

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday, October 13, 2011 Yankee Springs Township Hall 284 North Briggs Road, Middleville, Michigan 49333</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MINUTES</b></p>	<p><b>DRAFT MINUTES</b></p>
<p>Meeting called to order at 6:59 PM by Supervisor Al McCrumb.</p> <p><u>Roll Call:</u> Jerkatis, J. Lippert, McCrumb, M. Cook, Schwennesen. All Present.</p> <p><b>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</b></p> <p><u>Staff Present:</u> Frank Fiala, Alice Jansma, Constable Jim Orr, and Bob Lippert, Zoning Administrator.</p> <p><u>Visitors:</u> 11 (not including staff present).</p>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER ROLL CALL</b></p> <p><b>PLEDGE</b></p>
<p><b>ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add to Zoning Administrator’s Report: Dead Tree at Robbins Cemetery</li> <li>• Add to Clerk’s Report: Accounts Payable- Fleis &amp; VandenBrink- Approve Payment Application #4 to Apex Contractors.</li> </ul>	<p><b>ADDITIONS TO AGENDA</b></p>
<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES:</b></p> <p>Motion by M. Cook with support from A. Schwennesen to approve draft minutes of Regular Board of Trustees Meeting of September 8, 2011 as presented and make permanent record. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.</p>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>Motion to approve Regular Meeting minutes of September 8, 2011 as presented. Motion Carried.</b></p>
<p><b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS:</b></p> <p><b><u>TTES REPORT:</u></b> Fire Chief, David Middleton</p> <p>Total Calls for TTES for September: 101</p> <p>Total Calls in Sept. for Yankee Springs: 18 (2 Fire, 13 Medical, 3 Fire/EMS)</p> <p>D. Middleton said that if this pace continues, TTES will break over 1,200 calls this year.</p> <p>Truck maintenance and pump testing will take place this week. Tires may be needed for the tank (truck). (This is all scheduled maintenance).</p> <p>Clerk Lippert inquired as to the vehicles use (other than going to calls). Are the vehicles taken out weekly? The vehicles are run and checked on a weekly basis. By law, this has to be done monthly commented D. Middleton.</p> <p>It was also mentioned that the new ATV vehicle was used when someone was lost on a Yankee Springs trail recently.</p> <p><b><u>BARRY COUNTY COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:</u></b> Craig Stolsonburg</p>	<p><b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS</b></p> <p><b>TTES Report: David Middleton</b></p> <p><b>Page 1 of 6 YST Bd Trustees 10-13-11</b></p>

A public hearing was recently held regarding the combination of the Register of Deeds and County Clerk positions. Most of the people in attendance at the public hearing were heavily against the combining of these positions. A 2/3rds vote would be needed of elected commissioners to have the combination take place. Jerkatis asked C. Stolsonburg what the high-lighted objections were. Stolsonburg said that the positions worked out of two completely separate offices, and the combining of the two positions would probably not save a whole lot of money.

**BARRY COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER- Craig  
Stolsonburg-**

October 25<sup>th</sup> is the Public Hearing for the 2012 Proposed Budget.

November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm will be a Public Hearing at the Commission on Aging Building for the Time of Sale Transfer regulation to allow public to voice their opinions.

Arts and Eats Tour will take place Oct. 15 & 16<sup>th</sup>.

Jerkatis inquired as to how Charleton Park was doing this year. C. Stolsonburg hasn't received the official report yet, but thinks things were up. The new director seems to be doing well. There have been some retirements but they have not all been replaced by new personnel.

Clerk Lippert noted that the County approved the purchase of new recording and imaging software for the Register of Deeds, Abstract Office, and Clerk's Office Vital Records at a cost of \$159,250. County budgets cuts are still planned on the mandated items.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Judy Rowley, of 12874 Cutler Cove**, inquired as to who would service their residence/neighborhood if the police were needed. Mrs. Rowley was told to call 911 and police officers would probably be dispatched from Hastings, but police units could be out and about in the area.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Paul Heystek, of 2120 Parker Dr.**, suggested that possibly this spring, the Barry County Sheriff could come to the Township Hall and address some issues that would be of interest to YS residents such as noise problems and golf carts. Discussion took place regarding the noise problem around the lakes and the decibel reader. Also golf carts were spoken of. A. McCrumb commented that the Sheriff's Department was well aware of this problem. It was also mentioned that Dar Leaf came to the Twp. Hall last year and spoke of the laws regarding golf cart usage. P. Heystek was concerned that in the future it might be an issue because of the possibility of children being killed (in a golf cart accident). Jerkatis commented that it's a matter of resources in the Sheriff's Department. They cannot be everywhere at once. Jerkatis remarked that Heystek's point was well-taken and he thought that the township could do a little more communicating on these topics.

