

COLDWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD
319 SPRAGUE RD., COLDWATER, MI 49036
Regular Meeting
April 14th, 2025 @ 5:30 p.m.

Opening and Roll Call

The meeting of the Township Board was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Supervisor Rogers.

Present: Supervisor Rogers, Treasurer Sowles, Trustee Clayman, Clerk Gilchrist, Trustee Short, Mike Gatke, ZA.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Trustee Short led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Short moved, supported by Trustee Clayman to approve the agenda. **Motion Carried**

Elected Officials' Comments

- Commissioner Houtz announced that October 11, 2025, will be Scrap Tire recycling day and is funded by E.G.L.E.
- St. Joseph County and Branch County are working together to develop a long-term recycling plan.
- 474 pinwheels were placed in front of the County courthouse to raise awareness for child abuse and neglect.
- Sherriff Blankenship announced the Branch County Sherriff's Department will be meeting with Hillsdale County representatives to discuss animal control.
- 24-Hour road patrol began April 1st, 2025. Body and Car cameras will be put into service at the end of the month.
- Branch County Jail will be housing 100 in-mates for McComb County Jail during their renovation.

Public Comment

None

Approve Minutes – March 3, 2025, Special Meeting March 26, 2025

Trustee Short moved, supported by Trustee Clayman, to approve the March 3rd Board Meeting and the March 26th Special Meeting.

Motion Carried.

List of Bills and Accounts for Payment

Clerk Gilchrist presented the list of bills that have been paid since the last board meeting. Financial report included in Board packet.

Reports

- **Treasurer:** The Township settled the 2024 Tax Roll with the County. Treasurer's report included.
- **Zoning Administrator: Report** included.
- **Planning Commission: Report:** Report included.

New Business

- **BS&A Software Quote for Review and Recommendation.**

Clerk Gilchrist presented the Board with the final quote for BS&A Software implementation` and training for \$33,190. Trustee Short moved to approve the BS&A Software quote, supported by Trustee Clayman. **Motion Carried.**

- **Approving a Letter of Support for Frontier Communications Regarding Broadband in Coldwater Township**

Supervisor Rogers presented the board with a letter of support for Frontier Communications Broadband in Coldwater Township. Trustee Clayman moved, supported by Trustee Short, to approve the Letter of Support. **Motion Carried.**

Announcements

- Building update: Construction of the Township Hall renovation will begin once building permits are obtained from the County.
- S & D Landscape will be relocating the main irrigation line because of the construction.
- Solar Community Grant Projects: The Township has less than 3 years to decide how to appropriate nearly \$2.5 million from the grants.
- The Township expects to receive approximately 4.8 million in community benefit grants from renewable energy projects over the next 20 years.
- Public Act-233 Update: Lawsuits are in progress to restore local control over all renewable energy projects.

Adjournment: 6:04 p.m.

April 14, 2025