



**TOWNSHIP OF THORNAPPLE**

*Eric Schaefer, Supervisor / Laura Bouchard, Treasurer / Kathy Medenblik, Clerk  
Curt Campbell, Trustee / Ross DeMaagd, Trustee / David Stanton, Trustee / Sandra Rairigh, Trustee*

**REGULAR MEETING**

February 9, 2026, 7:00 PM

Meeting held at the EMS Training Room, 128 High Street, Middleville, MI 49333

**1. INVOCATION**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

<b>Roll Call:</b> 6 present 1 Absent	Schaefer Bouchard Campbell	Present Present Present	DeMaagd Stanton Rairigh Medenblik	Present Present Present Absent with notice
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**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Commissioner Smelker,

Guests: Special TTES award recipients and their friends and family members.

**4. APPROVAL OF PRINTED AGENDA:**

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Rairigh to approve the printed agenda as presented.</b>
Motion Supported:	Stanton
Motion Status	<b>Approved</b> by voice vote. 6 ayes and 0 nays.

**5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Schaefer to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.</b>
Motion Supported:	Campbell
Motion Status	<b>Approved</b> by roll call vote. 6 ayes and 0 nays.

Roll Call:	Stanton DeMaagd	Yes Yes	Campbell Rairigh	Yes Yes	Schaefer Bouchard	Yes Yes
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**6. NOVEMBER CLERK'S REPORT**

**No report.** (this item was included on the agenda in error).

**7. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT:** (Please limit comments to 3 minutes)

None

**8. CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

**9. COUNTY REPORT:**

Commissioner Smelker reported the following activity:

- Sheriff Dar Leaf presented the Sheriff's Annual Report to the Commission and a copy was handed out to the Board.
- Approved a one-year contract with the Kalamazoo County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Center to allow Barry County residents to utilize the HHW drop off service up to \$7,500 in calendar year 2026.
- Approved Rachel France to submit to EGLE Recycling Infrastructure Grant Proposal on behalf of Barry County to install three (3) cardboard compactor units throughout the county.
- Approved Director Mary Bassett to handle the Act 51 and apply for state funding operating assistance for Barry County Transit.
- Approved submission of a \$500,000 grant application to the USEPA Community-wide Brownfield Grant.
- Ok'd a backup system for Barry County Information Systems from Dell.

Mr. Schaefer thanked the Commissioner.

**10. RESERVED TIME: Chief Richardson**

Chief Richardson thanked all who have turned out tonight to honor those who worked very hard last year.

The Chief notes the importance of Cardiac Arrest Saves and highlights the chain of survival.

**Special Awards were handed out as follows:**

For assist with cardiac saves:

6-18-25 - Kara Sharpe, Megan Green, Curt Warren, Kaylee Ryan, Mike Powell, Joe Johnson, Shelby England, Kevin Bull and Matt Bull.

January 20, 2025 - Shelby England, Joe Johnson, Mike Powell, Xavier Estrada, Eric Jachim, Brandon Luxford, Jason Preslar

June 19, 2025 - Joe Johnson, Mike Powell

Nov. 16, 2025 - Xavier Estrada, Brandon Luxford

Nov. 18, 2025 - Kevin Bull, Matt Bull, Mike Powell, Xavier Estrada, Brandon Luxford, Jason Preslar, Steve Arnold, Collin Chrenka, Cas Vugteveen

**Yearly Awards:**

Rookie of the Year: Remington Lowing

Firefighter of the Year and Top Gun of the Year: Steve Arnold

Officer of the Year: Collin Chrenka

Years of Service Awards:

25 years of Service - Katie Tyner-Green

20 years of Service - Brad Bender

5 years of Service - Mike Powell, Cas Vugteveen

**11. Emergency Services Report:****a. Chief's Run Report Summary:**

- 273 Calls for service; 40 POC (paid on-call) responses; out-the-door time was 58 seconds.
- Response time in the township is 6:44; outside of the township 10:55.
- 6 structure fires; 6.6 motor vehicle accidents.

**12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**13. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. VOM Trail Maintenance.**

**Background:** This is a yearly agreement we enter into with the Village of Middleville.

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Campbell to approve paying the Village of Middleville \$2200.00 to mow and maintain the Paul Henry Trail located outside Village limits in the township.</b>
Motion Supported:	Schaefer
Motion Status	<b>Approved</b> by roll call vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Roll Call:	DeMaagd Campbell	Yes Yes	Rairigh Schaefer	Yes Yes	Bouchard Stanton	Yes Yes
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**B. TAPRC Re-Appointment.**

**Background:** Stephanie Skidmore’s term expired at the end of 2025.

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Rairigh to approve the re-appointment of Stephanie Skidmore to TAPRC.</b>
Motion Supported:	Stanton
Motion Status	<b>Approved</b> by voice vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

**C. Ambulance Contract with Caledonia Township**

**Background:** The Thornapple Township attorney and Caledonia Township attorney have approved the proposed EMS Contract whereby TTES provides ambulance service to Caledonia Township. This proposed contract mirrors the contracts currently in place with Yankee Springs Township, Irving Township and Rutland Township.

