

January 14, 2026, Regular Board Minutes were approved on February 11, 2026.

MARCELL TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING- IN-PERSON
JANUARY 14, 2026, at 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 5:59 pm by Diane Coppens.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present– Supervisor- Chair-Diane Coppens, Supervisor- Milo Rahier, Supervisor- Anthony Prato, Treasurer- Dennis Korte, and Clerk-Tracy Chase

Others in Attendance-Domanick David, Tim Hagen, Clif Block, Deputy Jorgan Harshbarger

Deputy Jorgan Harshbarger- The Itasca County Sheriff's Office has contracted with the Bigfork Valley Hospital to provide a designated deputy for the area. The deputy in this position is Jorgan Harshbarger, and his office is located at the Bigfork Valley Hospital. Currently, the hospital has not designated the service area for Deputy Harshbarger except to have availability for the Bigfork School. Both the school and hospital are happy with the services provided. Talks are ongoing to add an additional deputy that would serve evenings and weekends for better coverage.

Marcell Township- At the February 11th Marcell Township board meeting, the sheriff's office will be in attendance to speak to township residents about a potential designated deputy for Marcell Township and surrounding area. This will be an opportunity for residents to hear more about this opportunity and to ask questions.

December 10, 2025, Regular Board Minutes – Motion to accept December 10, 2025, minutes was made by Anthony Prato and Milo Rahier seconded the motion. MCU-3-0.

Treasurer's Report- December 31, 2025, reconciled bank balance was \$294,271.90 with two outstanding checks for \$192.76. Dennis gave a breakdown of all accounts, including loans. The First State Bank of Bigfork signature paperwork was completed. Dennis will return the paperwork to the bank. Work began on the proposed budget/levy for 2027.

Approve & Pay Bills – Tracy updated the board regarding Arvig's bill. Motion by Diane Coppens to approve and pay bills with General Checking #'s 9937-9955. Anthony Prato seconded the motion. MCU-3-0. Payroll- \$2,364.95 and Claims- \$14,733.17.

Road Report- In the past two months, there have been four rounds of snowplowing. Due to slippery conditions, sanding occurred at a few intersections. Depending on the weather, ditching/brushing will take place on several roads.

Park Report- Domanick continues to maintain the ice rink. It is getting quite a bit of use. Someone smeared red paint on some of the new boards. The snowblower is having a recoil issue. Domanick will investigate the replacement cost for a new piece.

Hall Report- None

Cemetery Report- None

Old Business

Resolution Delegating Cannabis Retail- Motion by Anthony Prato and seconded by Diane Coppens to accept Resolution #1/14/26- Resolution Delegating Cannabis Retail Registration to the County. MCU-3-0.

Resolution Paid Leave Premium Sharing- Motion by Anthony Prato and seconded by Diane Coppens to accept Resolution #1/14- Resolution for Paid Leave Premium Sharing. MCU-3-0
ATV Trail- Anthony will continue to investigate this.

New Business

Strategic Plan- The board received a copy of the June 2022 Strategic Plan. They will begin work on making updates to the plan.

2026 Meeting Dates- The board will have their regular meeting on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm. However, due to November's meeting falling on Veterans Day, the board will meet on the second Tuesday of November at 6:00 pm.

Conflict of Interest- The board completed an updated conflict of interest form.

W-4's- Those wanting updates to their withholdings will complete the necessary paperwork.

Division of Duties- Motion by Anthony Prato and seconded by Milo Rahier to approve the following division. Diane Coppens will continue to be the Marcell Township's Board Chair, Cemetery and Community Garden liaison, NIJPB representative and be active on the Itasca County Association of Townships Board. Anthony Prato will be active on the Fire Department Board, function as the Noxious Weed supervisor, and be the Road and Bridge and Park liaison. Milo Rahier represents the township on the Highway 38 Leadership Board and be the Hall liaison. Dennis Korte will be the Business One liaison. If a supervisor is not available, the other supervisors will step into the role. MCU- 3-0.

Compensation for Town Officers and Employees- This will remain the same as the 2025 figures.

Official Newspaper- The recommendation was to continue to use the Grand Rapids Herald Review as the legal newspaper. This recommendation will be brought to the Annual Meeting.

Designation of Posting Places- The recommendation was to continue to use the 2025 posting locations- Frontier Sports, Lakeside Lumber, Little Turtle Lake Store, Hayslip's Corner, along with 2025 approved Annual Meeting location of The Pine Cone Cafe. www.marcellmn.org and www.edgeofthewilderness.org will be the online sites for posting board meeting minutes and other pertinent documents. These recommendations will be brought to the Annual Meeting.

1099's & W-2's- 2025 1099's and W-2's have been completed and submitted to the Social Security Administration and Minnesota Department of Revenue.

941's, Unemployment, Dept of Revenue- The 4th quarter Federal 941 and State Unemployment Detail Report have been completed and submitted. The township paid their state withholding tax; they pay annually.

Mileage Rate- The 2026 mileage reimbursement rate is \$.725 per mile.

Committee Reports – Diane attended the Itasca County Township Association meeting. Some highlights include gravel will be placed on County Road 43 and the Itasca County final budget approved in December 2025 included a 5.16% increase. This increase is less than the initial 10% increase.

Motion to adjourn at 7:26 pm by Anthony Prato and Milo Rahier seconded the motion. MCU-3-0.

Chairperson _____ Date _____

Clerk _____ Date _____