

Mastodon Township Board Meeting Draft Minutes

Meeting Date: May 12, 2026

Time: 5:30pm

Location: 1371 US Hwy 2 South, Crystal Falls, MI 49920

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Skinner at 5:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Chad Skinner, Stacey Watters, Dave Smith, Mike Bjork and Karen Mallon.

Board Members Absent: None

Township Employees Present: Dan Kurtz, Tammy Hendrickson, Andy Flemming, Stu Creel

Public Attendees:

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Bjork supported by Watters to approve the agenda as presented. Call to vote. All ayes, motion carried.

Approval of April 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Skinner and support by Mallon to approve the April 14, 2026 Regular Board meeting minutes with the spelling correction to be made on page 3 under Public Comments: Furhter misspelled; correction Further. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Accounts Payable and Payroll Review

Discussion by Mallon regarding invoice from the Iron County Chamber of Commerce for annual support in the amount of \$1,338.00. Mallon requested that the Board vote to approve this invoice as it was not approved at the April 14, 2026 meeting.

Bjork reviewed accounts payable and payroll. Motion by Skinner to approve accounts payable checks 33032 to 33033 in the amount of \$28,270.16 from General fund, invoices 14506-14532 from General Fund in the amount of \$25,353.46, and Invoice 14516 from the Water Account in the amount of \$34.13, to approve payroll checks 33015-33023 and direct deposits 1374-1384 in the amount of \$14,249.85, and approve payment to the Iron County Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$1,338.00. Support by Watters. Call to vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reports

Treasurer Report: Written and submitted

Clerk Report: Written and submitted. Mallon advised Board she will not be present for the June 9 meeting.

Supervisor Report: Supervisor reported on road work to be done on US 2 with culverts and guardrails. Supervisor reminded all present that Spring Clean Up Day is Saturday, June 20, 2026 from 8:00am until noon. A 10 tire limit is set for recycling on that day.

Road Commission Report: No report; no meeting.

Assessor's Report: Written and submitted

Fire Chief's Report: Written and submitted

Planning Commission Report: No report; no meeting

Zoning Administrator's Report: Written and submitted

Recreation Committee Report: No report; no meeting.

Village of Alpha Report: No report submitted

Maintenance Report: Written and submitted. All trees have been cut, cleared up and done. Kurtz advised the Board that the skidsteer tires need to be replaced. He is requesting authorization to purchase 4 (four) new tires from Amazon. Price is estimated at \$1,500.00. Motion by Skinner to approve the purchase of tires for the skidsteer in the amount of \$1,500.00. Support by Smith. Call to vote. All ayes. Motion passed.

Kurtz is requesting authorization to purchase approximately \$350.00 for parts to repair the bucket of the skidsteer. This is within the approved budget. Purchase can be made. Kurtz also advised that the cost to run power to Buck Lake Park is \$448.00. Bjork advised that this is approved with the budget. Would like to see bids for the work.

Smith thanked Kurtz for the response and work done at the Camp 5 facility.

Public Comment – None

Unfinished Business

Short Term Rental Discussion: Board requests that the Planning Commission review Short Term Rentals in Mastodon Township. Bjork will take this information to the Planning Commission for discussion at the May 20, 2026 meeting.

Agreement for Law Enforcement Services

Discussion: Mallon presented the Board with information she gathered from the Iron County Sheriff regarding UPSET activity in the county and specifically Mastodon Township. Mallon requests that Mastodon Township support UPSET with funding in the amount of \$1500.00 to be paid from retail marijuana funds received by the State of Michigan. Motion by Bjork to support UPSET in the amount of \$1,500.00. Support by Mallon. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Reimbursement of Late Fees – Tax Payment/Michael Borkowski

Discussion: Mallon presented the Board with information at the request of property owner Michael Borkowski. Borkowski claimed he made attempts to receive a Mastodon Township Winter Tax Bill for property he purchased mid-November 2025. Borkowski claimed he never received requested information, and subsequently paid his winter tax bill late, accruing late charges and interest in the amount of \$466.74. Motion by Mallon to reimburse Mr. Borkowski \$466.74 for accrued late charges and interest on his 2025 Winter Tax bill. No support for this motion was given. Motion failed.

New Business

Logging Discussion – Mastodon Township Property 198 Acres

Discussion: Smith advised the Board that forest management is necessary for the 198 acres owned by the township. Smith requested that a request for proposal be placed in the local newspaper for a consulting forester to assist the Township in the management of said property by logging certain trees. Request for proposals deadline to the Township is June 9, 2026. Motion by Mallon to advertise a request for proposal for a consulting forester to help the Township with management of trees on Township Property. Support by Bjork. Call to vote. All ayes. Motion passed.

Buck Lake Special Assessment District

Discussion: Mallon advised the Board that a Citizen Request for Special Assessment for weed eradication at Buck Lake was presented to the Township with support of 51% of the property owners. The first resolution in a series of four resolutions was presented.

Motion by Mallon to adopt Resolution 2026-0512-001 Buck Lake Aquatic Weeds – Special Assessment District.

Support by Skinner. Roll call: Skinner – yes; Watters – yes; Smith – yes; Bjork – yes; Mallon – yes. Resolution adopted.

Public hearing date is set for Friday, June 5, 2026 at 5:30 pm. Notice will be placed in the Iron County reporter, will be

placed at a prominent location at the Township Hall and all Buck Lake property owners will receive notice by first class mail.

Other Business

Election Commission Meeting Date to appoint Election Inspectors: Mallon advised the Board the Mastodon Election Commission is comprised of the Clerk, the Supervisor and the Treasurer. A meeting date is required to be scheduled to appoint Election Inspectors for the 2026 Election Season. Training is being held by the County Clerk on June 16 – June 18, 2026 at the County Building. Past Election Inspectors have been advised and scheduled for training.

Board Member Comments

Mallon again advised the Board that she will be out of town on June 9, 2026 for the next Board Meeting. Her Deputy, Sherie Courchaine will take the minutes of the June 9, 2026 Board meeting.

Public Comment

John Rogers and Carrie Rogers, Lake Mary Property owners d discussed their opposition to the Board regulating Short Term Rentals. Both stated they believed it is government over reach when a governmental unit “tells” property owners how their land can be used. Both stated that short term rentals do have their place in Mastodon Township.

Details of the Next Meeting

The next Regular Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 5:30 pm. Mallon reminded the Board that there will be a Special Meeting on Friday, June 5, 2026 at 5:30 pm regarding a proposed Special Assessment for Buck Lake property owners.

Adjournment

Motion by Bjork and supported by Skinner to adjourn the meeting at 6:47pm

Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the May 12, 2026, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 15th day of June 2026.

Karen Mallon, Clerk

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Mallon, Mastodon Township Clerk