

1 MINUTES - PRAIRIEVILLE TOWNSHIP Regular Board Meeting  
2 January 17, 2024; 6:30 PM at Prairieville Township Hall

3  
4 CALL TO ORDER

5 The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Stoneburner.

6  
7 ROLL CALL

8 Members present: Supervisor Stoneburner, Clerk Goebel, Treasurer Pence,  
9 Trustee DeVries and Trustee Doster

10  
11 Members absent: none

12  
13 There were also 20 members of the public present.

14  
15 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR OUR TROOPS

16 All who were present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States  
17 of America and a moment of silence for our troops.

18  
19 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 20 • **Motion by Trustee DeVries to approve the agenda as presented, supported**  
21 **by Trustee Doster; all ayes, motion carried.**

22  
23 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 24 • **Motion by Trustee DeVries to approve the minutes of December 20, 2023,**  
25 **regular board meeting as presented, supported by Trustee Doster; all ayes,**  
26 **motion carried.**

27  
28 COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

29 County Commissioner, David Jackson was in attendance. He gave an update on the  
30 solar power issue. The state has taken over approval for solar energy which will go into  
31 effect November 2024. The county commissioners are doing a workshop on Feb 13 at 6  
32 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center in Hastings. All needed personnel will be there to  
33 answer questions and provide support. The goal is for the county to provide correct  
34 information and develop rules about solar energy. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

35  
36 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per person) (Please state your name and address for  
37 the Recording Clerk.)

38  
39 Gary White

40 Castleton Township

41 Mr. White passed out a document about LGBTQ+ issues. He is concerned about this  
42 focus. This nonprofit may not be in the best interest of our area. He is concerned about  
43 these teachings in the schools. Mr. White believes you need to treat people like people.  
44 There are five schools that are not represented by the health department. There is a  
45 need for Barry County to have their own Health Department.

47 John Lake  
48 Irving Township  
49 Mr. Lake thanked the board for passing two proposals that are important. The  
50 government is getting too involved. There is a proposal for septic systems to be on a 5-  
51 year inspection rotation. This will cost \$1000 per check-up.

52  
53 FIRE REPORT

54 The report was given by Chief Brian Uridge and it will be put on file. He went over calls  
55 received by the Fire Department and included end of year numbers. The numbers have  
56 a slight increase. Most of the calls are medical calls. He mentioned Mark and Cassie  
57 Flick and Devin and Taylor Stewart who are all certified as MFR and Fire Fighters. Ross  
58 Volker would like to join the fire department. He is willing to get certified in both  
59 disciplines. Chief Uridge asked for permission to begin the process to hire Ross Volker.

- 60 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner to allow Chief Uridge to pursue hiring**  
61 **Ross Volker for the Fire Department, supported by Clerk Goebel; all ayes,**  
62 **motion carried.**

63  
64 POLICE REPORT

65 The report was given by Chief Mike Reizin and it will be put on file. He went over calls  
66 for service year to date. There were 52. Chief Reizin shared that until police are faced  
67 with situations, they don't know how they will react. He shared a situation where  
68 Reserve Officer Stewart helped Prairieville and Barry Townships avoid imminent danger.  
69 He wants to commended Reserve Police Officer Stewart for what he did. He reacted  
70 quickly, was aware of what was happening, was appropriate, and remained focused.  
71 Reserve Officer Stewart showed courage and bravery. The suspect was taken into  
72 custody and is about to go to court. He was a major reason that happened. Chief Reizin  
73 presented an award to Reserve Officer Devin Stewart for courage and bravery.

74  
75 Supervisor Barry Bower from Barry Township was there to thank both the Prairieville  
76 Police and Fire Departments for their dedication to making our townships safer and  
77 working with Barry Township to provide this security.

78  
79 PARKS REPORT

80 Scott Kuebler explained the Parks is currently working on budgets for the next fiscal  
81 year. There is a grant for \$3000 to pay staff for manning the Upper Crooked Lake Wash  
82 Station. He also shared the number of fishing tournaments already scheduled for the  
83 lakes.

84  
85 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

86 Supervisor Stoneburner

- 87 ○ Clerk Goebel, Trustee DeVries and Supervisor Stoneburner met with the road  
88 commission. Prairieville Township has some of best roads in the county.
- 89 ○ He met with Trustee Doster and PCI to talk about an enforcement officer. They  
90 are going to have a good plan to take care of this. This will be handled at budget  
91 time. Supervisor Stoneburner also talked to Eric from PCI about violators of junk  
92 car storage and other issues.

- 93 ○ Crooked Lake Drive residents are concerned about plowing. Jake will have the
- 94 driver look at that.
- 95 ○ There will be a road survey and gravel road tours in March for board members.
- 96 This survey is to be filled out and returned to Supervisor Stoneburner prior.
- 97 ○ Annually we apply and the DEQ gives a permit for disposal of water from Upper
- 98 Crooked Lake wash station. This will no longer be needed, and Supervisor
- 99 Stoneburner will contact the DEQ and cancel.

