

MINUTES OF THE SALEM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING HELD MAY 14, 2024

Meeting was called to order by Jim Pitsch at 7:00PM

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Members Present: Jim Pitsch - Supervisor, Renee Busscher - Clerk, Ashley Brower – Treasurer, Dan Striegle – Trustee, Don Sebright - Trustee

Also preset: Roger Smith – Flea Market Manager; Jim Storey – District 1 County Commissioner; Dan Kipen – Salem Township Fire Chief; Lisa Vandebunte – Library Director; Craig VanBeek – running for county commissioner

Absent: n/a

Reading of previous board meeting Minutes and Bills, if no additions or corrections Minutes and Bills were approved and paid by consent.

Public Comment: concern mentioned over engine braking on 142nd Ave. Craig Van Beek introduced himself as candidate for county commissioner.

County Road Commissioner: n/a

County Commissioner: Jim Storey Presented. Discussed two items that will appear on ballot: 1) 1 mil road renewal. This has remained the same since 1998. 2) 911 phone charge of \$3per phone

Comments from Commissions & Departments of:

Zoning: n/a

Planning: postponed master plan. Reviewed Top Grade Sand Mine. A rep from Top Grade came and met with planning commission. They are looking to wrap things up. Will come back to meet with them in 2026.

Fire: see attached report

Ambulance: both ambulances are having motor problems. One at a Ford dealership waiting to be worked on. Will be trying a Chevy engine on one instead.

Library: Lisa Vandebunte presented. Salem is top in circulation, discussed events that were held and future events. Check out Library webpage for all information <https://saletownshiplibrary.org/>

Parks Planning: grant for the park has been submitted to DNR

ARPA Funding: treasurer submitted our ARPA spending plan

Roads: Supervisor would like ruts on 26th and 146th fixed

Old Business: n/a

New Business:

1. Memorandum of Agreement between Sandy Pines and Salem Township: For Salem Township and Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails Inc. FEMA Grant EMC-2022-BR-021-0002 for Safe Room (2022)
Approved last meeting, Supervisor already signed for this
2. Advertise for Procurement Proceedings for Architectural Engineer:
For Salem Township and Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails Inc. FEMA Grant EMC-2022-BR-021-0002 for Safe Room (2022):
Moved by Dan Striegle, seconded by Don Sebright
Discussion: n/a
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
3. Advertise for Procurement Proceedings for Peer Review Architectural Engineer:
For Salem Township and Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails Inc. FEMA Grant EMC-2022-BR-021-0002 for Safe Room (2022)
Moved by Dan Striegle, seconded by Don Sebright
Discussion: n/a
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
4. Allegan County Pictometry/Eagle's View: (\$3,762.00) or (\$1,254.00 X 3)
Moved by Renee Busscher for 1254 for 3 years, seconded by Ashley Brower
Discussion: 1254 easier for budgeting
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

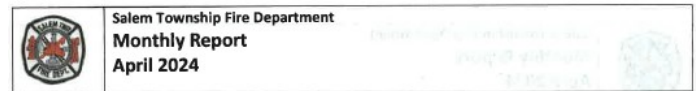
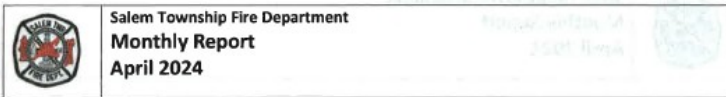
5. Salem Township master Plan Review: (Postpone until the June Mtg. for review of Supervisors questions
Discussion: planning have to approve their review first
6. Top Grade Sand Mine Site Renewal: (Pending PC and Attorney Review)
Discussion: permit is not expiring until 2026. Lori from PCI has met with someone who wants to develop it when it is done.
7. Amend Salem Township Cemetery Ordinance and Rules: (Add Signage to New Cemetery)
Discussion: postponed, need to clarify name and sections before signage and update ordinance
8. 2025 Flea Market Dates
Motioned by Ashley Brower to approve dates, seconded by Renee Busscher
Discussion: may need to increase hall rental prices slightly to keep up with cleaning costs after flea market
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comment:

