

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Supervisor Stafford called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with Supervisor Stafford, Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson, Trustees Franzene & Trustee Adams present. Also, in attendance were PW Benson & Karnack, Margee Brennan ZBA/BHPS; Sue Passamani, BHPS; Mike Thibodeau, PC; Larry Nelson, PC; Mike Golas, PC/P&R; Residents. Assr Erhart, ZA Bofinger & ICBC Judd were absent.

ATTENDEES

Trustee Adams made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous month’s meeting. Supported by Trustee Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Trustee Adams made a motion to accept the July 2025 Treasurers report. Supported by Clerk Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Stafford, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL
REPORT**

General Fund: \$ 218,438.83
Sewer Fund: \$ 104,435.43
Water Fund: \$ 291,352.59
Road Fund: \$ 173,593.47

Invoice Approval

Trustee Franzene made a motion to pay the township invoices. Supported by Trustee Adams. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Stafford, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**INVOICE
APPROVAL**

County Commissioner Report – Absent.

**COUNTY
COMM
REPORT**

ICECA Report – Absent.

ICECA

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Assessor Report – Absent.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

Zoning Administrator Report – Absent. Supervisor Stafford gave an overview of the report. / Working with Stafford on a zoning application from Krist Oil Company for a proposed water bottling facility at the corner of Reiman Rd and US2. / Inquiry on a short-term rental property on Sunset Lake Rd. / Year-to-date permits issued: 18. / A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

**ZONING
ADMIN
REPORT**

Planning Commission – Thibodeau stated that the Planning Commission continues to work on the zoning ordinance and master plan updates. / The next meeting will be September 15th (zoom) at the Windsor Center conference room.

**PLANNING
COMM**

Road Projects- Supervisor Stafford said the road commission received a request for an abandonment of a portion of Morrison Creek Rd. / The ICRC will be working on the Trybom Dr culvert in September. / Looking at solutions for getting drivers to slow on. Getting speed complaints. / The cost to due Andreski Plat is between \$275,000-\$300,000. Still trying to get Crystal Falls Township to participate.

**ROAD
PROJECTS**

Hall- Nothing new to report. / Shop– Nothing new to report. / Water – Radios are being installed on the water meters. August read will be estimated. / Sewer – Nothing new to report. / Cemetery – Nothing new to report. / Park – Nothing new to report. / School – Nothing new to report. / Paint River Boat Launch – Nothing new to report.

**HALL-SHOP-
WTR-SWR-
CEM-PARK-
SCH-PR BL**

Windsor Agreement Amendment – Stafford said the Board is renewing rentals and changing some employee payroll status.

**WINDSOR
CTR**

Bates Hall Preservation Society Update – Sue stated they made a WWII bathtub donation to the Iron Mountain museum. / Rummage sale raised approx. \$3864. Some items are still selling. / They will be doing a Dina Mia fund raiser in September. / Esther Casari resigned from the Board so there is an opening. / Account: June @ \$278,151; July @ \$282,813. They expect to reach \$300,000 by year end.

BHPS

DEPARTMENT REPORTS (cont'd)

WIDL – Adams provided the August activity calendars available. / Thursday lunch times are live presentations. / Annual reports are available. /

WIDL

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd)

Supervisor Statement – Stafford stated the Miskwaagaamiwiziibi privy was permitted by the Health Dept.

**SUPERVISOR
STATEMENT**

Sunset Lake Milfoil Update / Golas - The Lake Assn is working on many things: a possible special assessment district, forming a Friends of Sunset Lake 501c3, fundraising, education, looking for 2026 monetary support, a Board of Trustee member to be on their committee. / They are also wondering about a mandatory boat wash. / Golas said they have been on the water since May and there are some very dense patches. / There will be more information brought to upcoming meetings.

**SUNSET
LAKE
MILFOIL
UPDATE**

Larson Park – This is a state park that is maintained by the county, reimbursement from the state. The ICRC put up the wooden sign decades ago. The state is currently doing an outhouse renovation, to replace the current 25-year-old system. / Supervisor Stafford will talk to the County Parks & Rec to see if they would update the current signage.

**LARSON
PARK**

NEW BUSINESS

Bates School Sidewalk Repair – Treasurer Nelson made a motion to approve the front sidewalk section repair at an estimated cost of \$4670. Supported by Trustee Adams. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Stafford, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**BATES
SCHOOL
SIDEWALK**

Rockford Maps – Trustee Franzene made a motion to not authorize an ad in the plat. Supported by Treasurer Nelson. 4 ayes, 1 opposed. Motion carried.

**ROCKFORD
MAPS**

Bates School Sale – Treasurer Nelson made a motion to list the property with UP Riverland Realty/Bee Benson-Stafford and Punner Franzene. After discussion about Benson-Stafford and conflict of interest, Nelson rescinded her motion. / Treasurer Nelson made a motion to list the property with Punner Franzene. The property will be listed at \$298,500 with deed restrictions which may or may not become negotiable. Supported by Trustee Adams. 4 ayes, 1 abstain. Motion carried.

**BATES
SCHOOL**

Speed Signs – Supervisor Stafford made a motion to approve the purchase of three solar powered lighted mobile street speed signs at an estimated cost of \$9450. Supported by Treasurer Nelson. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Adams, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Nelson, yes; Stafford, yes. Motion carried.

**SPEED
SIGNS**

GUEST COMMENTS

- Linda Golas asked weed whipping around hydrants for better visibility.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ICECA Report

ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:55pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, September 10, 2025.