100

## 101 TREASURER'S REPORT

102 Treasurer Pence

- 103 ○ Currently there is \$1.7 million in the pool balance. This includes all accounts.
- 104 ○ Interest rates are increasing. For revenue sharing there was interest paid of
- 105 \$1,120.38 This raised the CD amount.
- 106 ○ We received the final notice for the chart of accounts. Everything looks good.
- 107 ○ W2's are available for employees.
- 108 ○ The 1099s are going out in a day or so.

109

## 110 TRUSTEES' REPORTS

111 Trustee Doster

112 Planning Commission –

- 113 ○ Barbara Hysell did not show up. Her request was tabled until February.
- 114 ○ New business officers were elected. Fritz Bork will still be chairman.
- 115 ○ The annual report was worked on. This plan will be finalized and submitted to the
- 116 board.
- 117 ○ The calendar was addressed.

118

119 Trustee DeVries:

- 120 ○ Trustee DeVries attended meetings with the road commission, revitalize Delton
- 121 community, and Delton School Board meeting.
- 122 ○ He also had a picture of tables and chairs that were to be purchased with AARP
- 123 money. Trustee DeVries will get in touch with the superintendent to get more
- 124 information.
- 125 ○ Trustee DeVries regularly posts on Facebook to share information from other
- 126 groups.
- 127 ○ Hazardous Waste will be collected on May 18 in Hastings. There is also a fall
- 128 drop off. They are hoping to get the football team from Delton to help with this.
- 129 Our recycling is in two weeks.

130

## 131 CLERK'S REPORT

132 Clerk Goebel

- 133 ○ The site contractor is waiting for spring to get the foundation in for the new sign.
- 134 ○ There has been another offer for the cell tower. Clerk Goebel recommends not to
- 135 do this like past practice.
- 136 ○ The Shumaker group is ready to go live with the new website. Board members
- 137 can look at it now.

138

139 PAYMENT OF BILLS

- 140 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, to approve payment of the bills in the amount of**  
141 **\$25,277.28, supported by Treasurer Pence; all ayes, motion carried.**

142  
143 MIDEAL RENEWAL

144 The MiDeal renewal was tabled last month to investigate usage. Chief Reizin said the  
145 savings were minimal for the police, Clerk Goebel asked about the fire department and  
146 was told they can get things for the same price. Clerk Goebel said that it doesn't sound  
147 like it is worth subscribing to.

- 148 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel to not renew subscription to MiDeal, supported by**  
149 **Treasurer Pence; all ayes, motion carried.**

150  
151 ASSESSING SERVICES CONTRACT – APPRAISERS PLUS

152 The Appraisers Plus contract has not increased for years but this year it did. The board  
153 discussed how they had been pleased with the work that was done.

- 154 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel to approve Appraisals Plus contract, supported by**  
155 **Treasurer Pence; all ayes, motion carried.**

156  
157 ASSESSOR CONTRACT – KEVIN HARRIS

158 Kevin Harris has been Prairieville Township's assessor. The cost for his help has  
159 increased but the board said it is worth it. They are very pleased with his work.

- 160 • **Clerk Goebel moved to approve a new contract with Kevin Harris,**  
161 **supported by Treasurer Pence; all ayes, motion carried.**

162  
163 PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS – TERM ENDING 12-31-2026

164 Richard VanNiman

165 Craig Shumaker

- 166 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel to reappoint Richard VanNiman to the Planning**  
167 **Commission with the term ending 12-31-2026, supported by Treasurer**  
168 **Pence; all ayes, motion carried.**  
169 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel to reappoint Craig Shumaker to the Planning**  
170 **Commission with the term ending 12-31-2026, supported by Trustee**  
171 **Doster; all ayes, motion carried.**

172  
173 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per person) (Please state your name and address for  
174 the Recording Clerk.)

175  
176 Gary White

177 Castleton Township

178 Mr. White is concerned that statements being made are not good for residents, Mike  
179 Calton had just left a meeting with Consumers, Consumers is doing arm twisting, He is  
180 concerned that these discussions are not taking place in open meetings. He stated he  
181 enjoys attending board meetings but at each that he attends, he says to the boards to  
182 watch out for Barry County.

183  
184

185 John Lake  
186 Irving Township  
187 Not all navy guys are bad!

188  
189 BOARD COMMENTS

190 Supervisor Stoneburner: Thank you to everyone for being here. Appreciate everything  
191 you do for us Prairieville Police, Prairieville Fire and Prairieville Township Board.

192  
193 Treasurer Pence: Thanks for braving the weather and coming out.

194  
195 Trustee Reports:

196 Trustee Doster Thank you for attending –stay warm!

197  
198 Trustee DeVries

- 199 ○ We are fortunate to have Mark Flick from Prairieville Township on the list  
200 for tree removal. Mark gave the specifications for removal including dead  
201 trees. He explained that the pilot still looks amazing. This will be done in  
202 October or November 2024.
- 203 ○ Trustee DeVries said that Sunday night our sewer alarm went off. Thank  
204 you to Brad who came out, found the issue, and fixed it.
- 205 ○ I will be gone most of February so you can have a nice quiet meeting.
- 206 ○ Thank you for the turnout.

207  
208 Clerk Goebel: Thanks for being here. If I knew you were coming, I would have printed  
209 more agendas.

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211  
212 Adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

213  
214 Respectfully submitted,

215  
216  
217 MaryAnn Bliss DeVries

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