

**Heath Township
Meeting Minutes
July 2019**

1. Call to order

The regular monthly meeting of the Heath Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Ron Jones at 7:00 on July 8, 2019 at the township hall. Hilda opened with prayer.

2. Roll call

Supervisor Ron Jones, Clerk Sheila Meiste, Treasurer, Misti Lindholm, Trustee Hilda Boerman, Trustee Bill Harvey.

3. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Previous months minutes were approved.

4. Reports

Jim Storey, County Commissioner was absent. He submitted the following report:

1. Jail population is reaching the upper limit and the corrections director is working with judges and prosecutors to determine if there are some inhabitants of the jail that may be safely released early to reduce the jail population.
2. Wishbone Animal housing, whom the county contracts with, is seeking more funds to improve the animal control facility and the Dumont County complex.
3. Negotiations have started with the various labor organizations that represent county employees for contracts which expire on December 31.
4. The Board of Commissioners approved a resolution authorizing the retroactive increase of rate of delivery of senior meals for the Allegan Community Action for the month of April. The old rate was \$3.02 per meal, the new rate is \$3.67. Funding for the meals is provided by the senior millage.
5. The Chief Public Defender has started staffing his office to provide indigent defense formerly provided by court appointed private attorneys. Establishment of this office is mandated by state law and undertaken jointly by Allegan and VanBuren county.

5. New business

a) 1.18 miles of gravel for 41st St. from M-40 to 128th Avenue at a cost of \$18,636. Motion by Harvey supported by Boerman and unanimously approved.

b) Hilda met with Rosemary from the county. Due to increased costs imposed upon the United States' recycling market by China, there will be increased costs to the approved surcharge recycling rate. A recommendation of the new recycling surcharge rate and a packet will be forthcoming from the Board of Commissioners. This will be on the ballot in 2020. The recycling program is run by the county. Hilda was also told that Republic

has not renewed their license on the transfer station on M40 and will be selling the property.

c) The bathroom faucets have been left running in the restrooms by residents. We will look into getting sensors on the faucets.

d) Board approved a new outdoor sign to replace the current one. It will say Heath Township Offices and Hamilton Fire Rescue. The cost will be shared between the two entities.

e) Helen Zeerip updated the board on the Hamilton Area Veteran's Memorial. There is enough money to start the project and hopefully ground will be broken the week of July 22. Motion by Boerman supported by Lindholm and unanimously supported to approve as presented.

6. Zoning update

a) The Planning Commission will be meeting Thursday, July 18 at 7:00 p.m.

7. Bills

a) Motion by Boerman supported by Lindholm to pay township bills.

b) Motion by Meiste supported by Boerman to pay fire department bills.

8. Adjournment

a) Motion by Boerman supported by Harvey to adjourn the meeting at 7:35.

Minutes submitted by Clerk Sheila Meiste.