J. Lippert initiated a discussion regarding the possibility of contracting a police officer (possibly retired) to be assigned to the township. Further discussion followed regarding the feasibility of this. Al McCrumb commented that a public service announcement could be made in the summer via local TV stations.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT cont'd:**

M. Cook mentioned posting signs on roads such as “No Golf Carts”.

**Dick Stob, 12525 Oakwood Shores**, asked for clarification as to what type of enforcement was needed, marine or road. A. McCrumb commented that both types were being discussed.

**C. Stolsonburg, of Heritage Bay Dr.**, announced that the Middleville Rotary will be having its Annual Spaghetti Dinner on Oct. 21, 4:30 – 7 p.m. before the last home football game of the season at Thornapple-Kellogg High School. Children – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade and under – free.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** by John Jerkatis

Motion by M. Cook, with support by McCrumb to accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted. Approved by all. MOTION CARRIED.

**SUPERVISOR’S REPORT:** Al McCrumb

- **September Water System (GLASA)** The new supervisor of Martin Township is Glen Leep.
- **Intersection at Bowens Mill Road & Patterson Road -** An email was received in reference to the intersection of Bowens Mill Road and Patterson Road. Visibility is poor on this corner, and many accidents have occurred there. Tall weeds obstruct vision and the lay of the road especially heading east on Bowens Mill Rd. Discussion occurred including rumble strips, flashing red and amber light, street lights. **Jan Lippert** has contacted the Allegan Road Commission and they are evaluating the intersection. **Alice Jansma** added that Tom Tichvon (Yankee Springs Golf Course) has put out petitions to have a study done. **Dave Middleton** is working on a study as well. **Frank Fiala** said that the intersection does not qualify for a traffic signal, or a 4-Way Stop) and that this intersection is a challenge. Both Allegan and Barry Road Commissions are looking into it. Resident, **Mary Ann LeBoeuf**, said there is obstruction of vision on the SE corner due in part because of lawns (tall weeds/grass) going up to the corner. Mrs. LeBoeuf commented that maybe there is some personal responsibility on the part of the land owner. Discussion followed regarding the clearing of the land surrounding the corner, raising the height of the stop signs, the value of having a petition, grants for projects of this nature, lack of statistics/facts on the part of Allegan County. **Dick Stob**, of Oakwood Shores, asked whether the accidents were night time or daytime accidents and that maybe a street light would help. **Karen Richards**, of Oakwood Shores, commented about a bad accident that happened at this intersection last week Tuesday. She asked if at least a sign on both ends of Patterson just prior to the intersection – warning about the intersection- in advance. Richards said that they have seen dozens of accidents at this corner. She added that a little bit of salt on the road in the winter does nothing.

**PUBLIC COMMENT cont'd:**

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**Treasurer’s Report approved**

**SUPERVISOR’S REPORT:**

Al McCrumb

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:**

Al McCrumb cont'd

- **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:** Al McCrumb cont'd
- **R. Lippert, ZA**, commented that the board (YS Twp.) could send a letter to Allegan County Road Commission to put a crossing sign or dangerous intersection sign. (See following motion) R. Lippert volunteered to draft the letter.

