

1 **MINUTES - PRAIRIEVILLE TOWNSHIP Regular Meeting**
2 **July 14, 2021; 6:30 PM at Township Hall**

3
4 CALL TO ORDER

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

6
7 ROLL CALL

8 Members present:

9 Clerk Goebel, Supervisor Stoneburner, Trustee DeVries and Trustee Doster

10
11 Members absent: Treasurer Pence

12
13 There were also 25 members of the public present.

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

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

18
19 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

20 Review of the agenda.

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

23
24 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 25 • **Motion by Trustee DeVries, support by Clerk Goebel, to approve the minutes from**
26 **the Regular Board Meeting on June 9, 2021; all ayes, motion carried.**

27
28 Road Commission:

29 Jake Welch from the Road Commission was in attendance to talk about Merlau. He gave an
30 overview of Road Commission issues with a subdivision and the need to update these roads.
31 Funding increases have not caught up with the cost of materials. This leaves a special
32 assessment as the only option for the Road Commission to pave roads in a subdivision.
33 Prairieville has a road millage that is used on the through roads. These are the roads that the
34 subdivisions come out on and that everyone uses. Jake sees the need for Merlau being
35 redone but it will only happen through a special assessment.

36
37 Jake shared updated estimates of the cost of redoing the road. Merlau either needs a full
38 reconstruction or a mill and fill.

39
40 The mill and fill removes the asphalt/chip seal that currently exists and replaces it with a new 3
41 ½ inch thick asphalt roadway and chip seal. This option does not address major drainage
42 issues. It will take around a week to do this work. The cost for the mill and fill is estimated at
43 \$315,000.

44
45 The full reconstruction gives full latitude. The estimate includes drainage, lowering the roadway
46 so that valley gutter can be placed and all existing driveways met. It requires numerous storm
47 sewer pipes to be run to the lake. Often in very tight locations that would require home owners

48 to have trees removed, give permanent easements and allow their yards to be destroyed for a
49 period of time. There will need to be easements to get the water down to the lake. Those
50 costs are not included. It will take 2-3 months for a full construction. Estimate for the full
51 reconstruction is \$675,000.

52

53 Jake recommends the mill and fill as it will be done in a shorter period of time and will last for
54 60 years the same as the full reconstruction.

55

56 There were questions and discussion with the public.

57

58 Tim Woodhams

59 12219 Gilmore Pt.

60 Mr. Woodhams asked if crush and shape might be an option for the road. Jake thought a
61 combination of the mill and fill and crush and shape might work. Another idea was an inverted
62 crown. Tim also suggested a small assessment be included for maintenance. Mr. Woodhams
63 asked about traffic calming devices – inverted speed bumps. Jake recommended buying a
64 speed sign for Merlau.

65

66 Lorraine Brown

67 12710 Merlau

68 Ms. Brown asked about the effect on lake water if run off goes into the lake. Is there any other
69 way to do that? There are some other options but the bottom line is there needs to be
70 someone to monitor these. Jake understands there are concerns about the water going in the
71 lake. Road water gets to the lake but it is filtered at this point.

72

73 Glo Kelly

74 11341 Sunset Point

75 How do we get the ball rolling? Answer: There is a need for 50.1% signatures to get it started
76 unless the board does that.

77

78 Dick VanNiman

79 12710 Merlau

80 Mr. VanNiman asked about signatures on a petition. Who signs the petition? Answer:
81 Everyone who uses Merlau to get to their home can sign. Starting or stopping a petition is
82 based on road frontage. The actual assessment may be done by parcel. Mr. VanNiman also
83 shared his concern about speed on Merlau and how that would be addressed.

84

85 Other issues/information:

86 Another possible option for drainage are leaching basins.

87 The Road Commission will help in whatever way they can.

88 The township will be handling maintenance after a special assessment is done.

89

90

91 Commissioners' Report:

92 Commissioner Conner gave an oral report with a highlight being broadband is an issue that is
93 being addressed for the county. The report will be put on file.

94
95 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per person) (Please state your name and address for the
96 Recording Clerk.)

97
98 None

99
100 PARK'S REPORT

101 There was no report from the Parks Commission. Jim shared that Parks' Manager Rob
102 Robinson has resigned from the Parks. They are currently looking for a new manager. He is
103 staying on for the time being.

104
105 FIRE REPORT

- 106 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner, support from Trustee DeVries, to appoint**
107 **Brian Uridge as fire chief; all ayes, motion carried.**
- 108
- 109 • **Motion by Supervisor Stoneburner, seconded by Trustee Doster, to appoint Don**
110 **Haneckow as assistant fire chief; all ayes, motion carried.**

111
112 Chief Uridge reported on a very busy month. A copy of the report will be put on file.

