

Almira Township

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2025

I. Supervisor Roper called the meeting to order at 6 pm at the Almira Township Hall 19639 Maple Street, Lake Ann

II. Pledge to the Flag Recited

III. Roll Call

Present: Tammy Clous, Mandy Gray Rineer, Mark Roper, Matt Therrien, Lori Florip

IV. **Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda:** Under Guests, add Jim Bowers and Troy Hinds from the Benzie County Road Commission.

V. **Approval of Meeting Agenda:** *Motion by Rineer, supported by Clous, to approve the meeting agenda as amended. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.*

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Clous, supported by Therrien, to approve the consent agenda as presented. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.

VII. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Rineer provided a financial report for the end of February 2025. She stated she had settled with the County last Monday and all taxes are now only payable to the County.

IX. County Commissioners:

Commissioner Art Jeannot was not in attendance but had furnished a written report.

X. Dept. Heads:

Chief Drury reported that for the month of February the Department responded to a total of 26 incidents. He also reported on vehicles, equipment, grants, and training.

XI. **Guests:** Jim Bowers, Benzie County Road Commission Board Vice Chair, handed out flyers with information regarding the proposed ballot request so the Road Commission could build a new garage building. Troy Hinds, Benzie County Road Commission Manager helped answer questions from the public.

VIII. Brief Public Input: None

XII. Old Business:

A. **ARPA Projects:** The townhall basement floor work has been finished, the dog park will be getting cement walk ways, and two picnic tables, the two new flush toilets in the park should be finished this spring, and the BS&A software conversion has been started.

XIII. New Business:

A. **General Appropriations Act:** The General Appropriations Act Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Resolution 03-25 #1, was read. *Motion by Rineer, supported by Clous, to adopt the General Appropriations Act Fiscal Year 2025/2026, Resolution 03-25 #1 as presented. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Therrien, aye; Rineer, aye; Florip, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed. Supervisor declared resolution adopted.*

B. **Regular Meeting Dates Resolution:** The Regular Board Meeting Schedule for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Resolution 3-25 #2 was read. *Motion by Clous, supported by Rineer, to*

adopt the Regular Board Meeting Schedule for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Resolution 3-25 #2 as presented. Roll call vote was as follows: Therrien, aye; Florip, aye; Clous, aye; Rineer, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed. Supervisor declared resolution adopted.

- C. Land Division Alternate:** *Motion by* Clous, supported by Roper, to appoint Rineer as the Land Division Alternate member. Roll call vote was as follows: Rineer, aye; Florip, aye; Clous, aye; Therrien, aye; Roper, aye; all ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- D. Committee Appointment:** *Motion by* Roper, supported by Rineer, to reappoint Jerry Morse to the Recreational Resources Committee. All ayes, no nays, motion passed.
- E. Township Attorney:** Clous explained the situation(s) that the Board needed to address with discussion taking place after Rineer stated that she would be abstaining from this agenda item. *Motion by* Roper to dispose of the legal records held by Young, Graham & Wendling, PC. This motion died due to lack of support. *Motion by* Therrien, supported by Florip, to retain the records held by Young, Graham & Wendling, PC. Three (3) ayes, one (1) nay, one (1) abstained, motion passed. *Motion by* Therrien, supported by Florip, to add Peter Wendling, from Marshall and Bruce Law Firm, PC, as a Township Attorney. Roll call vote was as follows: Clous, aye; Therrien, aye; Florip, aye; Rineer, abstained; Roper, aye; four (4) ayes, one (1) abstained, motion passed.
- F. Ransom Lake Bridge:** Roper has met with an engineer to discuss the new bridge at the Ransom Lake Natural Area. Roper will be trying to get two more proposals for the Board to review.
- G. Employee Benefits:** A special Board meeting should be set up to discuss the information regarding employee benefits. Discussion took place regarding a date. Monday, March 17th at 10 a.m. at the township office was decided on.

XIV. Extended Public Input: None.

XV. Board Comments: Therrien stated that Kent Gray had passed away. Kent had worked on getting lots of state funds coming to Almira Township from DNR grants. Roper stated that if the public is expecting a response during the public comment sections of the agenda to please contact the office.

XVI. Adjourn: Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.