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Stanton to approve the proposed Caledonia Twp Contract for EMS Service.</b>
Motion Supported:	Rairigh
Motion Status	<b>Approved</b> by roll call vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Roll Call:	DeMaagd Rairigh	Yes Yes	Bouchard Campbell	Yes Yes	Schaefer Stanton	Yes Yes
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**D. Additional Part-time Paramedic / Firefighter.**

**Background:** With the anticipated increase in call volume we need more staffing to maintain operational integrity.

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Campbell to approve hiring an additional Paramedic/ Firefighter.</b>
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Motion Supported:	Rairigh
Motion Status	<b>Approved</b> by roll call vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Roll Call:	Bouchard Schaefer	Yes Yes	Campbell DeMaagd	Yes Yes	Rairigh Stanton	Yes Yes
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**E. Barry County Fair Participation.**

**Background:** The City of Hastings, the Village of Middleville and Thornapple Township have previously shared the cost of two booths at the Barry County Fair. This year, the Village has opted out so the cost will be split by the City of Hastings and Thornapple Twp in the amount of \$220 each.

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Schaefer to approve participation in the Barry County Fair with the City of Hastings.</b>
Motion Supported:	Campbell
Motion Status	<b>Approved</b> by roll call vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Roll Call:	Stanton Campbell	Yes Yes	DeMaagd Rairigh	Yes Yes	Schaefer Bouchard	Yes Yes
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**F. June 2026 Board Meeting Date Change.**

**Background:** Due to a conflict on June 8th Mr. Schaefer would like to change the meeting to the following Monday, June 15th.

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Rairigh to change our June 8th Board Meeting to June 15, 2026.</b>
Motion Supported:	Stanton
Motion Status	<b>Approved</b> by voice vote: 5 ayes, 1 nay.

**G. Yankee Springs Ambulance Contract.**

**Background:** This proposed contract basically mirrors the contract currently in place with Yankee Springs Township. The modifications would be to move to a 3-year contract as follows: \$5,000 for 2026, \$5,500 for 2027, and \$6,000 for 2028.

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Rairigh to approve the proposed Yankee Springs Twp Contract for EMS Service.</b>
Motion Supported:	Schaefer
Motion Status	<b>Approved</b> by voice vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

**H. 2026-2027 TTES Wage Scale**

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Campbell to approve the new TTES pay scale for 2026 - 2027 as approved by the Township Board. MOTION IS WITHDRAWN.</b>
Motion Supported:	Stanton (withdrawn)
Motion Status	<b>Tabled until March.</b>

**14. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. Administration (Schaefer, Bouchard, Medenblik)

- The new Deputy Clerk is doing well. The basement has multiple fluorescent lights, and Consumers Energy has offered a 75% rebate and discount on labor to replace them with LED.

B. Cemetery (Medenblik, DeMaagd, Rairigh)

- Meeting coming up soon to discuss the fee schedule.

C. Middleville DDA Report (Schaefer)

- The Events Committee met and set Heritage Day for July 11, 2026. The Music Series is being planned for this summer and they are anticipating a great series. There is an opening on the DDA Committee for Event Planning, and if anyone is interested, please see Eric Schaefer.

D. Elections (Medenblik, Bouchard, Schaefer)

- There will be no May election.

E. Emergency Services (DeMaagd, Schaefer, Rairigh)

- Nothing.

F. Finance (Bouchard, Medenblik, Rairigh)

- We're paying the bills.

G. Parks and Recreation Representative (Schaefer)

- The 5 year Rec Plan is in the books for the next 5 years.

H. Personnel and Compensation (Medenblik, Campbell, Schaefer)

- No report.

I. Property and Public Utilities (Stanton, DeMaagd, Campbell)

- They are meeting later this week regarding HVAC.

J. Roads and Highways (Campbell, DeMaagd, Stanton)

- Mr. Schaefer reported that the Barry County Road Commission has new equipment to pull shoulders on the roads.

K. Duncan Lake Sewer (Campbell, Stanton, Schaefer)

- The wifi went out at the sewer. It was replaced with a Verizon Hotspot and a new camera was installed.

**15. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

None

**16. POLL OF MEMBERS:**

David Stanton (Trustee) - Thank you and congratulations to all who received awards tonight.

Sandy Rairigh (Trustee) - Ditto.

Curt Campbell - (Trustee) - Ditto. Thanks to the Chief for tracking all these events and good work.

Ross DeMaagd (Trustee) - Thank you to all who do this work and provide service for us.

Laura Bouchard (Treasurer) - I appreciate hearing all of the good reports of service. Thank you to all!


Kathy Medenblik (Clerk) - not present.

Eric Schaefer (Supervisor) - Thank you to all who received awards and to the Chief as he is also responsible for the good work.

**15. ADJOURNMENT:**

TIME: 7:45 P.M.

Motion Stated:	<b>Motion by Campbell to adjourn at 7:45 P.M.</b>
Motion Supported:	Bouchard
Motion Status	<b>Approved</b> by voice vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays.

  
Signed Township Clerk

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Dykgraaf, Recording Secretary