

Powell Township Board Meeting
P.O. Box 319, 101 Bensinger St., Big Bay MI 49808
April 15, 2025
Minutes

1. Call to Order at 7:02 P.M. by the Supervisor.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call of Officers – Levi Ellis (Supervisor) present; Daryl Wilcox (Treasurer) present; Sharon Mattis (Clerk) absent; Stephen Girard (Trustee) present; Denise Hudson (Trustee) present.
4. Approval of Agenda – **Motion** to approve Agenda with the following addition (Daryl Wilcox, Stephen Girard). All in favor, motion carried.
 - Add #18: Approve six (6) Planning Commission members' attendance at a Michigan Association of Planning (M.A.P.) Workshop on May 14, 2025, at Northern Michigan University. Cost is \$80.00 per person for a full day, \$65.00 per person for a half day.
5. Approval of Minutes – **Motion** to approve March 18, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes (Denise Hudson, Daryl Wilcox). All in favor, motion carried.
6. Revenue & Expenditure Report – **Motion** to approve March 2025 Revenue & Expenditure Report (Daryl Wilcox, Stephen Girard). All in favor, motion carried.
7. Budget Amendments Report – **Motion** to approve March 2025 Budget Amendments Report (Levi Ellis, Stephen Girard). All in favor, motion carried.
8. Treasurer's Report - **Motion** to approve Treasurer's Report (Levi Ellis, Stephen Girard). All in favor, motion carried.
9. Approval of Bills – **Motion** to approve Bills to be Paid (Levi Ellis, Stephen Girard). All in favor, motion carried.
10. Committee & Department Reports:
 - a. Ambulance Department: K. Bourgeois for J. Boudreaux/Ambulance Coordinator:
 - i. There were five (5) calls since the last meeting.
 - ii. The ambulance broke down during one call. We were able to work with ambulance partners for a successful intercept.

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- iii. When a breakdown such as this happens, we have the essential equipment in the garage, and we respond with our personal vehicles using this equipment. We then meet up with ambulance partners for an intercept.
 - iv. The City of Marquette Fleet Maintenance Facility fixed a few things, and the ambulance is working again.
 - v. We received the new LUCAS CPO device and completed the required crew training to use the device. It is now in the rig and is ready and able to be used.
 - vi. We applied for three (3) sources for LifePack funding and responses are pending.
- b. Emergency Management: K. Bourgeois/EMS: We would like to continue the Food Bank for another month on May 7 and May 21, 2025, and will coordinate with the Clerk's Office to post notices.
- c. Fire Department: M. Anderson/Fire Chief:
- i. There were two (2) incidents since the last meeting.
 - ii. One incident was a structure fire. We had a very successful response and a good turnout. We were able to contain a fire to one (1) room in the basement. The fire had potential to be more damaging. Kudos to the first responders.
 - iii. The other incident was due to a power line sparking on a tree during a recent snowstorm.
 - iv. We will conduct annual breathing apparatus fit testing at our next Fire Department monthly meeting. Marquette Township Fire Department will be in attendance.
 - v. We are purchasing materials and waiting on one window before the planned drywall work begins.
- d. Parks and Recreation Department: C. Sorby/Committee Member:
- i. Spark Grant and Draver Park - Hall Contracting is the bidder, the start date is roughly the 3rd week of May, and we are looking to get into the existing structures and remove any valuables beforehand. The project completion goal is mid-September.
 - ii. Safe Routes to School Grant – Mike Springer will give a presentation to the Powell Township School on April 23, 2025. It will be the school's decision on if/how to proceed.
 - iii. The Committee advertised and is still seeking volunteer(s) for the Big Bay Relay on May 17, 2025. If interested in sponsoring or

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volunteering, contact Heidi Shatz or Marcia Gonstead. You can also support the people racing by coming out to the event, on the sidelines, or around town. For example, the finish line area is a great place to cheer and congratulate participants.

- Big Bay Relay – It is May 17, and volunteer(s) are needed
 - Easter Egg Hunt – We had 30 participants; a big thanks to Darlene Turner for leading the event. We are looking forward to moving the event to Draver Park in 2026.
 - Fire on the Bay – Levi Ellis is the fundraising chair. We have a band for the event, and we are looking for a location that is accessible to all. We welcome any ideas on a venue.
 - Holiday Tree Lighting – Laurie Shaw is in charge.
- iv. Powell Township 5-Year Recreation Plan update: CUPPAD is working on updates with our point of contact, Jessica Walter.
- v. Noquemanon Trail Network is still looking at our Memorandum of Understanding and plans to meet with the Parks and Recreation Committee in person soon to discuss items.
- e. Planning Commission: D. Hudson/Trustee:
- i. No report this month. Last month we did not have a quorum. We do have an opening on the Planning Commission. Applicant interviews will occur in the near future.
 - ii. I requested that the Chair update the Powell Township Board on all current ordinances in a report format, so that the Board can verify or update items as needed.
 - iii. The next Planning Commission Meeting is May 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.
- f. Sewer Department: C. Sorby for S. DeMoulin:
- i. We are working with Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to ensure compliance with sewer service licensing requirements.
 - ii. We are working on ordering and replacing a counter damaged on one of the wastewater lagoons.
 - iii. No other known issues.
- g. Water Department: C. Sorby/Water Operator:
- i. There were two (2) incidents this month.
 - ii. One was a minor power glitch requiring us to re-establish communication links.

