

VOLINIA TOWNSHIP

CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Monday, April 14, 2025
6:30pm

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Chris Brooks at 6:30pm.

Prayer was given by Denny Grice.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chris Brooks.

Annette Peters requested roll call: Trustee Grice – Present, Trustee Seelye – Present, Treasurer Williams – Present, Supervisor Brooks – Present, Clerk Peters - Absent.

Others present: Beth Brooks, Tim Wilson, Leslie Wilson, Randy Cuthbert, Glenn Blough, Brenda Blough, Victoria Locke, Jen Chucta, Jamie Chambers, Deb Chambers, Mike Lutz, Steve Kent, Brenda Kent, Chuck Wilson, Sue Conklin, Jeff Conklin, Dave High, Stacey High and Bob Rasmussen.

Agenda

The agenda was present. Annette Peters said that approval of the February and March Treasurer's reports needs to be added, if they are ready. Chris Brooks made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the February and March Treasurer reports; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion passed.

Minutes

The minutes from the last regular meeting, March 10, 2025, were presented. Alex Williams made a motion to approve the minutes; Chris Brooks seconded the motion; all in favor; motion passed.

The minutes from the Budget Hearing, March 20, 2025, were presented. Chris Brooks made a motion to approve the minutes; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion passed.

Supervisor

Camp Matziv/MMW – There is not update.

Zoning Administrator Report – Land Divisions applications. Application for Pergola. Provided Clerk with information for FOIA. Met with property owner about dilapidated home. Met with property owner about someone living in camper.

Building Inspector Report – No Activity.

OMA Violation – Investigation has been denied by prosecutor.

MTA Convention – Was attended by Chris and Beth. They learned a lot of information. No charges for attending or hotel to the township.

Treasurer's Report

The February Treasurer's report was presented with a balance of \$226,014.24 in the general fund. Balances in the other funds are as shown. Alex Williams said that the \$0.03 discrepancy in the tax account that he is still trying to figure out. Annette Peters asked if there were no deposits for the whole month of February. Chris Brooks questioned the road fund balance. Annette Peters made a motion to approve the February Treasurer's Report; Chris Brooks seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Chris Brooks requested a roll call vote:

Seelye – Yes
Williams -Yes
Grice – Yes
Brooks – Yes
Peters – Yes

The Board approved the February Treasurer's Report.

The March Treasurer's Report was presented with a balance of \$266,398.68 in the general fund. Balances in the other funds are as shown. Receipts are listed. Chris Brooks made a motion to approve the March Treasurer's Report; Alex Williams seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Chris Brooks seconded the motion:

Williams -Yes
Brooks – Yes
Peters – Yes
Seelye – Yes
Grice – Yes

The Board approved the March Treasurer's Report.

Bills

The April bills were presented with a total of \$49,722.61. Alex Williams made a motion to pay the April Bills as listed; Chris Brooks seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Annette Peters requested a roll call vote:

Brooks– Yes
Seelye – Yes
Williams – Yes
Grice – Yes
Peters – Yes

The Board approved the April Bills.

Clerk

Annette Peters made a motion to take advantage of Election Source's ICP 1 Trade-It offer to upgrade to an ICP 2 tabulator and receive a \$1,000 credit; Chris Brooks seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Chris Brooks requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes
Peters – Yes
Seelye – Yes
Williams – Yes
Brooks – Yes

The Board approved upgrading to the ICP 2 with the \$1,000 trade-in offer.

Trustee Grice

Cemetery digitization progress – Currently working on computerizing the last cemetery, should be done in the next 2 weeks. Then mapping will start, probably from the 1st part to mid part of May.

