. Supervisor Spencer created a bid sheet to be posted on the website, Facebook page, as well as an ad placed in the L'Anse Sentinel. A motion was made by Trustee Juntunen, seconded by Clerk Henry, to proceed with advertising for mowing the summer of 2024, with bids to be due no later than the April 10, 2024 Laird Township Board Meeting. With all in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer and seconded by Clerk Henry to adjourn the meeting. With all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

  
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Robin A. Henry, Laird Township Clerk