Motion by J. Lippert with support from Jerkatis to have supervisor send a letter to Allegan County and Wayland Township requesting to put up signs and/or a street light at intersection of Bowens Mill Rd. and Patterson Rd. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

**Motion to send letter to Allegan Cty. and Wayland Twp. regarding signs for intersection of Bowens Mill and Patterson Roads. Motion Carried.**

- **Supervisor's Retreat Report (Sept. 15 & 16, 2011)** was held in Cadillac. Alice Jansma attended as well.
- **Parking Lots & Hall Improvement (ADA Restroom)** Fleis & VandenBrink would like to meet with the Parking Lot and Hall Improvement committee to see what the committee has approved.
- **Correspondence – Orangeville Twp. ( Recycling complaint)** - A large amount of paper from a local church was found in their recycling bin (Orangeville's).
- **Consumers Power held a meeting on Oct. 12 regarding tree cutting to be done in the township area**

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** by Robert Lippert

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: R. Lippert**

**September SPR's:** (4)

- **Planning Commission:** The sign ordinance was extensively studied. In the upcoming meeting, Article XII (12) and private roads will be reviewed.
- **ZBA-** Meeting was held October 11<sup>th</sup>. Two variance requests were approved.
- **Complaints:**
  1. A complaint came in documented with photos regarding a used car parts business taking place, and noise at night. Three inspections were made. The individuals operating the business were renting the property and have since moved. CLOSED complaint.
  2. Funneling- Edwin Drive. Court order was found allowing docking of the boat. Letters were sent to those involved. CLOSED.
  3. Continuing Complaint- Wilson Drive (private drive) – Damaged motor home. Owner agreed to repair the motor home so that it can be removed. ACTIVE.

**McKenna Billing-** Brief discussion occurred regarding the billing of McKenna for September services. R. Lippert recommended approval of the invoice total of \$630.00.

Motion by M. Cook with support from J. Lippert to accept and approve September 2011 McKenna billing of \$630.00 with the consent of Planning Commission review.

**Motion to pay McKenna bill for September with consent of Planning Commission. Motion Carried.**

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT cont'd**

All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

- **FEMA-** An additional Letter of Map Amendment was received.  
256 LOMA's of 475. (Over 54% margin of error).

**BREAK**

**BREAK: 8:13 P.M. RESUME: 8:26 P.M.**

**Zoning Administrator** added to his report the status of the Dead Oak Tree at Robbins Cemetery: At the request of the Board the dead oak tree location was measured and found to be inches within the M-179 right of way. The MDOT Supervisor from Hastings garage, Zach Clothier met at the site and explained that the criteria for identifying objects in the ROW changed recently and that at least 50% of the object had to be within the 66' ROW. Therefore MDOT will not remove the tree.

**CLERK'S REPORT: by J. Lippert**

**CLERK'S REPORT**

- Alice Jansma mentioned grant coverage of park improvements. The grant limit of \$50,000 has not been reached yet, and the additional fencing could be applied to the grant.

Motion by J. Lippert with support from M. Cook to approve application payment #4 to Apex Contractors for the amount of \$12,261.40 which includes the change order of \$3,450.00 for (court painting). All ayes. MOTION CARRIED. It was noted that this is the final payment to Apex.

**Motion to approve application pymt. #4 to Apex for contracted work on YS Twp. Park. Motion Carried.**

- Request from Clerk to upgrade the computer systems, (another server is needed) to accommodate the BS&A G/L; A/P; P/R; and Cash Receipts Applications into the current system. This application was to take place on Monday. It failed due to the fact the current system has 4 gigs. More gigs are needed. J. Lippert faxed BS & A the quote received (for the Server Equipment Upgrade) to see if everything will accommodate BS&A's Accounting system.
- The quote received from Ocean Omega Systems is superior and will accommodate the Townships' future upgrades for several years.

Motion by M. Cook with support from J. Lippert to allow up to \$4,000 to accommodate this computer system expansion in the Clerk's Offices with additional server. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED. Clerk Lippert thanked the Board for the approval and will call it into Omega Systems tomorrow morning. Installation and training with BS&A will be on track to the original date of October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**Motion to allow up to \$4000 to accommodate Twp. computer expansion with additional server. Motion Carried.**

- The Presidential Primary will take place February 28, 2012.
- Bauckman, Sparks Attorney bill was copied to board members.
- Lippert distributed the Equipment Lease Draft submitted by Thornapple Township. Per Burnham Flower Insurance Agency the addendum to the TTES Contract must show that they Lease the equipment from us as they are operators of the Township fire equipment. Clerk will forward the Lease Agreement to the Township Attorney for approval. **November Agenda Item.**

- Reminder: MTA – October 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting coming up. For carpooling – meet in Township parking lot.

