

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, April 13, 2006, 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 Charles Gregg, Clara Kraus Saari, County Commissioner Ed Haik, Keith Brown of PEG, Jim & Bob Schudlich, Frank , Tamara Buswinka, Fire Chief John Dunlap, Sherry Spencer, and Dan Wrezesinski of the News Advocate.

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

The minutes of the March 16, 2006, 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 March. It was moved by Bjorkquist seconded by Dinsen to accept the Treasurers report as presented. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The minutes of the March 2, April 6, 2006 Manistee Township Planning Commission meeting, and March 23, 2006 Public Hearing were presented to each board member, accepted, and placed on file. The minutes of the February 7 and March 21, 2006 Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board 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 Clara Kraus Saari was appointed to the Tax Allocation Board. The lake channels at Onekama & Arcadia are due for completion of dredging. Arcadia's channel will be done this year. Onekama should be eighty feet wide and 12 feet deep. The soundings are coming back with depths from 4'8" to 9' deep. There will be a meeting with the Corp. of Engineers on Monday, April 17, 2006 at 1:00 P.M. at Onekama Township Hall. Interested persons are encouraged to attend. The ATV Ordinance continues to look for funding. Mike Moran of the Blacker Airport Authority stated the airport does have a five-year plan. That plan calls for relocation of River Road to the area of the old road, further NE than the present location. The 5-year Airport plan is revisited every year.

John Dunlap, Fire Chief of the Manistee Township Fire Department held four training sessions, and responded to ten fire/medical runs during the month of March for a total of 160 man hours. Fifteen burning permits were issued, during the month of March. Ladder testing for five Manistee County Fire Departments will be held at the Onekama Township Hall on April 28, 2006.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated the Heathlands and Insta Launch will be opening soon,

making for changing in the liquor inspections.

Anderson gave a brief update on the Oaks Prison quarterly report.

Bjorkquist stated there are 51 applications for grants from the Little River Revenue Sharing Board. There will be a minimum disbursement of \$236,941.00. There is a question about paying PILT funds to out of Manistee County units of government with designated tax-free Little River Indian lands in their jurisdictions. The Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on May 8, 2006, at 5:00 P.M. at the Manistee County Road Commission building.

Bjorkquist met with a group of local politicians including DEQ, Fisheries Division, the City of Manistee, Representative Palsrok, and others, in regard to the Big Manistee River, and Manistee Lake. The thought was to incorporate a project from the Bridge Street boat launch on into Manistee Lake. There are diverse opinions on the project. At this time it looks like the Bridge Street boat launch would be completed more quickly if the township takes on the project. The proposed cost by the Manistee County Road Commission would be \$28,000.00. No action was taken by the board.

The need for a solid ground base around the recycling bins was discussed. Dontz feels concrete would be the best option. However, he suggested trying stone or gravel, which would be an improvement, and see how it holds. It would be a less expensive option. Proposed costs will be secured prior to our next meeting.

Bjorkquist introduced Tamara Buswinka, who is a Certified Planner, with a Master Degree in Planning. She is an independent consultant who would be willing to draw up a proposal for a Manistee Township Recreational Plan. The proposal would be in compliance with the Township Master Plan & Zoning Ordinance, and would list the present recreational opportunities in the township. There would be public input, for future recreational plans for the township. Any state or federal grant application requires an active recreational plan on file for the township. There are 75%/25% grants available for units of government with recreational plans on file. Buswinka will have a proposal for development of a recreational plan for Manistee Township available for the next township board meeting on May 11, 2006.

The question of an additional parking lot light was discussed. It was agreed Dontz would contact Shepleman for an estimate. Dinsen will place an advertisement in the newspaper.

Dinsen reminded those in attendance the Annual School Election will be held on May 2, 2006 at the Manistee Township Hall. Dinsen has absent ballots for both Manistee Area Public Schools, and Onekama Consolidated Schools. The polls will be open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

It was recommended by Supervisor Anderson, moved by Dontz, seconded by Bjorkquist to appoint Michael Willett, and Jack Dinsen to three year terms on the Manistee

Township Planning Commission. Anderson, Dontz, Bjorkquist, and Smith voting in favor. Dinsen abstained. Motion carried.

It was recommended by Supervisor Anderson, moved by Dontz, seconded by Bjorkquist to appoint Clara Kraus Saari to a three-year term on the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Dinsen has been contacted by Elmira Smithe with concern for the Public Access signs on Lakeshore Road, and Piney Road. Smithe would like to see these signs be break away signs, as she feels they pose a hazard and liability to Manistee Township. Board members are encouraged to look at the signs and then have a better idea of what to do.

It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Dinsen to renew the land lease with Jim Sievert for the property north of the Manistee Township Fire Hall. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

It was noted Spring Trash Day will Saturday, May 13, 2006. Residents will be allowed to bring trash and metal to the dumpsters located north of the fire hall. The day will begin at 8:00 A.M. and close by 1:00 P.M. Residents are encouraged to separate metal from trash. The metal will be recycled.

The Spring District MTA meeting will be held at Bellarie on May 10, 2006. Board members are encouraged to attend. Registrations must be postmarked by April 17, 2006.

Dendra Best spoke to those in attendance about the Michigan Onsite Wastewater Task Force. This is a non profit group who is working toward conservation of our water resources, improvement of water quality, water shed protection, and proper treatment of waste water. She gave Manistee Township an information kit, with information on these subjects and others. The State on Minnesota has a state wide sanitary code, and contributed information to this kit. She invited board members to sign up for their list serve of email information on upcoming meetings and workshops. Best was thanked for work of preparation of the kit and attending the Manistee Township board meeting.

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

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Bear Lake Township Hall, on April 26, 2006, at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, May 4, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

The Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board will meet May 2, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street, Manistee, if there is an Appeal.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board will be held on the second Thursday, May 11, 2006, at 7:30 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

Supervisor Anderson asked for public comment. There was no comment.

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

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk