

SAUBLE TOWNSHIP BOARD SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 2, 2026

LOCATION: SAUBLE TOWNSHIP HALL

CALL TO ORDER: 1:04 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mary Ann Nugent, Gail Raad, Beth Acker, Tracy Baker, Bill Rodgers.

AGENDA: Move township road projects to top of unfinished business. Add approval of 1/12 & 1/19 meeting minutes. Add MTA Principles of Governance to new business. Nugent motion to accept the revised agenda moving township road projects to top of unfinished business, approving 1/12 & 1/19 meeting minutes, and adding MTA Principles of Governance to new business with a second from Acker. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

Acker motion to approve January 19, 2026, special meeting minutes with a second from Baker. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business:

- **Road Projects:**

Sean MacDougall, LCRC Foreman, stated that costs for chip/seal is the same as last year.

- Two miles of full road chip and seal is \$70,000. Four miles of five footers is also the same cost.
- A full chip and seal on Bass Lake Road from 6 Mile Rd to 5 Mile Rd. as well as five footers by Bloody Run.
- Mr. McDugal will send a cost proposal on the above two projects to Nugent.

- **Township Projects**

1. Nugent reported that the cost of a digital outdoor sign like Mason County Eastern School's is \$28,000. Nugent will check for less costly digital signs.
2. Raad met with Ric Kortman regarding upgrade of lighting in the hall, supervisor office, kitchen, two motion lights. Ric did not take measurements so will return today, 2/2, to provide quote. He does not install mini splits and will quote electrical in the spring if digital sign is purchased.
3. Acker left several messages for Daniel Siefka (517-398-1609), but he has not returned her calls. She will contact Zac Alfrejd (231-510-9900) to provide a quote for soffit/fascia on the fire station.
4. Baker contacted John Bennet, but he does not repair/replace steps. Baker contacted Rick Skinner, a few hundred dollars to remove concrete. Raad will contact Bureau of Elections regarding ADA ramp requirements. Raad will send it to Baker who will then contact Mr. Skinner for a quote.
5. Nugent will contact Jeff Mather and John Frueh for costs of a Sauble Township building sign.
6. Nugent provided examples of two solar lights for the flagpole. Cost is \$70 on Amazon.
7. Water heater and office mini split are removed as potential projects in 2026.

- **Venema VS Sauble Township lawsuit hearing will be held on February 3, 2026, 10:00 AM, Nugent and Raad will attend.**

- **Questions answered by township Attorney**
 1. ISF LOSB \$3 charge for returned checks. Acker contacted County Treasurer and LOSB cannot charge the township the \$3 fee. Township could charge the taxpayer a \$25 fee; however, the township Attorney would have to write a policy. Township will not pursue as ISF checks are negligible.
 2. Depending on the pending lawsuit and its dismissal, a possibility to recoup attorney fees is possible.
 3. The township board has the responsibility to repeal the blight ordinance. Further discussion will take place at the February 9th board meeting. \$3000+ was the cost to repeal zoning ordinance.
- **Proposed revenue for 2026-2027 budget began.**
 1. Acker provided revenues; however, will need carry over on incomes for General, Road, Public Improvement and Liquor funds. Will provide more detail at the next special meeting.
 2. Election costs will increase due to 3 elections & 2 early voting days.
 3. No township audit in 2026 and decrease in zoning expenses.
 4. Raad requested a salary increase to \$15,000 per year citing increase in election duties and other non-statutory duties she performs.
 5. A salary resolution will be submitted at the February 9th board meeting.

New Business:

- **MTA Principles of Governance**
 - Township board members signed and posted on the hall bulletin board.
- **Next Special Meeting**
 - Monday, March 9, 2026, at 1 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Board Remarks: None

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Nugent with a second by Acker at 3:43 PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Raad

Gail Raad, Sauble Township Clerk