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- iii. The other was during Sunday's lightning storm, which caused a rare issue where software was deleted. We filled the water tower manually Sunday and Monday until it was fixed. Jeff Talsma responded quickly and fixed the software issue.
- iv. We are waiting on the approved new fire hydrants and working on scheduling their installation.

11. Correspondence:

- a. From Meagen Morrison (Eagle Mine): There will be an Eagle Mine Community Forum, June 3, 5:30 – 7:00 P.M., at Powell Township Hall, and dinner is provided.
- b. From Powell Township Assessor Dylan Jurasin: Decision letters were mailed on March 18, 2025, to every taxpayer who petitioned the 2025 March Board of Review.
- c. From Powell Township: The Township truck is back. The cost of repairs was approximately \$2,000.00 less than expected and approved at a previous board meeting.

12. Presentations: A Safe Routes to School Grant presentation is tabled to May 20, 2025.

Public Comment: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- 1. **Motion** to approve a \$25.00 payment per attending Board member for the May 14, 2025, Michigamme Township Banquet. Maximum cost is \$125.00 (Levi Ellis, Daryl Wilcox). All in favor, motion carried.
- 2. **Motion** to approve the use of Town Hall for regular Veterans' meetings, no more than twice a month, at no cost (Daryl Wilcox, Stephen Girard). All in favor, motion carried.
- 3. Parks and Recreation: **Motion** to table approving a re-application for the Safe Routes to School Grant. (Levi Ellis, Daryl Wilcox). All in favor, motion

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carried.

4. Parks and Recreation: **Motion** to approve an initial \$33,689.57 payment for the Draver Park playground equipment (Levi Ellis, Denise Hudson). All in favor, motion carried.
5. Parks and Recreation: **Motion** to approve the \$1,000.00 Fire on the Bay 2025 Johnson property rental agreement for signature and payment (Daryl Wilcox, Levi Ellis). All in favor, motion carried.
6. Ambulance Department: **Motion** to approve adding Brian Roell to the department as an ambulance driver (Denise Hudson, Daryl Wilcox). All in favor, motion carried.
7. Ambulance Department: **Motion** to approve an \$877.20 payment to “Upper Peninsula Health System – Marquette” for additional February-March intercept fees (Daryl Wilcox, Stephen Girard). All in favor, motion carried.
8. Ambulance Department: **Motion** to approve a \$37.09 payment to Advance Auto Parts for Unit 161 Ambulance maintenance and fuel filter (Daryl Wilcox, Stephen Girard). All in favor, motion carried.
9. Ambulance Department: **Motion** to approve a \$1,447.72 payment to Marquette Fleet Maintenance Facility for Unit 161 Ambulance parts and labor costs (Daryl Wilcox, Stephen Girard). All in favor, motion carried.
10. Ambulance Department: **Motion** to approve a \$552.33 payment from training funds to Lexipole for annual renewal of online “Fire Rescue 1 Academy” training software (Denise Hudson, Daryl Wilcox). All in favor, motion carried.
11. Fire Department: **Motion** to approve a \$721.58 payment from training funds to Lexipole for annual renewal of online “Fire Rescue 1 Academy” training software (Daryl Wilcox, Denise Hudson). All in favor, motion carried.
12. Fire Department: **Motion** to approve Anthony Fortunato as a Firefighter Candidate (Daryl Wilcox, Stephen Girard). All in favor, motion carried.

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13. Fire Department: **Motion** to approve a \$400.00 payment from professional services funds for a MIOSHA Part 74 Pre-Employment Physical for Firefighter Candidate Anthony Fortunato (Denise Hudson, Daryl Wilcox). All in favor, motion carried.
14. Fire Department: **Motion** to approve a \$275.00 payment to the Marquette Township Fire Department for MIOSHA-required annual SCBA Mask Fit Testing (Daryl Wilcox, Levi Ellis). All in favor, motion carried.
15. Fire Department: **Motion** to approve a DNR Mutual Aid Agreement 5-year renewal for use of DNR Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) Vehicles (Levi Ellis, Daryl Wilcox). All in favor, motion carried.
16. Cemetery Department: **Motion** to approve a \$193.97 reimbursement payment from Veterans Memorial expense funds to Michael Thoma for an outdoor speaker set for memorial events (Stephen Girard, Daryl Wilcox). All in favor, motion carried.
17. **Motion** to approve sending a request to Marquette County Road Commission to use the Township Hall's surplus parking area for township use (Daryl Wilcox, Levi Ellis). All in favor, motion carried.
18. **Motion** to approve six (6) Planning Commission members' attendance at a Michigan Association of Planning (M.A.P.) Workshop on May 14, 2025, at Northern Michigan University. Cost is \$80.00 per person for a full day, \$65.00 per person for a half day (Levi Ellis, Daryl Wilcox). All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Board Comment:

- L. Ellis: Thank you to Anthony Fortunato for stepping up and volunteering for the Fire Department. We are looking for more volunteers.

Next Meeting: Regular Board Meeting May 20, 2025, 7:00 P.M.

Adjourn 7:33 P.M.

Minutes prepared by: M. Mramor, Deputy Clerk