

**Douglass Township
3521 W. McBrides Rd
Stanton, MI 48888
989-762-8014**

**Minutes Regular Board Meeting
May 19, 2026
7 pm**

Call to Order 7pm

Pledge of Allegiance recited

Roll Call

Present: Kathy Rasmussen, Holly Huff, Ken Bunting, Eric Tester, Kristi Cordray

Approval Agenda Items

Motion made by Ken Bunting to approve agenda, seconded by Eric Tester. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0
Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes from Regular meeting April 15, 2026.

Motion made by Ken Bunting to approve minutes, seconded by Eric Tester. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0
Motion passed.

Public Comment on agenda items none

Reports

Treasurer Cordray report

- Provided report on deposits, bank accounts. Shared State Revenue, investments.
- Would like to have Mi Class investments come and do a presentation
- Should we pull the \$81,566.58 CD out (coming due next week) and hold while deciding to invest in MI Class.
- Many municipalities and people at MTA reported great success with MI Class
- Motion made by Holly Huff to pull the money and put in general checking while deciding on investment options, seconded by Ken Bunting. Ayes: 5 Nay: 0. Motion passed.
- Raised the issue of a \$40-110 fee that a family incurred due to a township error from last spring. Kristi Cordray would like to cover the fees of the interest and the penalty for the family. Ken Bunting made a motion to cover the fees, seconded by Eric Tester, Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion passed.
- Motion made by Eric Tester to accept the treasurer report, seconded by Ken Bunting. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion passed.

Clerk Huff report

- Provided a list of checks and bills to pay, added the bill of \$348.00 to Blantech for the reimbursement of the website fees for the previous website.
- Cemetery buy back: a family wants to sell back a cemetery plot to the township, as they won't use them. They paid 50.00 each for 4 spaces. Motion made by Ken Bunting to buy the spaces back for 200.00, seconded by Kristi Cordray. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion passed.
- Motion made by Eric Tester to accept clerk report, seconded by Kathy Rasmussen . Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion passed.

Supervisor Rasmussen report

- Will reach out to Lois Larsen for possible Sexton recognition at the June meeting.
- Offered a budget amendment which increases the mowing at the hall to \$3,000 (this was mistakenly entered as \$500.00 in the original budget), social security and medicare

needs to all be in one line item versus individual departments.

- Kathy Rasmussen made a motion to accept the budget amendment, seconded by Eric Tester. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0.
- Cemetery tree came down, insurance claim filed. There was some damage to old headstones. Another section of the tree came down last night. No property damage occurred, so no claim can be filed. The third section of the tree will likely fall on more headstones, and it is Memorial Day weekend, so time is of the essence on cleanup. This will be approximately \$5000.00 to finish taking down the tree. Eric Tester made a motion to pay up to \$10,000.00 for tree removal, seconded by Kathy Rasmussen. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion passed. Holly Huff will get two quotes.

Trustee Ken Bunting report, Fire board report

- There will be a listening session May 27 at 7 pm at Sidney Township Hall. It is open to the public and various fire entities will be discussing a possible merger.

Trustee Eric Tester report, PC report

- The PC held its public hearing on data center/cryptocurrency. They made the following changes to the draft ordinance: Sound levels were decreased from 45dB to 40dB, and required a closed loop system for water usage. The board will need to decide acreage limits. A data center will be permitted only in the renewable energy overlay zone.
- Zoning maps need to be updated.
- The PC will be reviewing the master plan.
- If someone gets a variance, we need to let the assessor know so information can be updated.
- Eric will let Matt know to contact the assessor for updating zoning maps.

Zoning Administrator Kelsey report

- Dave was not in attendance, but provided a list of permits and violations.
- Two applications from a local builder were not complete with required documentation. Dave has contacted the builder. Another application did not have the correct fee or a date on the check.

Old Business

County blight ordinance

- Kathy and Dave met with the Sheriff, and Kathy has been in contact with the attorney on enforcing the ordinance.
- Dave supports adopting it, feels like it will help him with going to court.
- Discussion occurred on why we need to adopt it, how would our current ordinance proceed.
- Holly Huff made a motion to adopt the county blight ordinance, seconded by Ken Bunting. Further discussion occurred on equitable enforcement, health department involvement. Our current ordinance is in effect, all procedures are still in effect. The county ordinance will come into play if Dave fills out a form for them to get involved if violations are recurring or citations ignored. Roll call vote: Ayes: Kathy Rasmussen, Holly Huff, Kristi Cordray, Ken Bunting. Nays: Eric Tester. Ordinance adopted.

App/texting service for township notifications

- Proposal discussed on using a texting service, as a way to increase communication and notifications.
- General consensus is that it would not be utilized enough to justify the cost of \$3500 per year plus an initial set up fee of \$1750.00

Fire ordinance so we can collect from insurance and utilities

- Reviewed emergency services ordinance provided by the attorney. This would allow us to collect cost recovery fees from insurance companies and utilities after emergency

runs. We would not be assessing any fees on people, this is for insurance and utilities only. Other townships do this. Kathy would handle the paperwork, and needs to get more info on the process. We need to set the fee schedule as well. Ken provided the fees from Sheridan Fire Authority.

- Motion made by Holly Huff to adopt the emergency services ordinance, seconded by Kristi Cordray. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion passed.
- Kathy Rasmussen made a motion to set the fee schedule according to schedule provided by Sheridan Fire authority, seconded by Holly Huff. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion passed.

New Business

Data Center Ordinance

- Discussion on acreage reached consensus that limiting any data center to 200 acres within the REO zone would mitigate environmental damage and remain defensible in court.
- Kathy Rasmussen made a motion to add the language “up to 200 acres” to B. (1) General Provisions, seconded by Holly Huff. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion passed.
- Motion made by Eric Tester to adopt the 2026-02 data center and cryptocurrency ordinance with the change of “up to 200 acres” in B. (1) General Provisions, seconded by Kathy Rasmussen. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0. Motion passed.

Siding quotes

- 3 quotes considered, all reasonable quotes.
- Motion made by Holly Huff to hire Stanton Glass for new siding on the building for \$25,131.48 seconded by Eric Tester. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0.
- Will ask for color samples for the June meeting.

Cemetery repairs

- Per the insurance company, the equipment for the cemetery needs to be stored on township property. The current state of the shed does not allow for this.
- Discussed quote for shed repairs at the cemetery. Consensus reached to pursue getting rid of the old bathroom building and using that spot for a new shed. Holly and Ken will get quotes.

Announcements none

Next meeting date June 17, 2026 7 pm

Public Comment

- A resident thanked the board for everything and appreciates the detail.
- Matt Murray, county commissioner introduced himself and provided updates from the county.

Board Comments none

Adjournment

Motion made by Eric Tester to adjourn, seconded by Holly Huff . Ayes: 5 Nays:0 Meeting adjourned at 9:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Rasmussen
Holly Huff

