

Spurr Township Board Meeting  
Spurr Township Hall  
29257 US HWY 41  
Michigamme, MI 49861



May 12, 2025

- I. CALL TO ORDER- The meeting was called to order by Supervisor, Jason Killoran at 6:00 p.m.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III. ROLL CALL  
Spurr Township Board Members: Supervisor, Jason Killoran, Treasurer, Barb Wilson, Trustee, Dennis Bentti, Absent: Trustee, Joel LePage, and Clerk, Jessica Omernick. Quorum is present.
- IV. AGENDA APPROVAL- Add under IX. New Business "c. Ordinance Enforcement Officer d. Newsletter Draft." Motion made by Treasurer, Wilson to approve the amended agenda and seconded by Trustee, Bentti. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Trustee Bentti moved to approve the minutes from April 14, 2025, Regular Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor, Killoran. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- VI. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE- Motion made by Trustee, Bentti to approve Accounts Payable of \$19,816.82 and seconded by Treasurer, Wilson. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- VII. OFFICER REPORTS
  - a. Supervisor, Killoran presented the clerk's report as presented and the township has a positive balance of Clerk Omernick reported that the township has a positive balance of \$687,138.28, including millage accounts and general funds.
  - b. Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Wilson provided an update. As of April 30, 2025, the ending balance in the tax account was \$96,031.13. The actual balance in the tax account, after all checks have cleared, is \$4,783.50. The estimated interest payouts after QFF and CFR funds are distributed is \$2,379.82 to NICE, \$446.45 to MARESA and \$957.23 to Spurr. Treasurer, Wilson also commented that we are gaining interest on the new municipal checking account.
  - c. Fireboard - Supervisor Killoran shared an update from the May 6, 2025, meeting. Fire Chief Pery updated that the Fire Department met on April 29<sup>th</sup> for their monthly meeting. They received a letter of resignation from Kyle Loup due to his full time work schedule. They also received an application from Brock Sundberg. They did some work on the UTV after the meeting. The Fire Department was going to conduct their Adopt a Highway cleanup over the weekend from Brown Road to the Michigamme Market. During the month of May a training date was going to be set for Boat and UTV training. Two grants were submitted for boots by Joe Perry and Anna Loup. There were two runs prior to the meeting, one on April 28<sup>th</sup> for a downed power line and May 5<sup>th</sup> for a fire alarm at the Covington ATU&T/Verizon Tower. The new fire truck is set to arrive during the second week of June. Paul Peterson represented the First Responders. He did let the board know that they are looking into a new responder vehicle. They plan on reviewing and submitting a spec sheet for a new truck.
  - d. Planning Commission - Trustee Bentti gave an update. There were 3 extra meetings due to public hearings. There was no public audience at the May 8<sup>th</sup> public hearing, however Joe LaCourt was **not** present, ~~and the PC interviewed him.~~ The PC is going over new maps and looking for suggestions.
  - e. Zoning Administrator – A building permit was approved for a garage on Fence Lake. There were 2 additional building permits submitted.

- f. Baraga County Sheriff. They had 13 hours of patrol time, 0 calls for service, 3 arrests and 0 traffic crashes in the month of April.
  - g. Assessor- No Report this month.
- VIII. OLD BUSINESS- public comment after each agenda item.
- a. ORV Update- Met with the DNR at Alberta regarding the trail system throughout the U.P. All trail organizations were present. The trail authority is still looking for liability insurance. Rep. Bergman met with the trail authority and had an optimistic, positive 45-minute lunch with Michigan Tech. There are two trails opening: Mt. Arvon and Trail from L'Anse to Baraga.
  - b. Beaufort Lake Dock- Supervisor, Killoran is waiting to speak with Mr. Rivera to give him a chance to bid on a new dock.
  - c. Parks & Rec Committee- Member Alex gave an update. The committee met last week for the first time. He expressed concern that the group might be in over their heads. He is hoping to work with Michigamme and Covington as DNR might give priority to joint committees.
  - d. Adopt A Highway- A safety video was texted to the board members to watch prior to the adopt a highway clean up weekend. There are vests and trash grabbers available for everyone to use. Group to meet at the township on Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am to begin the cleanup.
  - e. Investment Policy Amendment- Motion made by Supervisor, Killoran and seconded by Trustee, Bentti to eliminate line item 5E in the Investment Policy and remove The Township Board approves any financial institution approved by the board and which is federally insured by the U.S. Government. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried
- IX. NEW BUSINESS
- a. Zoning Board of Appeals Member Appointments- Supervisor, Killoran appoints Joel LePage, John Polkinghorne and Jeff Wilber to the ZBA. Motion made by Trustee, Bentti to accept appointments and seconded by Treasurer, Wilson. 3 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried
  - b. Official Township Maps- Trustee, Bentti contacted Qpad to get an estimated for 5 small and 1 Large map. QPad is not doing a lot of maps so their prices were on the higher end. Bentti is looking for suggestions on where to purchase maps. It was suggested to him that Homestead Graphics in Baraga would be a good option as they are used by the Sheriff's department. Supervisor, Killoran will also check with the business in Escanaba that printed the treasurer's receipt books.
  - c. Ordinance Enforcement Officer- At the Michigamme/Spurr joint meeting in April it was brought up that there is a need for enforcement officers on the West End. It was discussed that there could be one individual acting as the enforcement officer for multiple townships such as Spurr, Michigamme, Ely, Champion, Covington and Republic. The first step is to have a meeting with all interested townships. There was also discussion about getting a grant writer that these multiple townships would share.
  - d. Draft Newsletter- Michelle, the office assistant, created the 2025 summer newsletter and is asking the board to review and add anything that needs to be added before she can send out at the end of the month.
- X. Public Comment- Three minutes- Two comments
- XI. Meeting Announcement
- a. Michigamme/Spurr Fire Board meeting Tuesday June 3, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Michigamme
  - b. Spurr Township Planning Commission Meeting Thursday June 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Spurr Township Hall
  - c. Spurr Township Board Meeting Monday June 9, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Spurr Township Hall
  - d. Michigamme/Spurr Joint Board Meeting Wednesday July 16, 2025 at 6:00 at Spurr
- XII. Adjournment- Supervisor, Killoran adjourned the meeting at 7:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Omernick, Clerk