

Laird Township Board
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Supervisor Spencer called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. Present were Supervisor Patricia Spencer, Treasurer Nicole Krajnak, Trustee John Juntunen, Trustee Sarah Hiltunen, and Clerk Robin Henry.

The February 12, 2025 meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer, supported by Trustee Hiltunen, 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 Trustee Hiltunen and supported by Trustee Juntunen to accept the Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of the bills. With all in favor, motion carried.

Certificates of Deposit (CD's) are coming due this month for the following funds: Cemetery, Nisula Church, Fire Fund, General Fund, and Ambulance Fund. A motion was made by Trustee Juntunen, seconded by Clerk Henry, to renew all of the aforementioned CDs for an 11-month term at Superior National Bank. With all in favor, motion carried.

Petitions and Communications:

- Habitat for Humanity in Houghton County has requested a letter of support for a grant they are applying for to build two homes and assist with repairs to existing homes. Clerk Henry will draft the letter. A question was raised as to how many families in Laird Township have been helped by the Habitat for Humanity program. A note will be sent along with the letter of support to obtain this information.
- H. Smith-Grannis has resigned her positions as election inspector and custodian effective immediately. The custodian job posting will be posted on the website and on Facebook as soon as it is prepared.

Fire Department Report: There was one call out on February 14, 2025 to assist Bay Ambulance. The call was then cancelled.

Constable Report: The monthly liquor license inspection for the Church in the Valley was done. There was also some suspected vandalism done to a mailbox on Horoscope Road that Constable Peterson investigated.

Transfer Station Report: H. Smith-Grannis will be resigning from her position as Transfer Station Attendant as of May 1, 2025. A job description and job posting will be available on the website as soon as they are completed.

Recreation Committee Report:

- Bids are being gathered for the Copper Shores grant to repair and upgrade the ice rink.
- D. Harris with Baraga Area School donated scrapers for the ice rink.
- Bathrooms were discussed for the ice rink and recreation area. Options of using the fire hall bathrooms or renting a portable unit are being considered. Supervisor Spencer will talk to Fire Chief Juntunen to discuss options.

Ambulance Committee Report:

- R. McGahan discussed how transfers are working.
- The next meeting is March 19, 2025.

Public Comment:

- County Commissioner R. Britz gave an update on the county jail project. There will be a special meeting on April 15, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Circuit Courtroom. Options for the new jail will be provided.

- Commissioner Britz also shared that there will be an August election for a 2.25 mil county-wide election for Canal View. This is a renewal and not a new millage.
- Meals on Wheels was also discussed. They are considering a county-wide millage to fund the program. There is a question as to how many people in Laird Township would be served by this program.


Old Business:

- TC Electric finished work at the Township Hall. Lights were replaced and outlets were repaired and some were added.

New Business:

- A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer, supported by Trustee Juntunen, to approve the Budget for April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026. A roll call vote was taken:
Aye: Henry, Krajnak, Juntunen, Hiltunen, Spencer
Nay: none
With all in favor, motion carried.
- A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer, supported by Treasurer Krajnak, to set meeting dates at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month for fiscal year April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026. A roll call vote was taken:
Aye: Henry, Krajnak, Juntunen, Hiltunen, Spencer
Nay: none
With all in favor, motion carried.
- A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer, supported by Trustee Juntunen, to set all elected officials' salaries as noted in the budget, which includes the same salary plus a three percent pay increase except the Constable, who will receive the same salary as Trustees. A roll call vote was taken:
Aye: Henry, Krajnak, Juntunen, Hiltunen, Spencer
Nay: none
With all in favor, motion carried.
- Dust Control costs were not available yet. This was included in the new budget and will be discussed at a future meeting.
- Mowing bids for the 2025 summer are being accepted from now until April 9, 2025. The bid posting will be on the website and will be shared on Facebook and posted at ALK and the Transfer Station.

A motion was made by Trustee Hiltunen and seconded by Treasurer Krajnak to adjourn the meeting. With all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.


Robin A. Henry, Laird Township Clerk