

**Casnovia Township Regular Board Meeting for
December 9th, 2024 at 7:00 PM**

“This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

Regular Public Hearing: called to order with Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Paul Black

Members Present: Supervisor Paul Black, Clerk Carrie Marlatt, Treasurer Penny Muma, Trustee Jason Jorgensen, Trustee Todd Willick, Fire Chief David Jones

Members Absent: None

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve Agenda with the addition of Resolution 2024-15 Establishing Michigan Rural Waters Representation Agreement, made by Black, supported by Marlatt; Voice Vote 5 Ayes, Nays 0; CARRIED.

Motion to approve minutes: of the November 6th, 2024, Special Board Meeting & November 11th, 2024, Regular Board Meeting. Motion to approve with correction to Resolution number in regard to the November 11th Regular meeting to state 2024-13 F/D Property Purchase and to approve the November 6th Special minutes made by Muma, supported by Marlatt; Voice Vote 5 Ayes, Nays 0; CARRIED.

Supervisor Comment: Paul Black opened with the introduction of himself and the new board. Stating we work for the people and appreciates those who supported his campaign. Feedback from the community is important to him along with updated communication and transparency. Confident the board will work together to meet challenges.

Public Comment: Began at 7:08PM, with 19 attendees.

Scott Tonkin, Representative from VanAndel Propane spoke of his appreciation on the new fire department property purchase.

All Board Members introduced themselves and their elected title.

Public Comment closed at 7:10

REPORTS:

1. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Jones presented the Incident Run Log; 9 calls for November 12th, 2024 – December 9th, 2024 reporting. Spoke on the Fire Departments annual donation to our 3 local schools. Noted out-of-service grass rig #381 finding difficulty replacing parts for the 1984 vehicle. Discussed new property purchase complete with Willick clearing necessary trees and the MDot driveway process started. Chief would like to begin the process of

researching architectural companies for building construction. Black suggested board discussion through a work session.

2. **SENIOR RESOURCES:** November 18th's meal was catered by Red Rock with 63 in attendance. The next dinner will take place on November 14th for the annual Christmas meal, at the Bailey Christian Church.
3. **TREASURER:**
Muma presented the treasurer's report. Major point was the transfer of funds and processed check for the balance owed to purchase the Fire Dept. property in the amount of \$31851.79
4. **CLERK:**
Marlatt prepared bills and payroll for payment approval. Motion made by Muma to approve, supported by Jorgensen; Voice Vote 5 Ayes, Nays 0; CARRIED.
5. **ZONING REPORT:**
Black presented the November 2024 Zoning Administrator Report
6. **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:**
Black spoke on three main topics. Latest FOIA response regarding the Bailey Sewer was incomplete, and missing critical information. PA 233 Renewable energy was discussed with multiple townships with assistance from MTA forming an Amicus Brief. Would like township involvement/discussion maybe through a committee. Also discussed was the absence of information through board member transfer regarding the Supervisor position and laws pertaining. Currently unable to access a critical site that is in need of renewal and creating hardships for accessing pertinent data with other government agencies including EGLE. This has resulted in unnecessary costs.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS:

1. Resolution 2024-14 Resolution Establishing Board and Administrative Policy Principles Manual. Motion to approve made by Marlatt, supported by Muma; Roll Call Vote CARRIED.
2. Resolution 2024-15 Resolution Establishing Michigan Rural Waters Representation Agreement. Motion to approve made by Muma, supported by Jorgensen; Roll Call Vote 5 Ayes, Nays 0; CARRIED.
3. ARPA status & remaining allocation. Marlatt spoke on remaining funds of approximately \$24,000, with additional funds once township hall roofing invoice is corrected. Black reminded the board these funds must be applied by the end of the year. He spoke on distributing remaining funds for the Bailey sewer district certified operator in which we are in violation with EGLE. Black presented Huron Environmental's



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quote. Also spoke on Dave VerSluis's favorable review of their quote giving qualified operator status with submission of DMR reports to EGLE. Willick asked for more information regarding the proposal. Black reinstated the fact that we have been operating the sewer system without a licensed operator. Black offered a motion to allow the supervisor to spend the remaining funds as seen fit for the purpose of allocation towards the Sewer District. Further discussion implored that Black has had discussions with multiple entities involved and the violation notices that were ignored for 6 years. Willick affirmed that Rural Waters has maintained the system for the past few years for free, questioning why to hire a cert. operator now. Marlatt stated she asked Amanda White from Rural Waters to get "on the books" in which she denied doing so. Black also discussed an email with EGLE regarding the hiring of a cert. operator. The Board decided to hold a future special meeting with all parties involved if available. Black stated that moving forward is necessary including a statement regarding past spending with attorney confusion over an MDOT driveway and cemetery trees. Stated that we will begin to deal with these EGLE violations.

4. Sewer Updates – Black met with Gary Nestle from Infrastructure Alternatives and the Township Supervisor in Allendale and had provided insight moving forward in a positive way.
5. New Property Signage – The Board was unaware that the sign was going up and we must adhere to all ordinances and safety including properly insuring the new property. Spoke of property clearing, with neighbors potentially questioning boundary stakes. Along with questions regarding acting without advisement or communication with the board.
6. 2025 Holiday Observance- Motion to approve Holiday Observance Calendar made by Marlatt, supported by Muma; Voice Vote CARRIED.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Board Comments: Black requested dates for upcoming special meeting, with Willick asking for evening hour time block, before the 20th. Also, asking for a work session the week of January 6th. Marlatt spoke on Cemetery tree completion but remainder of flags on properties and job incomplete.
2. Next Regular Board Meeting – January 13th, 2025, at 7 PM.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 8:33 PM by Marlatt, seconded by Jorgensen; CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,
Carrie Marlatt, Clerk