

**LELAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**

**Monday, May 13, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.**

Leland Township Library, Munnecke Room

203 E. Cedar Street, Leland, MI 49654

**MINUTES amended**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Susan Och, Clerk Lisa Brookfield, Treasurer Shirley Garthe, Trustee Clint Mitchell, Trustee Mariann Kirch.

**GUESTS:** 12

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Och called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**CHANGES:** The information for item #8 came rather late so it will be discussed at the June meeting. Approval to distribute the Master Plan was added as item #8.

**ACTION:** Garthe moved to approve the agenda as presented and amended; supported by Mitchell. Motion carried.

**DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**April 8, 2024 (Regular Meeting):** Garthe moved to approve the minutes of April 8, 2024, regular meeting; supported by Brookfield. Motion carried.

**April 25, 2024 (Special Meeting):**

**CORRECTION:** A correction was noted of the motion on page 3.

Garthe moved to approve the minutes of April 25, 2024, special meeting as presented and corrected; supported by Mitchell. Motion carried.

**April 29, 2024 (Special Meeting):** Garthe moved to approve the minutes of April 29, 2024, special meeting; supported by Mitchell. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Keith Ashley - He still has concerns about a church using the Munnecke Room for services. He received the policy from the library. Four items are not addressed in the policy: how many times a week, how long are the services, using the grounds for the services, and religious signs and symbols on the property. This church uses the Munnecke Room as their address.

Steve Mikowski - Mr. Mikowski presented his request to hold a referendum vote on the Leland Township Zoning Ordinance 96-1. This is the 332<sup>th</sup> month this request has been made. He also asked the Board of Appeals to correct a longstanding error denying a 17 ½ inch side yard setback variance. This request has been made since 1983 at Planning and Township meetings.

Kathy Dawkins – read aloud her written comment: Trustee Kirch has made insinuations about Supervisor Och’s lack of communication resulting in problems with the DNR regarding the removal of the dock and trees. I would like to understand why she feels that Supervisor Och’s lack of communications created misunderstandings and caused issues. I am requesting the following from Trustee Kirch:

1. Date and time of her conversation(s) with anyone at DNR regarding the removal of the dock and trees referenced in Trustee report of 5-1-24.
2. What was said to Trustee Kirch that caused her to feel Supervisor Och caused misunderstandings and created problems.
3. Trustee Kirch's explanation as to what, specifically, this lack of communication was.
4. What Trustee Kirch believes Supervisor Och should have done differently.

I have included the appropriate sections from Trustee Kirch's report and Supervisor Och's report. Because of time constraints, I will not be reading those out loud. I am requesting that this be included in the minutes.

**REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS** – Reports are online and on file at the Leland Township Office.

Fire & Rescue, Chief Dan Besson

The Department responded to 29 calls last month. They participated in hazardous materials training. Lock down drills and fire drills were done at the schools. The water system from Leland was fixed. Two dead trees were removed from the property. Leland participated in putting out a grass fire. Two dead trees were removed at the Leland station. A tanker was replaced. The Department opted to sell the boat. Suttons Bay will provide service on the lake and Leland will provide ambulance service. The Department is still doing smoke alarm installations.

Planning/Zoning, Tim Cypher

Mitchell – The public hearing for the Master Plan is July 3. The lot coverage amendment will be done at the June meeting.

Harbor, Jeremy Anderson

Dredging is completed. The Harbor is open. The wells have been bleached and the bathrooms are open. He suggested that someone from the Parks and Rec Committee should oversee what is going on at the public bathrooms. Reservations are steady.

Sewer, Steve Patmore (absent)

The administrative transition is going well and saving money. The calcium nitrate treatment will be starting soon.

Parks & Rec

The survey is done. Diamond dust was put on the softball diamond. Volunteers have been working on Hancock Field and Nedow's. The trail on the west side of Provemont has been laid out. Kirch questioned hunting at Provemont Pond while we have bike paths there.

County Commission, Kama Ross

Last week was Public Service Recognition week. Ross is concerned about the roads and will be pursuing help with that. Point Broadband will be signing a contract to finish the work. Having Richard Lewis as the interim administrator has been working well. 39 applications came in for the position. Ross reminded the public of the hazardous waste dates. The Solid Waste Counsel is having a compost workshop. They will be setting the county operational millage tomorrow.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Garthe reported on income and expenses for the last month. The tax settlement with the county has been finalized. It has been business as usual.

**ACTION:** Mitchell moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented; supported by Brookfield. Motion carried.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

A written report was submitted to the Board prior to the meeting. It is on file at the Leland Township Office.

The dock across the river was removed at the boater access site. The Township was not notified prior to its removal. Swapping land with the DNR for ownership of the Leland boater access site is on the Parks and Rec agenda to be discussed. A roundabout will be installed at M22 and 72.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. Approval of July 3<sup>rd</sup> fireworks sponsored by Leland Chamber of Commerce – Mark Morton.

They were able to raise the money needed for the fireworks this year. They are using a different company. A contract is forthcoming to be approved at the next meeting.  
NO ACTION.

2. Approval of road closure for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

**ACTION:** Mitchell moved to approve road closure of M22 from Reynolds to William for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade; supported by Kirch. Motion carried.

3. Approval of monitoring of Van's Beach by the Benzie Leelanau Health Department.

A grant is paying for the monitoring. There will be a sign at the beach about the water monitoring. Someone has to be available when testing is being done and we would have to install the monitoring sign. If needed, someone would also have to put up the advisory sign.

