

1 MINUTES - PRAIRIEVILLE TOWNSHIP Regular Meeting

2 August 16, 2023; 6:30 PM at Prairieville 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: Supervisor Stoneburner, Clerk Goebel, Treasurer Pence, Trustee  
9 DeVries and Trustee Doster

10  
11 Members absent: none

12  
13 There were also 8 members of the public present.

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

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

18  
19 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

22  
23 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 24 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, supported by Treasurer Pence, to approve the**  
25 **minutes of the August 9, 2023, special board meeting as presented; all**  
26 **ayes, motion carried.**

27  
28 COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:

29 There was no commissioner in attendance.

30  
31 PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per person) (Please state your name and address for  
32 the Recording Clerk.)

33 There were no public comments at this time.

34  
35 FIRE REPORT

36 Chief Uridge gave the report. Calls for service this year are slightly higher. Makayla  
37 Konecny just passed the state EMT course. She and Taylor Stewart are now both state  
38 certified EMT’s. Congratulations to Roberto Beltran who will start medical first  
39 responder training in another week.

40  
41 Chief Uridge has two requests of the board. Clint Post is a certified medical first  
42 responder and certified fire fighter who would like to join Prairieville Fire Department.

- 43 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, supported by Trustee DeVries, to continue the**  
44 **hiring process of Clint Post; all ayes, motion carried.**

45  
46 The second is that both the north and south end of the fire department were paved.

47 Clerk Goebel and Supervisor Stoneburner both commented on how good it looked.  
48 Chief Uridge asked for clarification where the money comes from to pay this.

- 49 • **Motion by Trustee DeVries to pay the bill for the parking lot from ARPA**  
50 **funds, supported by Clerk Goebel; all ayes, motion carried.**

51

## 52 POLICE REPORT

53 Chief Reizin gave the report. He went over stats for the month. Officer Paul Green  
54 completed a firearms course and is now qualified to teach.

55

## 56 PARKS' REPORT

57 Judy Risdon, secretary of Prairieville Parks and Recreation, gave the report. There are a  
58 couple of problems at Gull Lake that are being worked on. One is the bathrooms – they  
59 are trying to get a service to clean them 3-4 days a week. Bathrooms are a priority and  
60 more may need to be done to them. The other is the motor on the gate which has been  
61 serviced four times. We may need to invest in a new motor. Trustee DeVries asked  
62 about the possible new pavilion at Gull Lake and was told it is on the back burner right  
63 now. Bathrooms are the priority. The other issue is the Parks Board is interested in  
64 getting a new website and is asking the township to investigate. It is being investigated  
65 by the Township Board.

66

## 67 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

68 Supervisor Stoneburner:

- 69 ○ Dust control was done on the gravel roads. Unfortunately, there was rain after the  
70 application which caused a slightly muddy surface.
- 71 ○ Lowering of the speed limit around Gull Lake was denied. This is a state road,  
72 and the state is the only one that can make that change. Both Supervisor  
73 Stoneburner and Chief Reizin are disappointed. They have been working with the  
74 state on this situation for a year. The speed study from the state which  
75 determined this, has been requested. Chief Reizin said that a group of residents  
76 around Gull Lake are trying to get an attorney involved.
- 77 ○ Pine Lake Road and Norris Road intersection have had several accidents. The  
78 impact of these would be lessened or even avoided if it becomes a 4 way stop.  
79 Supervisor Stoneburner will contact Jake at Barry County Roads and find out  
80 more about this possibility.
- 81 ○ Commissioner Jackson is on vacation. The lake level project at Pine Lake has  
82 been tabled at this time. The Board of Commissioners is not interested in doing  
83 more. Commissioner Jackson will share more at the next township meeting.
- 84 ○ Commissioner Doster refused to come to the township meeting when Supervisor  
85 Stoneburner contacted him. No reason was given – he just said anyone can view  
86 the county commissioners meeting online.

87

## 88 TREASURER'S REPORT

- 89 ○ Pooled cash which includes all funds is \$2,038,990.78.
- 90 ○ There is nothing extraordinary going on. Summer taxes are being collected.
- 91 ○ Oakridge Road money will be transferred into the general fund.
- 92 ○ Trustee DeVries requested clarification about the road fund balance which

93 Treasurer Pence provided.

94

95 TRUSTEES' REPORTS

96 Trustee Doster:

- 97 ○ Planning Commission – two public hearings were cancelled. The other issue will
- 98 be addressed in the agenda.
- 99 ○ He helped decommission the Durango for Prairieville Police so that it can be sold.
- 100 ○ Last month a welfare check was done. A door had to be kicked in. Trustee Doster
- 101 fixed the door for the elderly gentleman.

102

103 Trustee DeVries:

- 104 ○ There was no ZBA meeting.
- 105 ○ There is a need for printed updated ordinances that some people don't have.
- 106 Clerk Goebel said the copier has been repaired and they can now make new
- 107 ordinance copies.
- 108 ○ Can we find out how much Jim Dull has spent on the lake level project at Pine
- 109 Lake? That would be helpful.