Clerk Lippert fielded any questions and explained any items relating to accounts payable checks presented. Because of the September Board meeting being held earlier in the month, September payables were also included for approval in this month's meeting. (Ck#s 911249-267 for \$24,949.61 (Sept.) and 911268-300 for \$68,725.45).

Accounts Payable  
Approved & Payroll approved.

Motion by M. Cook with support from Schwennesen to approve accounts payable checks #911249-911300 for Sept./Oct. for the total amount of \$93,675.06. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by M. Cook with support from J. Lippert to approve payroll checks #4405-4424 dated 9/29/11 for the amount of \$10,388.57. All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

Clerk requested Supervisor to receive at least 3 bids (estimates) for the tree removal, at Robbins Cemetery. Company must be fully insured.

OTHER PUBLIC  
COMMENT

**OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Frank Fiala** attended the "Welcome to Hope Township" "Open House or Expo" this past weekend at the Hope Township Hall. Tables were set up in the hall. The Hope Township Hall was about the size of Yankee Springs' hall. They served cookies and punch and recycling bags (such as those used at grocery stores) were given to everyone as they came in the door. The following are a sampling of organizations and county departments represented: Hope Twp. Board of Review, Hope ZBA, Township Board representatives, Hope Planning Commission, Charleton Park, Commission on Aging, Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, Emergency Services, and Michael Calton. Fiala mentioned that all functions within the county seemed to be represented. Discussion occurred regarding this type of event being planned for YS Township. Greg Purcell of the YS Planning Commission thought it was a wonderful idea and something the businesses in the area might support. Jan Lippert, Clerk, will contact the clerk of Hope Township for additional information so that YSTwp could conduct a similar gathering.

**Alice Jansma, Deputy Supervisor**, mentioned that at the last retreat, Cass County was noted as really working on the medical marijuana issue. **J. Lippert added that at the recent retreat she was informed that YS Twp. can make contributions directly to non-profit senior citizen groups only.**

The dead tree at Robbins Cemetery is no longer on the MDOT project list according to J. Lippert after placing a call to the current manager. A. McCrumb added that the removal of this tree needs to be done by a professional.

**J. Jerkatis** inquired about the Life Pack that is stored on the north wall of the township hall. Individuals in attendance at the meeting felt that enough trained individuals were available and that the actual use of this equipment is "fool-proof".

**Fran Faverman** brought attention to the recent Hasting's Banner article regarding Mr. Yarger of the Drain Commission and his experience with the township he lives in after

the total loss of his home (due to a fire). R. Lippert added that YS Twp. has a provision for Special meetings to be held and that temporary housing is permitted while a house is under construction.

**R. Lippert** commented that the township already anticipates that some people may have to deal with this type of situation so our zoning ordinances are more resident friendly.

**OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:**

Clerk Lippert, as Chair of the Yankee Springs Township Election Commission, distributed a packet to the board members in response to the letter from John Jerkatis dated October 11, 2011. The packet included: A Guide to Township Polling Places from MTA current date: July 2007. And from Fleis and Vandenbrink Engineering, a rendering of Precinct 1 (Township Hall) on Election Day. Discussions about the use of the hall and the need for space for elections have been made by Jerkatis. He entertained the suggestion of renting Bowens Mill for the few times a year when elections are conducted. McCrumb commented that it appears that the hall goes unused a lot. But added work meetings during the week are conducted in the hall due to lack of space and privacy from within the Office area ie; phones ringing, people coming in paying taxes, asking questions, etc. it is something that is needed. (Clerk's memo attached to minutes). Further discussion took place regarding this information.

Old Business continued from Alice Jansma. She and Greg Purcell are still working on the library situation.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Cook with support from J. Lippert to adjourn at 9:15 PM. Approved by all.

Respectfully submitted:

D. Mousseau  
Recording Secretary 10-15-11

Approved Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Janice C. Lippert, Township Clerk

JCL 10-18-11 /draft

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**