

## **MINUTES FOR MAY 2025**

The Skandia Township Board meeting was held on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, Anna Erickson, Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Anna Erickson-Supervisor, Marilyn Keto- Clerk, Judy McGuire Treasurer, Larry Linna- Trustee, Brandon Bray- Trustee.

**Guests:** Beth Linna.

### **Approval of Agenda:**

Motion by J. McGuire, seconded by B. Bray to approve the agenda with additions. Motion **CARRIED.**

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Motion by A. Erickson, seconded by J. McGuire to approve the meeting minutes for April 19, 2025 as presented Motion **CARRIED.**

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Motion by A. Erickson seconded by M. Keto to approve the treasurer's report as presented Motion **CARRIED.**

**General Fund Checking** \$ 25,107.80    **Recreation Fund** - \$ 11,265.24    **Road Fund Savings**  
- \$270,654.05

### **CD- Totals:**

Road Millage Account – \$150,000

General Fund - \$100,000

### **Money Market:**

Fire Department - \$ 117,550.01

First Responders - \$ 98,856.08

General Fund Money Market- \$7560.40

### **Public Comment:**

None.

### **Assessor's Report:**

Mark Maki reports that he sent in all required documents and reports to the State Tax Commission for the 2025 audit. He has list of 2025 field checks and will be working on them in the next few month. There will be a July 15, 2025 Board of Review meeting.

### **Planning Commission:**

Mark Maki reports that he made one final site review and took pictures of the properties in violation. Drafting letter for June 15, 2025 deadline. Working on final draft work on the Master Plan. Attended AMA Planning seminar at NMU. Reviewing a circuit court decision with regards to splitting up 18 acres on Abrahams Road. A variance will be needed to decide the fate of the two parcel in terms of future buildable status.

Copy of Planning Commission Meeting minutes of May 1, 2025 were presented by J. McGuire- recording secretary.

Zoning Board of Appeals public hearing was held for Newman- 123 Townhall Rd. Was granted for a setback to build a garage.

### **Meeting Reports:**

L. Linna reported on the MAP's Upper Peninsula Academy he attended at NMU –talked about importance of Master Plan. M. Keto and A. Erickson reported on the JOB Operations Committee meeting. A. Erickson met with Sue Holliday from Northern Center regarding Lifelong Learning for seniors programs.

### **Blight Complaint:**

Will table this until letter is serviced.

**JOB Agreement:**

This will be tabled.

**Townline Road:**

The agreement with West Branch and Townline Road was discussed. We will draft letter for signature that they will be responsible paying their cost of the road according to the agreement.

**Amendment/Transfer Station Ordinance:**

Amendment was published in Mining Journal on 5/3/25 which will become effective 30 days after publication.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Budget Report:**

Motion by B. Bray, seconded by A. Erickson to approve the Budget Report for May 2025 Motion **CARRIED.**

Motion by M. Keto, seconded by L. Linna to approve the Budget Report for the JOB Operation for May 2025 Motion **CARRIED.**

**Resolution/Regarding Poverty Appeals:**

Motion was made by M. Keto, seconded by B. Bray to approve the Skandia Township Board Resolution regarding Poverty Appeals:

**Skandia Township Board Resolution Regarding Poverty Appeals**

Skandia Township

County of Marquette

**Resolution establishing guidelines for granting poverty exemptions from property taxes pursuant to MCL.211.7u**

Recitals:

Whereas Public Act 390 of 1994, which amended Section 7u of Act 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, as amended by Act 313 of the Public Acts of 1993, being Section 211.7u of the Michigan Compiled Laws requires a governing body of the assessing unit to determine and make available to the public the policy and guidelines for the granting of poverty exemptions under MCL 211.70:

**Now, therefore be it resolved:** The Township Board recognizes the need to have available a policy by which residents in need of assistance under MCL. 211.7u can make application for property tax relief.

The Board further recognizes that pursuant to the statute as well as case law, they must adopt procedures and guidelines for the Township Board of Review to be used as standards when considering appeals made based on financial hardship. These guidelines must be adhered to when reviewing hardship appeals and grants the Board of Review to make individual considerations within their authority, as they find necessary.

Be it further resolved that to be eligible for a poverty exemption pursuant MCL.211.7u in Skandia Township, a person must be the owner and must occupy the property as a homestead, file a completed and notarized application, file copies of federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including homestead property tax credit forms and or a statement of benefits paid by the Michigan Department of Social Services or Social Security Administration: meet local (Skandia Township)poverty income standards.



**Be it further resolved** that the applicant must have an annual adjusted income equal to or less than the current year Federal Poverty Income Guidelines;

**Be it further resolved** Assets may not be greater than \$ 5,000 for each individual living in the principal residence

**Be it further resolved** that a poverty exemption may only be granted one year at a time;

**Be it further resolved** that the Board of Review shall request identification of the applicant and or proof Marilyn Keto of ownership of the homestead under consideration for the poverty exemption;

**Be it further resolved** that the Board of Review may request from the applicant any supporting documents which may be utilized in determining a poverty exemption request;

**Be it further resolved** that the completed poverty exemption application must be filed after January 1 but before the last day of the Board of Review in the year in which the exemption is sought;

**Be it further resolved** that the Board of review shall administer an oath wherein the applicant testifies as to the accuracy of the information provided;

**Be it further resolved** that to conform with the Provisions of Public Act 390 of 1994, this resolution is hereby given immediate effect:

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (5)

Nay: (0)

Motion **CARRIED**.

**First Responder Member:**

Motion was made by A. Erickson, seconded by B. Bray to accept Tanya Stone as a new member of the First Responders Motion **CARRIED**.

**Tire Grant:**

Letter from Material Management Division stating that we did not get the FY 25 Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant – Awarded to Forsyth-Marquette County.

**Par Plan Grant:**

Skandia Township was denied the grant. Skandia/West Branch Joint Operations was awarded a grant for cameras totaling \$ 1506.00. We will call and ask if they would accept us getting trail cameras in place of the cameras that we asked for.

**JOB/Secretary:**

A list of the job description duties for the JOB secretary were reviewed before we put out the ad. We will have one supervisor for them to go to.

**Ballfields:**

B. Bray stated that we need to do something with the grass around the fences. We will call Every Season Property Maintenance to see if they will give us a bid. A Motion was made by J. McGuire, seconded by B. Bray if we get a bid for \$1000 or less to get it done as soon as possible Motion **CARRIED**.

**BOE/Complaint:**

A letter of complaint and correspondence back to Bureau of Election was given for board members to review.

**Correspondence:**

MTA/Workshop-regarding Earned Sick Time Act.

**Payment of Bills:**

Motion by J. McGuire seconded by B. Bray to pay the bills for May 2025 totaling \$142,579.33  
Motion **CARRIED.**

**Payment/JOB Bills:**

Motion by A. Erickson, seconded by M. Keto to pay the JOB bills for May 2025 totaling  
\$ 18,842.56 Motion **CARRIED.**

**Public Comment:**

None.

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mandy Keto", is written above the printed name of the Skandia Township Clerk.

Skandia Township Clerk