PC Consultants – Denny Grice made a motion to hire a specialist to do a traffic impact study along the haul route from the trucks heading west and east from the proposed mining site; Annette seconded the motion; Chris asked if CCRC has looked at these routes as they have road engineers on staff, and if we are going above them, Randy Cuthbert said before the SUP was submitted there was a meeting with CCRC, during hearings they said the routes would not work, then at the next hearing they said it was the route the truck had to take. All in favor; motion carried. Chris Brooks requested a roll call vote:

Brooks – Yes
Peters – Yes
Grice – Yes
Williams – EXCUSED
Seelye – EXCUSED

The board approved to hire a specialist to do a traffic impact study along the haul routes.

Denny Grice made a motion to hire a specialist for a ground water study. Williams and Works would subcontract a geologist or hydrologist for further ground water study for both quantity and quantity of water. Annette Peters seconded the motion; Chris Brooks said that he hasn't received qualifications but hopes no more studies will be requested from the PC after this. All in motion, motion carried. Chris Brooks requested a roll call vote:

Grice -Yes
Brooks – Yes
Peters – Yes
Seelye – EXCUSED
Williams – EXCUSED

The board approved to hire a specialist to a ground water study.

Trustee Seelye

Roads Contracts– Nick Seelye made a motion to approve estimate no: 25-14-09 from CCRC for 3" HMA Surface of Warner Rd; Annette Peters seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Chris Brooks requested a roll call vote:

Brooks – Yes
Grice – Yes
Williams – No
Seelye – Yes
Peters – Yes

The Board approved estimate no: 25-14-09

Nick Seelye made a motion to approve estimate no: 25-14-06 from CCRC for 3" Gravel on McKenzie from Penn Rd to Briarpatch Rd; Alex Williams seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

Chris Brooks requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes
Peters – Yes

Seelye – Yes
Williams – Yes
Brooks – Yes

The board approved estimate no: 25-14-06.

Nick Seelye made a motion to approve estimate no: 25-14-07 from CCRC for 3” gravel on McKenzie Street from Briarpatch Rd to Lawrence Rd; Bob Rasmussen asked about Hathaway, Chris Brooks said that is included; Alex Williams seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Chris Brooks requested a roll call vote:

Brooks – Yes
Williams – Yes
Grice – Yes
Peters – Yes
Seelye – Yes

The Board approved estimate no: 25-14-07.

Dust Control – Nick Seelye made a motion to approve the CCRC township wide dust control single application contract; Chris Brooks seconded the motion; Alex Williams asked if we know when the application will be, Annette Peters said that contract only says during the summer, all in favor; motion carried. Chris Brooks requested a roll call vote:

Peters – No
Grice – Yes
Williams – No
Seelye – Yes
Brooks – Yes

The board approved the CCRC Dust Control contract.

Pavement Marking – Chris Brooks made a motion to approve estimate no: 25-14-01 from CCRC for Pvmnt Marking of 5.27 miles of various road; Alex Williams seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Chris Brooks requested a roll call vote:

Seelye – No
Grice – Yes
Brooks – Yes
Williams – Yes
Peters – Yes

The board approved estimate no: 25-14-01.

Fire and Ambulance Report

Chris attended the NWCCAD (new name) ambulance meeting. They are currently working on a new contract with SMACAS. They lowered the current bill due to not having 24-hour ALS. They are currently looking into different options in case SMACAS doesn't work with the new contract.

Jeff Conklin said that there were 8 fire calls in the last 2 months.

Cemeteries Report

There was one cremation burial last month. There is one burial scheduled for Thursday.

Board

None.

Public

Jeff Conklin asked about the logging in at Russ Forrest. Victoria Locke said there was an article in the Marcellus paper a while back about disease in the forest and having to bulldoze and replant.

Dave High said that he hopes we learned our lesson from Warner Road, and letting CCRC direct how to use our funds, how much we lose.

Beth Brooks said the MSU Extension website has an explanation about Russ Forest.

Larry Davis asked if the County could make MSU do anything about the clean up of the logging since 33' from the middle of the road is supposed to be the right of way.

Steve Kent asked about the disease in the trees and if it's contagious.

Adjournment

Alex Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Chris Brooks seconded the motion; all in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Peters
Volinia Township Clerk