

ST. JOHN TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 27, 2025; 6:00 P.M.

**St. John Township Community Center, 1515 W. Lincoln Highway, Schererville, IN 46375
Main Meeting Room**

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chairman, Lisa Elder, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS

- Lisa Elder, Chairman
- Michael Quigley, Secretary
- Eric J. Stanich, Member

TRUSTEE

- Cathy J. Lareau

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY

- Adam J. Sedia

LAKE HILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

- Steve Michalak, Fire Chief
- Tom Van Vleet, Deputy Chief
- Missy Michalak, Lake Hills Board President

REPORTS

1. Fire Department Reports

a. Lake Hills Fire Department April 2025 Financial Reports, April 2025 Calls & EMS Reports

Chief Michalak went over the EMS & Calls Reports. He clarified the numbers listed on the Calls Report for Mutual Aid for Cedar Lake and Dyer are Fire Calls. There was discussion regarding Auto Aid due to all departments being short staffed. Chief Michalak stated the department purchased a new EMS software, Image Trend, for billing and reporting. Upon stating some advantages of this change, he also declared July will be the first monthly EMS Activity Report generated by Image Trend. Chief Michalak lastly explained the difference between ALS1 and ALS2 and briefly discussed “No Transport-DOA” on the monthly EMS Activity Report. Michalak, Lake Hills Board President, briefly went over all bank reconciliations. She explained they purchased a new copier, printer, fax, scan machine at the beginning of May. She also added the First Financial Checking account will be closed soon. Lareau pointed out all the Fund Balances were the same. Van Vleet then explained the accounts were reconciled by Michalak due to Van Vleet not being available. Michalak contacted Hunniford and there will be transitioning to allow Lake Hills to easily access everything through email and a secure portal now.

Elder accepted the Lake Hills Fire Department April 2025 Financial Reports, April 2025 Calls & EMS Reports as a matter of record.

2. Trustee Report

Lareau briefly reviewed the Crowe LLP letter originally sent to Michalak, Lake Hills Board President, regarding their recommendations. She also pointed out the thank you letter Lareau sent to Crowe for providing their pro bono accounting services. There was discussion about the implementation of the Crowe recommendations. Lareau stated an Illinois GPR company did the ground penetrating radar at the cemetery. She explained the report and map submitted of their findings. However, the map did not include all the information stated in the report. Lareau will send the final updated report and map to the Board members and engineer once it is submitted. The engineer will then recommend the next step. Once the next step comes along and there is a plan of action, it must be submitted to the Department of DNR for approval. Lareau gave an update on the possible Town of Schererville Historic Preservation Commission. Lareau, in the meantime, is going to look for grant funding. There was discussion regarding a temporary solution to prevent the erosion while they are securing the funding for a permanent fix. This topic was discussed at a previous Board meeting. Hydroseeding was recommended but it is only a temporary fix. Lareau and her assistant tried locating all the marked graves documented from a former trustee. There are about 7-8 burials still unaccounted for. There was then a brief discussion regarding the old cemetery sign and the new Township sign.

3. Attorney Report

Attorney Sedia stated the new Township statutes go into effect July 1, 2025. He can give a summary at the next Board meeting. Lareau added she is attending an ITA training on June 23, 2025 to discuss budgeting and the effect these new statutes will have on the budgets.

4. Board Reports

None

OLD BUSINESS

1. Approval of April 22, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

There were no questions.

Quigley made a motion to approve the April 22, 2025 Board Meeting minutes as submitted. Stanich seconded the motion.

Elder called for a vote. Motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. April 2025 Financial

Lareau indicated the good interest received on Trust Indiana and the Month End Fund Balance sheets are the same for Trust Indiana and Centier Bank. There were no questions.

Elder accepted the April 2025 Financials as a matter of record.

2. April 2025 Township Assistance Report

There was discussion regarding the difficulty of finances with current cases. Lareau, again, commended the case workers on their job.

Elder accepted the April 2025 Township Assistance Report as a matter of record.

3. Resolution 2025-06 Ratifying Amended Interlocal Community Services Agreements

Lareau explained this resolution is ratifying the amendment to the 2023 Interlocal Community Services Agreements concerning Speedway \$25 fuel/food gift cards on hand for police officers. There was discussion regarding the number of cards distributed to each police department.

Quigley made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-06 Ratifying Amended Interlocal Community Services Agreements. Stanich seconded the motion.

Elder called for a vote. Motion carried 3-0.

CITIZEN INPUT

None

ANY AND ALL OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE TOWNSHIP BOARD

1. The next scheduled meeting of the Township Board to be held Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

2. Other

None

ADJOURNMENT

Quigley made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanich seconded the motion.

Elder called for a vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Lisa Elder, Chairman

Michael Quigley, Secretary

Eric J. Stanich, Member

Submitted and attested by Cathy J. Lareau, Trustee