

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 7:30 P.M., at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members present were John W. Anderson, Dennis R. Bjorkquist, John M Dontz, Connie L Smith, and M. Rebecca Dinsen. Also present were Clara Kraus Saari, Fire Chief John Dunlap, County Commissioner Ed Haik, Keith Brown of PEG, Joy Hutchinson, Chuck Barrons, Dan Revolt, Jim Henderson, Tom Johnson, Dave Cook, West Shore Medical Center Medical Control Coordinator Wayne Beldo(7:45 P.M.), and Tim Ervin of Alliance for Economic Success (8:00 P.M.).

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor John W. Anderson with the pledge to the United States flag.

The minutes of the December 10, 2009 Manistee Township Board meeting were provided. It was moved by Bjorkquist, seconded by Dontz to approve the minutes as provided. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer Smith gave the Financial report for the month of January. It was moved by Dontz seconded Dinsen by to accept the Treasurers report as presented. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The approved minutes of the December 3, 2009 Manistee Township Planning Commission meeting were presented to each board member, accepted, and placed on file.

Correspondence was received from various sources and given to each board member to read and initial.

County Commissioner Ed Haik stated the County Commissioners have elected the same leadership as last year. Pat Bentley, County Surveyor, has been busy with updating county records. There have been new appointments to the Airport Board, and Library Board. There will be a structural addition coming to the Manistee County Jail to met compliance requirements. Another addition will require a vote of the people, and will cost approximately five million dollars.

Jack Dinsen, Acting Zoning Administrator provided a written report of the 2009 activities of the Manistee Township Planning Commission, and the December 2009 Zoning Administrator offices activities.

John Dunlap, Manistee Township Fire Chief, stated the Manistee Township Fire Department held four training sessions, and responded to six fire/medical runs during the month of December, for a total of 220 man hours.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there have been no significant changes to any liquor licensees during the month of December.

Clara Kraus Saari attended the Oaks Prison Liaison Committee meeting. The

Oaks have 17 new officers, and 1086 inmates. Critical incidents for October were three, in November there were eight, and December there were four. Prisoners work within the system, and earn from \$0.74 per day to \$1.32 per day. They are required to pay court costs, child support, personal hygiene items, haircuts, etc. from this salary.

Dennis Bjorkquist of stated the Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on Monday, February 8, 2010, at 5:15 P.M. at the Manistee County Road Commission building. This will be the organizational meeting, and the 2009 PILT Funds will be distributed. The Little River Revenue Sharing Board met last night, January 13, 2010, and agreed to the definition of a gaming facility, being everything under one roof. The wording and change cost more than \$100,000.00 in legal fees to reach a decision.

There have been no DEQ updates on the Bridge Street Launch project.

A Parliamentary Procedure class was held on Monday, January 11, 2010 at the Manistee Township Hall. More than 50 people attended the class, from various townships, the City of Manistee, Manistee County, the Fair Board, and 4 H leaders. It was an exceptional class.

Spokesperson, Jim Henderson of the Manistee Township Fire Department provided information on the requirements for forming a "Certified Rescue Unit." The West Shore Medical Control Board is willing to accept a Manistee Township Non Transporting Rescue Unit, providing they meet all the necessary requirements of the State of Michigan and West Shore Medical. Henderson provided copies of the initial start up costs for equipment, which will be replaced by West Shore Medical Center, as it is used. The costs range from \$1,800.00 to \$2,400.00 dollars. A Standard Operating Procedure will be prepared by the Manistee Township Fire Department and will be approved by their board. According to Wayne Beldo, West Shore Medical Center Medical Control Coordinator, it will not be necessary for the Rescue Unit to respond to the Casino, the Oaks, or West Shore Medical Center, because they have their own rescue units. The pager that all firemen are issued can tone out just medical, just fire, or both. The siren will blow only for fire runs, in the future. In 2009 there were 140 medical calls outside of those who will be on the no response list. This will more than double the incident response of the Manistee Township Fire Department compared to a normal year. Those additional responses will be carried by six or seven qualified personnel. The firemen were thanked for their willingness to serve Manistee Township. It was moved by Bjorkquist seconded by Dontz to agree to allow the Manistee Township Fire Department to organize and start at Certified Non Transporting Rescue Unit for Manistee Township, under the direction of the Manistee Township Fire Chief. There was further discussion. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Tim Ervin, of the Alliance for Economic Success, spoke to the Explore the

Shores grant program. It is offering universal access to all, through a Natural Resources grant. Manistee County has received an initial grant for \$339,000.00. One of the projects of this grant will allow for the Bar Lake Outlet to have an overlook platform, and a removable path to the water, allowing for universal access. Nominations for other sites in Manistee County are being sought at this time. The ultimate goal will be sites throughout Manistee County that will allow universal access to our rivers, lakes, and streams. It was suggested to include the Bridge Street Boat Launch in this nomination.

Tim Ervin also discussed the application of a USDA Rural Development Grant for a study of Manistee Township. This grant for \$50,000.00 would allow for a local leadership team to be formed, that would work with a consultant to determine what the residents of Manistee Township would like to see for the future of Manistee Township. This study would then provide a basis for future development plans, preservation of specific areas, infrastructure needs, possible road changes, and other options. It was moved by Dinsen, seconded by Bjorkquist to accept the offer of the Alliance for Economic Success to apply for the USDA Rural Development Grant. All voting in favor. Motion carried. The Alliance for Economic Success will write, and submit the grant, help to form a leadership team, and help Manistee Township with direction in finding a consultant for future questions. Chuck Barron volunteered to serve on the leadership team, if the grant is approved.

Jerry Peterson of the Manistee County Road Commission will be at the February 3, 2010 Manistee Township Board meeting. Anyone with proposed road projects should have them ready to present at that meeting.

The current bills for the month of January were presented. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Bjorkquist to pay the bills as they are received for the month of January. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Manistee County Road Commission building, on Wednesday, February 24, 2010, at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street, if there is a scheduled meeting.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, February 4, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board will be held on the second Wednesday, February 3, 2010, at 7:30 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

In further comment Keith Brown noted the PEG channel 2 has been changed to Channels 97 & 98.

There being no further business to come before the board, it was moved by Dontz seconded by Bjorkquist to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk