

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Bates Township Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 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 & Adams present. Also, in attendance were PW Benson & Karnack; ZA Bofinger; Mike Thibodeau, PC; Larry Nelson, PC; Mike Golas, PC & PR; Margee Brennan, ZBA/BHPS; Sue Passamani, BHPS; IC Comm Judd; Residents. Assr Erhart was absent.

ATTENDEES

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

MINUTES

Trustee Adams made a motion to accept the May 2026 Treasurers report. Supported by Clerk Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Nelson, yes; Franzene, yes; Stafford, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL
REPORT**

General Fund: \$ 238,299.51
Sewer Fund: \$ 79,149.55
Water Fund: \$ 319,627.41
Road Fund: \$ 225,301.41

Invoice Approval

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

**INVOICE
APPROVAL**

County Commissioner Report – Comm Judd said there was an RFP put out for Cooks Run. They received 2 proposals that the DNR is currently reviewing. Judd thought they both had good points. / There was a discussion regarding the frustration that zoning ordinance blight violations are not enforced through the court system.

**COUNTY
COMM
REPORT**

ICECA Report – Brett said the Fast Track grant deadline was extended to the end of the week. / Chris Shamion was leading Granny’s bike ride to raise funds for the Iron County Cancer Unit. All funds would stay local. Shamco was going to match the funds. / Father’s Day Car Show events will happen on the weekend of June 20 & 21st.

ICECA

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Assessor Report – Assr Erhart was absent.

**ASSESSOR
REPORT**

Zoning Administrator Report – ZA Bofinger stated there were 3 new zoning permits issued in May. / He has been addressing some blight violations. / He has been answering numerous questions/inquiries. / The question was asked can a permit be issued when the property currently has blight violations. / YTD 10 permits have been issued. / A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk.

**ZONING
ADMIN
REPORT**

Planning Commission – Chairperson Thibodeau stated the Master Plan was send to the Board of Trustees for approval and then 63 days of public review. / The PC is still working on the zoning ordinance updates.

**PLANNING
COMM**

Road Projects- Supervisor Stafford said that the Rogers Avenue blacktop (1 block) is done. / Forsberg Rd gravel project will begin in late June. / Dust control is scheduled for around July 9th.

**ROAD
PROJECTS**

Hall- All fire extinguishers have been inspected. / **Shop**– All fire extinguishers have been inspected. / **Water** – PW Karnack stated that the Vinnedge Rd waterline project is complete. / The new hydrant water meter has been doing a great job of monitoring the water being used/purchased by Highline. / June 1st Kleimann started the well rehab. /There were 12 seasonal water turn ons. / To date Highline has called in 159 Miss Dig tickets resulting in 20.2 miles of flagging. / **Sewer** – Waiting on a quote for L/S #4 rehab. / **Cemetery** – Open for the season, 5 burials so far. / **Park** – Open for the season. / **School** – All fire extinguishers have been inspected. / **Paint River Boat Launch** – Open for the season.

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS (cont'd)

<u>Windsor Center</u> – Supervisor Stafford said they are waiting for another boiler bid.	WINDSOR CTR
<u>Bates Hall Preservation Society Update</u> – Sue Passamani stated that Dale Holm purchased vests for the group. / They are looking for volunteers to help with the upcoming rummage sale/fund raising events. / Current balance is \$324,000. / They are continuing to go through the USDA grant procedures hoping to get the bid package approved for publishing. / They are doing a brick in memory of Jim Brennan.	BHPS
<u>WIDL</u> – Trustee Adams stated that the library has been very busy. / UPS packages sent out to date were 324. They are paid \$.50/package. / The Carnegie Corporation donated \$10,000 with no stipulations. / Maggie and Paul Nelson donated \$20,000 to the computer lab.	WIDL
<u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</u>	
<u>Supervisor Statement</u> – Supervisor Stafford stated that Jonathan is updating the current zoning application form to include whether it is a new build and add the applicant’s phone number. / Van Oss might be scheduled for July. / He is contacting the Sheriff’s work van about painting the lagoon fence. / He has been working with the BHPS on their bid package. / Seth from Wickwire contacted him about a generator for the well.	SUPERVISOR STATEMENT
<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>	
<u>Lift Station #4</u> – Supervisor Stafford made a motion to approve the Sabel Mechanical bid of \$29,986.82 for the rehab. Supported by Trustee Adams. Roll call vote: Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes; Stafford, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried. / PC Karnack will talk to Sabel about pushing the project out until the fall.	L/S #4 REHAB
<u>Master Plan</u> – Supervisor Stafford made a motion to approve the master plan and put it out for 63 days of public review. There will be a copy at the township office, a link on the township website and a newspaper notice that it is available. Supported by Trustee Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.	MASTER PLAN
<u>Master Plan Cover Photo</u> – Supervisor Stafford made a motion to advertise for Bates Township residents to submit a photo for the final cover of the master plan. He will donate \$50 of his private money (non-governmental funds) to the winner. Supported by Trustee Franzene. All ayes. Motion carried.	MP COVER PHOTO
<u>AED Training</u> – Board of Trustees & Public Works Dept Employees will have AED training on Monday, June 29 th at 1:00 at the Crystal Falls Township Fire Dept.	AED TRAINING
<u>Erickson Drive Dust Control</u> – A request for dust control was received from residents that live on this private drive. Supervisor Stafford made a motion to approve dust control at a cost of \$1000. When the project is completed and the final invoice is received, any remaining funds for Erickson Drive will be returned to the payer. Supported by Trustee Adams. Roll call vote: Benson-Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Stafford, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.	ERICKSON DRIVE DUST CONTROL
<u>Cemetery Sign-</u> Trustee Adams made a motion to approve the bid from Nicolet Sign for a new cemetery sign at a cost of \$2125, including the posts; Township will do the concrete slab. Supported by Clerk Benson-Stafford. Roll call vote: Stafford, yes; Franzene, yes; Nelson, yes; Benson-Stafford, yes; Adams, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.	CEMETERY SIGN

GUEST COMMENTS

- Margee Brennan thanked the township for finding a resolution to the Vinnedge Rd waterline project.
- Butch Dawgwillow asked questions about the park raft. / There was additional discussion which included Mike Golas regarding the chemical treatment of milfoil in Sunset Lake. Pros & cons.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ICECA Report

ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:40pm. Next regular meeting will be held at the Twp Hall on Wednesday, July 8, 2026.

Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date Approved:_____