Rep from Sandy Pines thanking for approving grants to keep residents safe
Board set 2 budget workshop dates

Adjournment:

Moved by Ashley Brower, seconded by Don Sebright to adjourn meeting at 8:06 PM
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Projects	
SOGs	Working on updating operational SOGs
Old SCBA	Found a used SCBA dealer to buy our old air-packs, pack have been received by buyer payment received.
ActiveTeams trial	In a trail for a staffing/event calendar from Active911
Fit Testing	Each firefighter was fit tested to their SCBA mask by the ACCA fit tester
Station Tour	Benthiem Elementary School coming for a station tour
SCBA Flow Testing	Annual inspection and flow testing of SCBA on 5/7/24
Probationary Fire fighter testing	Looking to set up a date in June to test 3 to be off probation.
Pancake Breakfast	May 18 th 7am to 10am
Car Show	Cruise in for Kids Burn Camp Car Show is 6/7/24 at 6pm-9pm
Library Touch a Truck Tour	6/10/24 touch a truck and demo with the library from 1pm-3pm
Hose testing	Annual hose testing on 6/25/24 with Waterway
Jamestown Kids Day	Jamestown requested a fire truck for a kid's day at their station on 6/27/24
Uniforms and boots	Will be ordering uniform shirts and some turnout boots for the probationary firefighters.

Trainings/Meetings	
Topic	Number of Personnel
RIT and pump operations	18
Officers meeting	4
Equipment Checks	7
Work detail/ SCBA Fit Testing	23
Probationary pump ops X 3	3/5/2

Total Fire and EMS Year To Date- 126			
Fire Incidents	Total -8	YTD-45	Incidents in Sandy Pines- 1
Type	Number of Incidents	District	Notes
Unauthorized Burn	1	1- Salem	Burning a tire pile
Authorized burns	3	3-Salem	Small controlled brush piles
Downed wire	3	3- Salem	Low hanging wires and wires across roadway
Fire alarm	1	1-Salem	Low battery in smoke detector for alarm system
Year to date Incidents in Sandy Pines- 1			

EMS			
Total -21	YTD-75	Incidents in Sandy Pines-2	Incidents in Rehoboth- 2
District	Number of Incidents		
Salem-	18		
Monterey-	3		
Disregarded Priority 3 medical	6		
Year to date Medical Incidents in Sandy Pines- 2		Year to Date in Rehoboth- 5	

Salem Township Fire Department has a dedicate group of personnel that respond from home and work to help keep the residents of Salem Township and the surrounding communities safe.



**Director's Report
April 2024**



Mission:
Building a community of people who discover, share and belong



Vision:
Inspire Curiosity
Foster Community
Ignite Imagination
Cultivate Learning



Core Values:
Teamwork
Respect
Access
Curiosity
Kindness

Allegheny County Libraries Circulation

	Circulation	Population Served	Hours Open Weekly
Salem Township Library	5,945	8,289	45
Dorr Township Library	3,482	7,922	31
Fennville District Library	4,121	14,496	53
Hopkins District Library	1,016	4,851	37
Leighton Public Library (Moine)	5,926	7,001	40
Saugatuck District Library	5,205	5,686	47
Henika District Library (Wayland)	4,009	7,978	53

Salem Township Library Stats

	Current Month	Last Year	% +/-
Circulation	5,945	5,311	11%
Overdrive	928	780	16%
Hoopla	441	302	32%
Hotspots	17	0	100%
ILL Requests	423	325	23%
MEL Holds	30	27	10%
References	214	123	43%
New Patrons	15	7	53%
Patrons Deleted	0	0	#DIV/0!
Patron Count:			
Children	496	353	29%
Adults	879	375	57%
Total	1375	728	47%

Programs/Events:

- * May 4: Star Wars Day activities
- * May 6-11: Mother's Day card making
- * May 6-12: Children's Book Week, activities
- * May 6: PM Book Club @ 7pm
- * May 7: Closed for staff development day
- * May 11: Lego Club @ 11am
- * May 20: AM Book Club @ 8:30am
- * May 25-27: Closed for Memorial Holiday
- * May 29: Last Story Time until Fall - Bubble Dance Party in the Park, weather permitting
- * May 31 Spring Reading Challenge ends
- * Summer Reading Begins on June 10 - See attached for schedule

