

# SAUBLE TOWNSHIP BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

### February 9, 2026

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:00 pm

**MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**ROLL CALL:** Mary Ann Nugent-present, Gail Raad-present, Beth Acker-present, Bill Rodgers-absent, Tracy Baker-present.

**Agenda:**

Add under new business Board of Review expense of \$90. Raad motion to approve the agenda with revision with a second from Baker. All in favor. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:**

Acker motion to approve January 12,2026 board meeting minutes with a second from Nugent. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Board Reports:**

- **Supervisor:** Reminder March board meeting is March 23, 2026, at 6 PM.
- **Clerk:**
  - Spoke with Teri Bolek & Bolek's Lawncare will submit proposal for 2026 season.
  - Ric Kortman's hall lighting proposal given to all board members.
  - Received from Dykema law firm a request for Grant of Franchise to Great Lakes Cooperative.
    - Copies of ordinance given to each board member.
    - Ordinance will provide authorization for the Cooperative to provide broadband high-speed fiber internet to Sauble Township residents.
    - Will vote on Ordinance at the March 23, 2026, board meeting.
    - Reimbursement from Mason County Eastern School District for August election will be received this month.
  - Early Voting Notice will be mailed to Sauble residents in March.

Nugent motion to approve bills and payroll with a second from Acker. All in favor. Motion carried.

- **Treasurer:**
  - Read balances in the township funds.
  - BS&A encouraging moving to the Cloud which is more costly. Will continue to keep desktop version as long as possible.

Raad motion to accept and approve treasurer's report as presented with a second from Nugent. All in favor. Motion carried.

- **Trustees:**
  - Baker met with Mr. Skinner regarding installation of ADA ramp for hall entrance. Will submit proposal at a later date.

**Dignitary Reports:**

**Gary Nugent, SEE Fire Bd, JBA, Support Chair:** Sauble had total of two runs. Twenty-six total runs in January. Last year there were twenty-two runs.

**Fire Chief, Joel Boyer:** Spoke about the availability of free smoke alarms (10-year lithium battery). SEE FD will install in residence. If a disabled resident, a free smoke alarm can be ordered that has features to address hearing/seeing disability. Contact Fire Chief at [chief@ironsfiredept.com](mailto:chief@ironsfiredept.com) for information. Nugent will also post on township website.

**County Commissioner, Mike Seroczynski:** Not present.

**Lake County Sheriff, Richard Martin:** 1). Christmas Toy giveaway was held at Luther Lions Club. 175 children received four toys. 2). Coalition with Baldwin churches to present a program called REACT to Baldwin middle schoolers. 3). Signs to slow down to be installed on Hawkins Road in Chase Township. Requesting donations to cover cost of \$1700. 4). Sheriff department has a great relationship with judge and magistrate.

**Lake County Road Commission:** Not present.

**Assessor, Jessica Johnson:** Submitted her report to the township board. Dates for Board of Review were included in her report.

**Planning:** Three (3) vacancies available.

**Board of Review:** Two new members and the alternate member will be resigning, which leaves that position vacant.

**Community Garden:** Closed for the season.

**Luther Library Board:** Ann Baker is not present.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- **POLICY MANUAL WORK**

- Chapter 4 Financial Administration (4.20 – 4.38)

- **BLIGHT ORDINANCE**

- Discussed cost to township to repeal ordinance – under \$3000.
- Township currently does not have a Blight Code Enforcement Officer.
- Blight issues are an ongoing problem and never resolved.

Raad motion to begin process in April 2026 of repealing the Sauble Township Blight Ordinance with a second from Nugent. Roll call vote to repeal the Ordinance: Raad, yes; Nugent, yes; Acker, yes; Baker, yes. Four ayes. Motion carried.

- **ROAD PROJECTS 2026**

- Discussion with Shawn MacDougall, Foreman, LCRC, west side of Lake County regarding recommended projects within our Budget
- Two full brines – same cost as in 2025.
- Full chip-seal N Bass Lake RD (6 Mile, south to 5 Mile) Cost to be @ \$75,000.00.
- Edge 5 ft chip-seal continuing east on 5 Mile (Bloody Run Hill to Brooks RD) Work performed by LCRC.

- **VENEMA VS SAUBLE TOWNSHIP LAWSUIT – Feb 3, 2026, Hearing Update**

- Venema's have twenty-one days to hire attorney to represent them in court.

- **BUDGET WORKSHOP UPDATE –**

- Collecting proposals for 2026 projects
- Identifying proposed collections, income, expenditures, SADs, etc.
- Special Budget Meeting on Monday, March 9, 2026, 1 PM

#### **New Business:**

- **RESOLUTION - 05-2026 - To Establish Salary of Township Clerk Beginning with the Fiscal Year That Commences April 1, 2026; and to Repeal All Resolutions in Conflict Herewith**

- Clerk will not receive extra \$300 for each election.
- Clerk does not receive extra compensation as FOIA Coordinator.
- Many non-statutory duties are fulfilled by clerk with no extra compensation.

Nugent motion to increase salary of clerk beginning with the fiscal year that commences April 1, 2026, and to repeal all resolutions in conflict herewith with a second from Baker. Roll call vote; Raad, abstained; Nugent, yes; Acker, no; Baker, yes. Motion carried. two ayes, one no and one abstention.

- **Planning Commission date change.**
  - April meeting changed from April 7, 2026, to April 14, 2026.
  - Meeting change will be posted on outside board, website and in the Lake County Star.
- **Board of Review Cost of training.**

Raad motion to approve cost of \$90 for three Board of Review members to attend online training with a second from Baker. All in favor. Motion carried.

- **Public Comment:** One comment at 7:06 PM
- **Board Remarks:** None
- **Adjournment:** Raad motion to adjourn the board meeting at 7:07 PM with a second by Nugent. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Raad, Sauble Township Clerk