**ACTION:** Mitchell moved to approve monitoring of Van's Beach by the Benzie Leelanau Health Department for 2024; supported by Kirch. Motion carried

4. Contract with Tobin & Co. to provide audit services for fiscal year ending March 2024 not to exceed \$10,050 in total.

It is the same price as last year and is pretty routine from previous years.

**ACTION:** Mitchell moved to contract with Tobin & Co. to provide audit services for fiscal year ending March 2024, not to exceed \$10,050 in total; supported by Garthe. Motion carried.

5. Approve LYC request to use Bartholemew Park for August 2-4, 2024 Barbecruise.

The written request has been submitted. A contract, insurance confirmation, the pre-plan and discussion with the Chief for emergency/fire will be done.

**ACTION:** Brookfield moved to approve LYC's request to use Bartholemew Park for August 2-4, 2024 for the Leland Yacht Club Barbecruise; supported by Mitchell. Motion carried.

6. Purchase of enclosed trailer for transporting election equipment.

Leland's polling station is at the Leland fire station. Currently, the equipment has been moved in an open trailer from 2 different spots to one destination. A closed trailer would provide transportation and storage. Brookfield felt it could be purchased for about \$5000. Brookfield will research the purchase, even a used trailer. The actual voting equipment and the computers would not be kept in the trailer. Those items are locked in a special election room. Kirch has also researched the purchase and found a 7x14 for \$5000. Kirch suggested that it would be an expensive place to keep tables and chairs. If the voting equipment could be stored elsewhere, the trailer could be used for other things. A U-Haul could also be rented. Brookfield feels it is necessary to consolidate the work, a trailer is a good solution, and there is money in the budget.

**ACTION:** Mitchell moved for Brookfield to purchase a closed trailer for up to \$5000 for transporting and storing voting equipment; supported by Brookfield. Motion carried. (4,1)

7. Future CNR park agreement.

The Parks and Rec Committee recommended that the Township investigate a land swap. Rosinski (from the DNR) wants to know what responsibilities the Township wants to take on this year. The public has expressed that they would like porta-johns there. Mitchell doesn't think we ~~should~~ **necessarily have to** maintain the property if we are pursuing a swap. The Township could have a workshop to decide on a viable plan for the Township concerning the launch site, including a land swap. Brookfield would like to wait on maintenance until the Board meets to discuss the options. There have been some letters requesting a solution. In the meantime, should we cut the grass, clean the trash, etc? If the DNR maintained it, what would it look like? The Board agreed that

they should have a workshop and Och asked the Board members to forward questions/concerns to her.

8. Distribution of Master Plan

**ACTION:** Garthe moved to distribute the Master Plan to the various municipalities for review; supported by Mitchell. Motion carried.

9. Hancock Field pump house repair approval.

Volunteers from the Leland Comets Legacy Fund would like to repair the roof of the pumphouse at Hancock Field.

**ACTION:** Mitchell moved to approve the repair of the pump house roof at Hancock Field by the volunteers from the Leland Comets Legacy Fund; supported by Garthe. Motion carried.

10. Appoint Carolyn Telgard to the Sewer Commission for a 3-year term ending July 2027.

**ACTION:** Brookfield moved to appoint Carolyn Telgard to the Sewer Commission for a 3-year term ending July, 2027; supported by Mitchell. Motion carried.

**OTHER/OLD BUSINESS**

Brookfield reported that the purchase of the Borre property easements have been filed. There was contact with EGLE for the extension of the EGLE permit. The Rogers have not responded about their easement. (Later in the meeting, it was learned that the Rogers did respond and approved). We are getting ready to get the bonding process. Bids would go out this summer.

**BILLS AND ACCOUNTS**

The bills and accounts lists were distributed to Board members. There was nothing unusual for the month. There were start-up costs for the parks. There has been a slow increase of labor at Harbor for startup and the dredging.

**ACTION:** Brookfield moved for payment of bills from April 9, 2024 to May 13, 2024; supported by Garthe. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There have been lots of questions about the dock. LLLA is distributing flyers about an invasive species, purple loosestrife with recommendations for removal.

M22 – Brookfield reported that MDOT has decided that the speed limit for M22 is suitable considering the lack of speeding issues on that section of M22. The best that we can do is to ask for assistance. Perhaps residents could put up their own signs. There is a house bill (40.12) in legislation that would give local governments more say about how speed limits are set.

**BOARD COMMENT** - None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Keith Ashley - He knows a lot about trailers and offered Brookfield his help with purchasing one. Concerning Suelzer Park, whatever happens, he urged the Board to retain the name of the park. There is a parcel across the road from the park. He would not like to see a parking lot there.

Steve Mikowski - He commented on the funding of road repairs.

Kathy Dawkins – She asked if a pedestrian crossing could be put on M22. She has observed near accidents on the part of M22 of concern.

Tony Borden – He commented on the importance of the Supervisor’s report. The report should be in writing and available with other meeting documents. It should be on the website.

Other comments -Lucy Schaub, Lisa Mc Connell, Kate Stassen, Barbara Dove, and Carolyn Telgard sent in written comments about their concerns about the seawall by the library.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION:** Mitchell moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.; supported by Brookfield. Motion carried.

The next meeting is June 10, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Kacin, Recording Secretary

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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Susan Och, Leland Township Supervisor

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Lisa Brookfield, Township Clerk