113
114 POLICE REPORT

115 Supervisor Stoneburner gave the police report and it will be put on file.

116
117 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

118 Supervisor Stoneburner had a meeting with an EGLE representative about the old Kavco
119 Landfill located on Day Road which is east of Doster Road near Cressy and M89. Elevated
120 levels of PFA's were found in this landfill. There will be private wells in Gun Plain and
121 Prairieville that will be further investigated. EGLE is going to be contacting residents who may
122 be involved. The purpose is to make sure our water is safe.

123
124 The ambulance situation was discussed, and Supervisor Stoneburner will be looking into it
125 more. Dana Yarger asked that the township board is keeping their fingers on the pulse of the
126 citizens of Prairieville. Keep the discussion about ambulance services going!!

127
128 TREASURER'S REPORT

129 Treasurer Pence was not in attendance, but her report will go on file. The audit is next week.

130
131 TRUSTEES' REPORTS

132 Trustee Doster – He has asked the Road Commission to consider putting guard rails near
133 Doster Road and Crum Road. It is now on their list.

134
135 Trustee DeVries – There is a need for a sign for Cressey Cemetery as there is no sign.
136 Trustee DeVries is getting quotes from three different sign making companies. The quote will
137 include installation.

138
139 CLERK'S REPORT

140 On Dec. 1 Priority Health insurance is increasing 6%.

141 This past month there were \$850 in civil fines collected.
142 I.T. Right wants the township to consider multi factor authentication for e-mail accounts for
143 added security.
144 There was a request for a Prairieville Township email account for recycling and everyone was
145 in agreement.
146 Recycling has come up with a plan to make recycling punch card purchasing more convenient
147 for people.
148 There is a resident who would like to create a bench for the Veterans' Memorial – discussion
149 ensued and it was agreed it would be safer if the bench had a back on it.
150 Delton Library assessment has gone up to over \$55,000.

151
152

153 APPROVAL OF BILLS

- 154 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel to pay bills in the amount of \$30,082.59, support by**
155 **Trustee DeVries; all ayes, motion carried.**

156 American Rescue Plan Act

- 157 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, support from Trustee Doster, to adopt Resolution 2021-**
158 **10 to authorize application for the American Rescue plan funds. Roll call vote, all**
159 **ayes except Treasurer Pence was not in attendance, motion was duly adopted.**

160

161 Ord. #173: Consumers Combined Franchise

- 162 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel and support from Supervisor Stoneburner to adopt**
163 **Ordinance #173. Roll call vote, all ayes except Treasurer Pence was not in**
164 **attendance, motion was duly adopted.**

165

166 MTA Principles of Governance

167 The Michigan Township Association has developed a principles of governance document.

- 168 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, support from Trustee Doster, to accept the MTA**
169 **principles of governance; all ayes, motion passed.**

170

171 Reserve Officer

- 172 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, support from Supervisor Stoneburner, to hire reserve**
173 **officer Tanner Callahan, all ayes, motion carried.**

174

- 175 • **Motion by Trustee DeVries support by Clerk Goebel, to approve amended**
176 **personnel pay schedule for 2021-2022, all ayes, motion carried.**

177

178 Crooked Lake Weed Assessment

179 Crooked Lake Weed Assessment will be up at the end of 2022. They are looking at getting the
180 process started. In a consensus decision, Prairieville Township Board decided they will start
181 the process without a petition. This needs to be coordinated with Barry Township. Supervisor
182 Stoneburner will talk to Supervisor Bower, the supervisor at Barry Township, and coordinate
183 the next step. This will be acted on at the August meeting.

184

185

186 Merlau Trail

- 187 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, supported by Trustee Doster, to initiate a road project for**
188 **Merlau Ave. and Long Point based on the Barry County Road Commission**
189 **recommendation; all ayes, motion carried.**

190

191 Police Vehicle

- 192 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, support from Supervisor Stoneburner, to give Chief**
193 **Callahan the ability to decommission the 2011 Charger and send it to auction; all**
194 **eyes, motion carried.**

195

196 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per person) (Please state your name and address for the
197 Recording Clerk.)

198

199 Dick VanNiman

200 12710 Merlau Ave.

201 Is it possible to get someone to clean the eaves trough outside township hall? Yes, it will be
202 done.

203

204 Board Comments

205 Supervisor Stoneburner: Thanks

206

207 Treasurer Pence: Not in attendance

208

209 Trustee DeVries: Glad everyone came for the meeting.

210

211 Clerk Goebel: Thanks

212

213 Trustee Doster: nothing more

214

215

216 Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

217

218

219 Respectfully submitted,

220

221

222 MaryAnn Bliss DeVries