

Minutes of Burt Township Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting May 7, 2026, Community Center

Meeting opened at 1:20 pm

Members present – Chairperson Tom Clery, Secretary Jeannie Kain, Planning Commission liaison Victor Senk along with Burt Twp Zoning administrator Calvin McShane, Burt Township Supervisor Jon Babbitt

Member of the public present - zero

Brief discussion of current ZBA scenario that Zoning administrator has asked for clarification assistance.

Main points:

Multiple noise and activity complaints spanning years have been received by the township regarding activities at parcel # 002-278-006-20 (aka Husky Haven Kennels) E-17769 NUGENT LAKE RD

This property abuts Lake Superior State Forest and an inland lake (Nugent). The property does not touch County Road H 58.

As indicated in the April 7, 2026, ZBA meeting minutes, Zoning administrator requested ZBA assist with decision to clarify zoning for the parcel. Clarification is needed to determine whether the property is zoned Lakeshore and River or Recreation Forest. Unclear what this particular parcel is zoned, based on township available materials (GIS, tax card and zoning map) Prior to this meeting, additional property information was received from Township assessor Derek Morrison and conclusion was drawn that the Township Assessors Office has no constructive input in determining a zoning district, only the valuation of the property.

Discussion about the various zoning districts and characteristics of this property and how other similar parcels are zoned in the area and the township. Most in the area with the same characteristics are zoned Lakeshore and River. Discussion points included:

Whether a total percentage of Lakeshore and River frontage should be considered or simply having clear access to a Lake or a River. The latter mentioned was decided as the protocol to guide zoning district jurisdiction.

Minimal discussion about the activities occurring on the property that generated the complaints, as that will be a Township decision to adjudicate.

Motion made to clarify the property as zoned Lakeshore and River

The assessment was made as if the property was a vacant piece of land with no consideration given to its current structures or land uses

Voting by Board – all in favor

Meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

No additional meeting scheduled