

MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION

MANISTEE COUNTY CHAPTER

March 27, 2024 Minutes

Roll Call:	Arcadia	3	Bear Lake	0	Brown	1
	Cleon	2	Dickson	0	Filer	1
	Manistee	0	Maple Grove	4	Marilla	0
	Norman	0	Onkama	0	Pleasanton	1
	Springdale	1	Stronach	0		

Meeting was brought to order at 7:00 by Tom Stege, Chairperson

Welcome and roll call.

Quorum Present

Approval of minutes from October 25, 2023- Motion by Linda Cudney 2nd by Penny Nelson, All in favor.

Treasurer Report: \$939.52

Election of Officers for 2024 Motion by Tom Stege supported by Pam Bagley to retain the same officers as last year. AIF Motion passed. Tom Stege, Chairperson, Penny Nelson, Vice Chair, Linda Cudney, Treasurer and Carol Merrill, Secretary.

Discussion on the May 22, 2024, dinner meeting. Maple Grove has offered their facility so it will be held there with Jerry Zupin catering.

Guests:

Jeff Dontz, County Commissioner, reported the Manistee Visitors Bureau changed their name to the Manistee County Tourism Authority, Chip Johnson, from Central Wellness reported to the board about the shortage of youth beds in the State, Lumley Drain was closed by the drain commissioner, airport service provider will be

decided, zoning contracts with 6 local units, the library has a new director, land bank is demolishing old Rengo Building and also old Kennedy School, Medical Examiner, Medical Care bonds, Sheriff Department, new Road Commission manager, tax allocation was set the same as last year, MDOT M-55 designation, NW Michigan Invasive Species fees were waived, new carpet in Government Center hallways, the Regional Summit will be September 20th, and will be a shorter day, Parkinson Awareness month, US 31 bridge, Coast Guard is trimming staff at Frankfort and Ludington, June 15th will be kids day at Armory and newly appointed County Clerk Shelli Johnson.

Brian Gutowski, Manistee County Sheriff reported on staffing with two recruits in the academy now, there will still be one open position, working to fill the open Animal Control position, will get 3 new Tahoes, new 18 ft air boat that can go on ice or land, the new 27 foot boat for big lake will hopefully be ready mid-summer, investigations and runs are way up, body scanner is in use at the jail with no instances of contraband since put into place and the medication assistance program is still in place.

911 Manager, Mike Machen reported on the new computers for all law enforcement cars, new radios for all fire departments hopefully will be installed by the end of April and Cyber Security has become a real issue for all Townships to be aware of.

Brad Kluczynski, Manistee County Road Commission Manager, reported federal funded projects this year will include 9 Mile Road (Yates to Marrilla) and North on Yates, other local projects will be Maple Road to Merkey Road, Filer City Road, Lakeshore and Crescent Beach Roads out for bids, there will be 17 miles of Wedge/Chip Seal, emission restrictions are changing in 2027, they are getting 4 new cabin chassis' and a small excavator, work will be done on Claybank Creek bridge with funds from the Little River Band and Trout Association, there were 67-68 inches of snow during the winter and lots of tree work due to Oak Wilt killing trees. He is available to all townships, and you can call the road commission or his cell is 734-260-3958.

Karla Smith-Kasten, Manistee County Recycling Coordinator, reported on HHW collection bills went out to each Township, 2023 had 564,000 pounds of recycling up from 427,000 pounds in 2022, the Onekama site has busiest, with Arcadia, Bear Lake and Maple Grove next, there is a new Act Part 115 coming with more information coming.

New Business: None

Each Township present gave bits and pieces about what is happening in their Township.

Public Comment: None

The next meeting will be on April 17, 2024, at 7 PM at Bear Lake Township.

Motion by Penny Nelson, second by Linda Cudney to adjourn the meeting, AIF.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Carol Merrill, Secretary