

**Regular Meeting of the Burt Township Board**  
**Tuesday, April 21, 2026 -- Community Center – 6:00 PM**

**DRAFT**

**Attendance:** Jon Babbitt, Lori McShane, Tim Jenkins, Paul Williams, and Sara Secrest.

**Agenda:** Motion by McShane, second by Babbitt to approve agenda adding Kathleen Gould from Burt Township Schools and correspondence from Gratoria group and the beautification committee. 5 ayes

**Kathleen Gould – Burt Township Schools:** Superintendent Gould spoke on the upcoming election on May 5, 2026, and explained the school millage renewal. Again, this an 18-mil renewal which is the funding for the school general operating purposes. Please make sure to vote! If you have any questions or need additional information, please reach out to Burt Township School.

**Eryn Grupido, Alger Conversation District Manager presentation:** Eryn Grupido spoke about the projects completed in Burt Township this past year and the upcoming activities planned with the school for 2026. They will continue to treat for invasive species out on coast guard point and the deer habitat improvement partnership will continue into 2027. Handouts with all this information are available on our website and at the township office.

**Correspondence:** Email from Gratoria group to request permission to place can and bottle collection bins within the township for fundraising purposes. Another email from Andrea Dewitt representing Gratoria group sharing ideas for youth hands-on work days at the farm, and creating time away from screens and allowing kids to be present in nature. Looking to gauge interest and support from the township and the community. Letter from the beautification committee of the women's club asking for a \$750 donation from the township towards the purchase of flowers for the planters around town. This is a yearly expenditure included in our budget. Motion by McShane, second by Williams to authorize Supervisor Babbitt to sign and enter into a service agreement with the beautification committee for floral beautification services in the 2026 season, including \$750 contribution from the township. 5 ayes.

**Approve Minutes:** Motion by Jenkins, second by Williams, to approve the minutes from the March 26<sup>th</sup> and April 10<sup>th</sup> special meetings. 5 ayes. Motion by Jenkins, second by Williams, to approve the minutes from the March 10<sup>th</sup> regular meeting with corrections (Planning commission – Pat Coleman contract – not complete, should be terminated). 5 ayes. Note: Regular board meetings have been changed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> (third) Tuesday of the month, notices are posted around town and website will be updated.

**Department and Committee Reports:** Reports were available from the Assessor, DPW & Water, Library, Fire and Woodland Park. Discussion of the water system generator failure and subsequent repair after the storm.

**Appointments/Resignations:** none

**Supervisor Report:** Supervisor Babbitt had a litany of projects all in the works and keeping him busy, from the water project to the zoning ordinance. Please feel free to call or come to the township office if you have any questions or comments.

**Treasurer's report and Approval of Bills:** Treasurer's report – (\$1,625,625.37). Motion by Babbitt, second by Williams, to accept treasurer's report and approve the bills for payment (\$62,068.25). 5 ayes Treasurer Secrest also mentioned that we received the check from the county for the delinquent taxes and that should boost our balances. Board discussion of the workmen's compensation payments, the ambulance food allowance gift card and the IRS tax penalties.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Planning Commission/Recreation Plan:** Planning commission will meet April 28th to finish up the review of the zoning ordinance. There are many other items on this planning commission agenda as well, with the zoning administrator in attendance to review current permits. Come to the meetings! The recreation plan has been resubmitted and accepted by the DNR.

**Woodland Park Septic status update:** The bid was awarded to Tamarack Excavating and the construction on the replacement drain field should start soon. Still working with Robert Halso from LMAS and the EGLE to finalize permits. We started with the snow removal and the playground disassembly to be ready to dig once the we get the go ahead.

**Employee Policies:** Review of the Employee policies section 8 & 9, as well as Board and Administrative policies section 1&2. No changes for those particular sections. We will continue to review two sections of each set of policies every meeting. Board discussion of PA152, which is a public act passed by the state legislature to oversee the publicly funded health insurance contributions. There is a formula dictating how much a township can pay for employee health insurance, without asking for an 80%/20% co pay. The township can vote to be exempt from this act with a two-thirds majority vote of the board. This should be addressed yearly at the time of budget adoption. Resolution will be presented for approval at our next meeting.

**Community Survey:** Another version of the survey was passed out to the board for approval. Board to review, tabled until our next meeting.

**Mobi Mat construction schedule:** Supervisor Babbitt met with Scott Hull of Kalamazoo Deck Builders last week and the renovations to the boardwalk to accommodate the Mobi Mat will begin right after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. They should be starting to stage some equipment the week before but the crew will not start in earnest until after the holiday. Estimate on the cost of the actual Mobi mat (240 ft) came in about \$9,900. We will have a final approval at a future meeting.

**New Business**

**Airport Hangar Lease:** Motion by McShane, second by Babbitt, to authorize Supervisor Babbitt to sign the lease with Greg McComber for a period of one year, May 15 2026, through May 15, 2027, at a cost of \$600, for the airport hangar use. 5 ayes

**Flynn's Flooring Estimate:** Motion by McShane, second by Babbitt, to proceed with the cost estimate from Flynn's Flooring for \$4,534.36, for the new floor in the Community center kitchen, to be installed early this summer. 4 ayes, 1 nay

**Burttownship.com – web page accessibility:** An article in the February issue of Michigan Township Focus lays out the new rules for digital accessibility for everyone. Office manager Heather Dobberstein is working with our web hosting platform to bring our website into compliance.

**The Office Planning Group:** Motion by Babbitt, second by Williams, to authorize the purchase of a new copy machine for the township office from Office Planning Group at a cost of \$14,342.00. 5 ayes.

**KICI – tax mailing service estimate:** Motion by Williams, second by Secrest, to accept the proposal from KCI for printing and mailing the tax bills for 2026, at a cost of approximately \$1,886.00. 5 ayes.

**Ginop Sales – Park Kubota/golf cart:** New Kubota and golf cart should be ready for delivery soon. This purchase was approved in our budget, but final invoice will be presented and approved at our next meeting.

**Other:** Special meeting requested by clerk McShane to facilitate the approval of the ballot language for the August election. Ballot wording is due to the county by May 19<sup>th</sup>. Other items to be on this special meeting agenda are: Final 2025-26 budget review, survey questions, and employee health insurance. Trustee Jenkins spoke of grant money available for hazard mitigation and wildfire prevention from MTA, as well as following up on the Zoning Board of Appeals issue involving the Husky Haven. That ZBA meeting will take place on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**Public Comment:** Rod Lowe and Dave Dudansky asked about the schedule for repair of Wilson Street. The water project and subsequent restoration of Wilson Street is on schedule for this summer. Kay Powers thanked the board for the donation to the beautification project. Mike Beek thanked Chet Tavenner and Tamarack excavating for the help digging out after the storm. Bill Egerer reminded everyone that the “Savewestbay” project is still looming out there and hoped it could be a standing agenda item to keep it in front of the board and the community. If anyone would like to volunteer to help in any way – just let them know. Mike Beek also mentioned that the marina boat launch is close to the point of needing to be dredged. Cathy Egerer thanked clerk McShane for prompt notification of the water leak at the historical society old post office museum.

**Board Comment:** Trustee Jenkins thanked the Alger County Road Crew for all their hard work after the storm. Also a big thank you to the Lutheran church for the Easter Dinner.

**Adjournment:** 7:37 PM

Respectfully submitted April 25, 2026

Lori McShane, Clerk