

Bergland Township Board Meeting

November 20, 2025 6:30 pm

906-575-3522

Pledge of Allegiance let by Township Clerk, Lori Schmidt.

Meeting called to order 6:32 pm by Jack Otlewis.

Roll Call: Sue Barnaby, Treasurer; Jack Otlewis, Supervisor; Lori Schmidt, Clerk; Jerald Wuorenmaa, Trustee; and Jim Bucknell, Attorney. Absent: John Berglund, Trustee.

Agenda Approval: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Jerry Wuorenmaa, Trustee. A second was made by Lori Schmidt.

Public Comments: no comments.

Reports:

Treasurer: Sue Barnaby, Treasurer presented an update. The winter taxes are to the printers. Bank reconciliation will begin since there has been no data entry for some time. Taxes will be sent timely with the addition of the delinquent sewer and water.

Planning Commission: The meeting that was scheduled for November 20, 2025 at 4:00 pm had to be postponed due to illness and will be scheduled in the near future.

Fire Chief: Brad Huettl, Fire Chief was present to provide an update. Training for the fire department scheduled this winter (ice reschedule, radio, etc.). There is also maintenance needing to occur for the fire truck. They are also looking into obtaining an airboat for rescues.

Supervisor: Jack Otlewis, Supervisor provided an update. The audit with EGLE did occur for the sewer system. The written report will be issued. There was a sewer failure that occurred recently which was similar to the last. The last contact with the Utilities Superintendent, Nicholas Negri was on November 6, 2025. Wally Saubert will begin as Utilities Superintendent on November 24, 2025. The fiscal audit is scheduled to begin on December 2, 2025.

October 16, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the revised October 16, 2025 Board meeting minutes was made by Jerry Wuorenmaa, Trustee. A second was made by Sue Barnaby, Treasurer.

Warrants: A motion to approve the warrants was made by Jerry Wuorenmaa, Trustee. A second was made by Sue Barnaby, Treasurer. All in favor; motion carried.

New Business:

Campground: Jerry Wuorenmaa was thanked for the research of the surrounding park rates. The seasonal rate was discussed. It will be open for returning seasonals for one week and then open enrollment for other seasonal campers for three weeks to follow. Jerry Wuorenmaa, Trustee will discuss this with the web designer. A motion was made to establish a seasonal rate of \$1600 was made by Lori Schmidt. A second was made by Sue Barnaby. All in favor; motion carried. Discussion was held pertaining to the move of park funds to the general fund line item. This will be discussed in the future.

Banking: Lori Schmidt, Clerk provided an update. Status of the Settler's Credit Union account as well as the Flag Star accounts were held. The BS&A software program expansion costs were provided to the Board as well as options for QuickBooks. An update regarding the recent election was also held.

M28 Speed Limits: An update was made by Jack Otlewis, Supervisor regarding the speed study that will be requested. The Board will be copied on the letter which will be drafted for the request.

Superintendent of Utilities: Discussion was held regarding the onboarding of Wally Saubert as the Superintendent of Utilities. A motion was made to provide Wally Saubert the wage of \$22 per hour by Jerry Wuorenmaa, Trustee. A second was made by Jack Otlewis, Supervisor. All in favor; motion carried.

Appointment for Zoning Board of Appeals Member: Jack Otlewis, Supervisor made a motion to appoint Bobbi Jo Ferguson to the Zoning Board of Appeals vacancy. Jerry Wuorenmaa, Trustee seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

Old Business:

Side Setbacks change from 10 ft to 5 ft on Lake property: There were no objections received from the publication of the approval.

Polaris Station: There was no one present for this discussion. This will be tabled for the next meeting.

Public Comment: The Finn Town cost share was discussed. This will not be discussed until all costs are tallied. Discussions will begin following the receipt of the costs in January. Sewer issues were discussed as well as the coming budget and Capital Improvement Plan.

Adjourned: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lori Schmit, Clerk. A motion to second the motion was made by Sue Barnaby, Treasurer. All in favor; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

DRAFT