

**South Branch Township**  
**August 8, 2023**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Unapproved**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. Attending: Sylvester, Barkley, Barritt, Janisse, and Nelson.  
Pledge of Allegiance.

Attending: Chief Umphrey

**Motion** by Nelson and second by Barkley to accept agenda as presented. Ayes: All. Nays: None.  
Motion passed.

**Motion** by Nelson and second by Barkley to accept consent agenda, July Regular Meeting Minutes, July bills and invoices paid, the Treasurer's Report, Fire/EMS Report, and projected bills for August, as presented. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed.

**Fire/EMS:**

Reviewed Crawford County E-911 Service Plan. Trustee Janisse has concerns with paging systems and after lengthy discussion it was asked if Chief Umphrey could reach out to County Administrator Compo to determine what is the plan for paging. **Motion** by Janisse, second by Nelson to follow township policy and approve Arbor Professional Solutions to pursue collection of ambulance fees. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed. Reviewed Fire/EMS report. **Motion** by Janisse, second by Barkley to approve pay scales for FF and EMT based on experience and training as presented by Chief Umphrey. Pay schedule will be as follows: EMT/FF 1 & 2 – 18.90 (approved 2023-24 budget), EMT – 15.25, MFR/FF 1 & 2 – 16.25, Fire pay for non-trained personnel – 16.00 to show, 13.50 per hour. **Motion** was amended by Janisse, with support from Barkley, that the pay scale will be on a temporary basis through March 31, 2024 and will be reviewed. Roll call vote: Ayes: Three. Nays: Two. Motion Passed.

**Reviewed** Committee and Commission reports. Reviewed meeting minutes for the Planning Commission, still working on the solar ordinance. No ZBA meetings or hearings. Reviewed Zoning Report, working on blight issues in the township and receiving abatement plans from residents. Road Committee, Mr. Janisse reported work is ongoing with the Pere Cheney Rd. project and should be in full force in approximately three (3) weeks. The next project will be Pioneer Rd. The county is also working on repairs of a section of Chase Bridge Rd near Seven Mile Rd.

**Old Business:** Supervisor Sylvester provided info on ARPA funds and balance available. Balance available is \$22,775.51. After lengthy discussion it was approved to use the remaining funds in the following amounts; Fire/EMS – Radio/Pager \$8,347.55, Twp Hall Kitchen and restrooms, Fire Hall garage restroom– replace floor tile and base \$2,479.75, Township – Lawn Mower, up to \$13,834.00, based upon mower selected. Two models selected, Gravely and Country Clipper, will review models again before selecting. **Motion** by Nelson, second by Barkley to approve the following purchases with the ARPA funds, with any overages being paid from the general fund, if necessary: EMS Stryker Cot, \$51,688.93; Township Parking lot paving and repair to drainage system, \$134,000; Lodging cost associated with paving for Fire/EMS staff, \$532.00; Line Striping for parking lot, \$375.00; Top soil for edges along new pavement, \$175.00; Fire/EMS Radio/Pagers, \$8,347.55; Twp Hall/Fire Hall tile flooring, \$2,479.75, Township Lawn Mower, Depending on model chosen– Gravely, \$13,834.00, or Country Clipper, \$12,641.28. Roll Call Vote: Nelson, Aye. Janisse, Aye. Barkley, Aye. Barritt, Aye. Sylvester, Aye. Motion passed.

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**New Business: Motion** by Janisse, second by Nelson to approve payment for BS&A Annual Tax Software, \$1,295.00; Atty Young, Graham, Wendling for \$1,179.00; Crawford County Treasurer, Summer Tax Bill Prep, \$2,470.46. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Reviewed Resolution 2 of 2023 in support of Crawford County recreation plan. Motion by Janisse, second by Barritt to support South Branch Township resolution. Roll Call Vote: Barkley, Aye. Barritt, Aye. Jannie, Aye. Nelson, Aye. Sylvester, Aye. Motion passed.

FYI – The township was notified by LCAT there was an error in distribution of METRO Act funding, which resulted in a miscalculation of fees. The township received an over payment of \$26.53, which will be deducted from the May 2024 Metro Act payment.

Public Comment.

Meeting adjourned 8:20 pm

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Brenda Nelson, Clerk