Other Notes:

- * Naomi attended a webinar on Leadership Strategies for Building Connection and Diffusing Difficult Situations
- * New library app is available
- * Work for library strategic planning for 2025-2027 has begun
- * Library will begin working on proposed budget for FY 2024-2025 (Budget Hearing is June 27)

**2025 BURNIP'S FLEA MARKET
SCHEDULE**

Corner of 142nd. Ave & 30th. St (A-37)

Burnip's, Michigan 49314

8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

April 26,

May 10, May 24, May 31,

June 14, JUNE 28,

July 12, July 26,

August 9, August 23, AUGUST 30,

September 13, September 27,

October 11, October 18

Connect with
Allegan County
MICHIGAN



Report to Township Board

By Jim Storey, county commissioner, District 1

May 14, 2024

GREETINGS:

Here are some current and future matters affecting Allegan County:

- During last week's Michigan Association of Counties legislative conference, commissioners and the administrator met with the nine state legislators who represent parts of Allegan County. The main issue was the future use of the 50,000

acre state game area by patrons other than hunters and fishing enthusiasts. Game area career civil servants of the Department of Natural Resources are resisting the county's interest in making the expansive area – 20,000 acres larger than Disney World, for example – available to bicycle users, hikers, limited motorized uses, and horses to add another, open venue to county visitors to support our local businesses. The legislators will work to set up a meeting with senior DNR management to try and open serious discussion on game area self-imposed limitations.

- **Road Commission election** – The Board of Commissioners at its May 9 session elected Harold Hamlin a third member of the Allegan County Road Commission. The three-member commission was short one member as a result of the passing of commission chair John Kleinheksel. Three individuals applied. The Kleinheksel seat has traditionally been filled with a person from the western townships in the county, including Laketown.
- **Courthouse, CSB construction** – Progress continues on the addition and renovation of the county courthouse to accommodate the third circuit court judge (there are presently two circuit judges) when that person takes office January 1, 2025. Redevelopment of vacant space at the county services building (CSB) that houses administrative offices and where Commissioners meet is moving along smartly. When completed sometime in August, modern, new offices for the clerk, treasurer, drain commissioner and register of deeds are expected to be move-in ready. That will permit interior renovation of the courthouse to get underway. The CSB boasts plenty of parking near the entrance, doing away with the hike many non-court patrons endure when a jury trial is underway.
- **Lakeshore Drive washout** – Since 1988 Lakeshore Drive in southern Saugatuck Township has been cut-off from the rest of the township because of a washout caused by wind-driven, high waves of Lake Michigan. This and follow-on washouts, have frustrated emergency response agencies, tripling response times to emergency calls. Township Manager Daniel DeFranco is organizing an inspection tour for federal legislators and staff to demonstrate the need for federal funding to relocate the road away from the shore

and restore reasonable emergency response times. For the past year, I have been communicating with federal administrative agencies (Transportation, highway administration) at National Association of County meetings, attempting to interest them in sharing infrastructure money for this project. Pretty much been ignored. Hopefully, the federal legislators can pressure these agencies to help out on this \$5-7 million project while they ponder providing up to a \$1,000,000,000 for the Baltimore Harbor bridge rebuild.

- **Other matters** – Commissioners at the April 25 board meeting voted to confirm the appointment of Jacqueline Billette as the new health department director, succeeding Angelique Joynes who resigned at the end of January. Ms. Billette is a native of Traverse City and most recently was employed at the Central Michigan health department that serves six counties where she concentrated on personal health delivery . . . At the request of the road commission, the board voted to place the renewal of the one mill county road millage on the August primary election ballot. The millage level hasn't changed since 1968 when Allegan County voters approved it the first time, making Allegan County the first county to approve a road millage.
- **Contact** – Happy to respond to questions on these and other issues:

jstorey@allegancounty.org; 616-848-9767