110

111 CLERK'S REPORT

- 112 ○ It is time for the annual continuing disclosure statement for Watson Drain.
- 113 ○ The family of Ann Blackmore has five vacant lots in the cemetery. They are
- 114 donating these to the Prairieville Township to be used for hardship cases.

115

116 PAYMENT OF BILLS

- 117 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel, supported by Trustee DeVries, to pay bills in the**
- 118 **amount of \$286,672.45; all ayes, motion carried.**

119

120 POLICE CHIEF SALARY

121 Chief Reizin's contract is up in September but since insurance has been added, it needs

122 to be looked at. There was discussion and clarification.

123

124 Trustee DeVries asked if the chief was notified there was going to be a change to his

125 paycheck? Chief Reizin went on insurance August 1 and Clerk Goebel told him the

126 contract would have to be adjusted but no figures were given. While relooking at

127 numbers it was found that the township was in error and owes Chief Reizin \$987.73.

128 Recalculation of the Chief's salary was done including new insurance.

- 129 • **Motion by Clerk Goebel to correct the 2023-8 personnel payrate schedule to**
- 130 **reflect salary for police chief of \$53,293.36 with insurance provided as of**
- 131 **August 1, supported by Supervisor Stoneburner; all ayes, motion carried.**

132

133 In September there will be a new contract for Chief Reizin. Supervisor Stoneburner

134 stated he would like to see our police salaries fall in line with other departments. He has

135 questions and feels our police officers are underpaid and wants to address that. There

136 was a discussion. There will also be an hourly contract developed.

137

138

139 RESOLUTION 2023-16: APPROVE CLASS INVESTMENT OPTION

140 Michigan Class was recommended for CD's that are currently at Huntington in Hastings.  
141 It provides more flexibility with changes and allows sub accounts.

- 142 • **Motion by Treasurer Pence, supported by Clerk Goebel, to adopt resolution**  
143 **2023-16; roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried, resolution was approved on**  
144 **August 16, 2023.**

145

146 MINUTE TAKER

147 At the special meeting of August 9, 2023, Deputy Clerk, Ingrid Pagano was assigned  
148 minute taker for Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals. Rebecca Harvey,  
149 Zoning Consultant, is the current minute taker but has such a busy schedule that  
150 minutes do not always get back in a timely manner. This is a follow up to that change.

151

152 Mark A. Doster, member of Prairieville Planning Commission and County Commissioner  
153 has formally disagreed with Deputy Clerk Ingrid Pagano taking minutes. His concern is  
154 the minutes are very important and need to be detailed. Discussion ensued. Everyone  
155 agreed that Rebecca is very good at what she does and her minutes are awesome. The  
156 concern is timeliness. It was noted that minutes are not official until approved by the  
157 board at the next meeting yet draft minutes need to be available 8 days after the current  
158 meeting. By having Deputy Clerk Ingrid Pagano take the minutes, the township would  
159 be timely with minutes. The goal would be to combine the timeliness of Ingrid and the  
160 expertise of Rebecca Harvey into the minutes.

161

162 It was the consensus of the board that Deputy Clerk Pagano would continue taking  
163 minutes and give this new situation time to work. If it is a problem, it will be revisited.  
164 Trustee Doster will talk to Rebecca Harvey.

165

166 CEMETERY BIDS

167 There were 4 bids for driveway improvements in the cemeteries.

168 Clerk Goebel went over the bids. One bid was crushed stone and the others were  
169 crushed asphalt.

170

- 171 • **Trustee Doster made a motion to agree to an allowance not to exceed**  
172 **\$40,858.00 for cemetery driveway improvements to be paid with ARPA**  
173 **funds, supported by Trustee DeVries. There was discussion included that**  
174 **soliciting will take place for two more weeks to see if a lower bid is**  
175 **available; vote was all ayes, motion carried.**

176

177 The irrigation system at Cressey was discussed. Clerk Goebel will follow up on this.

178

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

181 Cyndi Twichell

182 12650 Pine Lake Rd.

183 Ms. Twichell wants to reiterate what she said last week. She appreciates that the board  
184 is willing to work with the community. She will do her best to get millage passed and just

185 asks for continued transparency where the money is being spent.

186

187 Joe Tobin

188 11775 Lindsey Rd.

189 The problem at the cemetery is old. It is time to update!

190

191 BOARD COMMENTS

192 Supervisor Stoneburner: Thanks for being here. Good to see people getting involved.

193

194 Treasurer Pence:

195 Thanks for coming. My apologies for the mistake.

196

197 Trustee DeVries: Thank you for being here. I appreciate the input. In October we need  
198 to look at weed assessments and adjustments. Our budget is available to look at during  
199 office hours. I will investigate if putting the budget on a website is a recommended  
200 practice.

201

202 Clerk Goebel:

203 Thank you for being here and understanding my goof up. MaryAnn, thank you for  
204 keeping things straight. Thank you to Carol for putting my pizza in the oven!

205

206 Trustee Doster: Thanks for showing up and giving your input.

207

208 Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

209

210

211 Respectfully submitted,

212

213

214 MaryAnn Bliss DeVries

215