

Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

A regular meeting of the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 5:30pm by Supervisor Chad Skinner.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Mike Bjork, Karen Mallon, Chad Skinner, Dave Smith—~~Absent:~~ Stacey Watters.

Department members present: Andy Fleming and Stu Creel. Absent: Tammy Hendrickson, Dan Kurtz

Public in attendance: Joanne Burns, Pat Marcinak, Gordon Marcinak, Mark Taylor, Janet Taylor, Paul Dalpra, Arlene Dalpra, Mike Webb, Gene Dziubinski, Bob Flood, Al Ginarasi, Brian Schiavo, Frederic Cleary, Charyl McCole.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Bjork to approve agenda as presented. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Smith to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2025 minutes with the correction of the listed date September 13, 2025 to September 14, 2025. Support: Mallon. All ayes; no nays. Motion Carried.

AUDIT REPORT: CLA representative Scott Sternhagen was present to report on the 2024-2025 Audit. Sternhagen reported that the Township is in good financial position and was given the highest opinion a township can receive, stating that the township not only meets but exceeds expectations. (The budget report is available for public review at the Township Hall in the Clerk's office.)

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REVIEW: Bjork reported to the Board that he reviewed payables and payroll for checks numbers 32361 to 32644 noting that check number 32672 in the amount of \$23,641.40 was for the purchase of the fire departments new 800mhz radios. Motion by Smith to approve payables and payroll as submitted. Support: Mallon. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Not Submitted.

Clerk: Written and submitted. Mallon advised the Board that Terry Skinner has entered her resignation as Hall Cleaner. Mallon further advised as the Office Manager that she will clean the hall as part of the Office Manager duties unless the Board wanted to hire the position out. Hall will be cleaned by the Office Manager.

Supervisor: Skinner advised nothing to report from his office.

Road Commission Report: Smith reported he attended the October 14, 2025 Road Commission meeting. Smith reported the Road Commission is working on paving projects, mowing along roadways, grating roads. Work on the 424 washout is planned and should be done before winter. Completed road projects in Mastodon Township include: Kalla Walla Road, Armstrong Road. ICRC Manager Toivonen will be reporting on the Treeline lawsuit and sending information to Skinner.

Assessor: Written and submitted.

Fire Chief: Written and submitted. Fleming reported that the new radios are in hand and programmed.

Zoning Administrator: Written report submitted.

Planning Commission: Next meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2025 at 5:00 pm. The Recreation Plan survey is completed and online on the website. A QR code and paper survey are available at the Township Hall. All are encouraged to complete the survey. Work on the Zoning Ordinance continues. This will roll into the Recreation Plan and the Master Plan.

Recreational Committee: Written draft minutes have been submitted.

Village of Alpha: No report offered.

Maintenance: Written and submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Agenda Items. Joanne Burns of Lake Mary questioned why the Lake Mary SAD resolution or motion to move forward was not done as presented in the minutes of the September, 14, 2025 regular board meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Jacobs Lawsuit Settlement: Motion by Skinner to agree to move forward with settlement as recommended by Attorney Pete Ryan and not collect any attorney fees from defendant Jacobs. Support Bjork. Call to vote: Mallon – yes; Skinner – yes; Watters – yes; Smith – yes; Bjork – yes. Motion carried.

Thrasher Update: Smith reported that the Thrasher has been cleaned up. Work on the thrasher has been done by the tractor club and volunteers. Smith requested permission to move the Thrasher to the township pole building.

Lake Mary SAD: Discussion held regarding the township's role administering the Lake Mary SAD. Watters reported that a new software program from BS&A would be cost prohibitive. The special assessment will be placed on the regular tax bill; there will be no separate bill. Mallon reported that Exhibit A as presented to the board itemizes expected costs for the three-year period. Based on conversations that Mallon has had with other government units and the township attorney, she believes that the costs presented could be receptive to all property owners. Mallon indicated that if the costs for the treatment of the lake came in higher than reported, she expects that the Lake Mary Association will pay for the difference as they have indicated numerous times to the Township Board. For 81 parcels, Mallon reported that the cost per parcel would be \$474.35.

Motion by Bjork to approve Lake Mary Aquatic Weeds – Special Assessment District Resolution 2025-1014-001. Support: Mallon. Call to vote. Roll call: Skinner – yes; Watters – no; Smith – no; Bjork – yes; Mallon – yes. Motion carried. Resolution 2025-1014-001 adopted.

Resolution 2025-1014-002 was presented to the Board. Discussion held regarding the Supervisor and the Assessor certifying the Lake Mary SAD roll. Having certified them, discussion was held on when a public hearing could take based on proper notification to the parcel owners. It was determined that a public hearing would be held on Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the township hall to present the certified roll to the Lake Mary parcel owners and the public.

Motion by Mallon to approve Lake Mary Aquatic Weeds – Special Assessment District Resolution 2025-1014-002. Support: Bjork. Call to vote: Skinner – yes; Watters – No, Smith – yes; Bjork – yes; Mallon – yes. Motion carried. Resolution 2025-1014-002 adopted. Mallon will make proper notice in the paper, on the website and to the parcel owners.

NEW BUSINESS:

Inter Local Assessor Agreement from Iron County was presented by Skinner at the request of the Iron County Board of Commissioners. This agreement allows for Iron County to opt out of a designated county assessor which would then

place the burden of each unit of local government in Iron County to designate an assessor in the event the assessor of record could not perform his/her duties for the particular local unit.

Motion by Skinner to enter into the Local Assessor Agreement with Iron County. Support: Smith. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

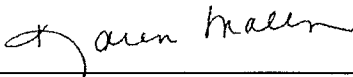
PUBLIC COMMENT: Joanne Burns of Lake Mary thanked the Board for passing the Lake Mary SAD resolutions. Charyl McCole of the Village of Alpha would like information on how she can be placed on the agenda. GEI Representative informed the Board that the State of Michigan DNR Trust Fund Grant system has funding available for recreation projects. It is a 25% match by the township. The recreation plan must be adopted by February 1, 2026 and the application completed by April 1, 2026 in order to be considered for grant funding. Bjork advised that the recreation survey is available and on hand here tonight either by paper survey or by QR code and asked that everyone take the time and complete a survey.

BOARD COMMENTS: None

DETAILS OF NEXT MEETING: November 11, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the Township Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjork to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 pm. Support: Smith. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the draft minutes of the October 14, 2025, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 12th day of November, 2025.



Karen Mallon, Clerk