

Fairfield Township
Shiawassee County
Minutes from April 2, 2026

The April 2, 2026 meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Rick Zemla with the Pledge of Allegiance. The board members in attendance were: Supervisor Rick Zemla, Treasurer Allison Emelander, Clerk Sonya Latz, Trustee Steve Maynard and Trustee Tim Riegle.

Motion by Trustee Riegle, support by Trustee Maynard to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Motion by Trustee Riegle, support by Trustee Maynard to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2026 Annual Budget Hearing, with the correction of the cost for the 2026 road projects from \$159,975 to \$89,975. Motion carried 5-0

Treasurer's Report: The Cash Summary Report was presented. Trustee Maynard made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, support by Trustee Riegle. Motion carried 5-0

Guests present were: Nicole Vorce, Benton from [Communityinput.org](https://www.communityinput.org) and Josh Haley from Shiawassee County.

Guest Comments: There were no guest comments.

Unfinished Business:

1. Wedding Venue Update - Josh Haley reported that the decision by the County to permit Country Barn Estates to reopen, if they can show compliance with Shiawassee County Zoning and draw all of the required permits, will be addressed later this month.
2. Township Blight Enforcement - Josh Haley suggested that the township drafts a township ordinance for blight as it will enable the county to better enforce
3. EAFD Agreement Approved/Signed//Finalized - There is a signed agreement by Duplain Township and Fairfield Township to form the EAFA, Elsie Area Fire Authority, to replace the EAFD, effective April 1, 2026.

New Business:

1. Contracts were signed by Supervisor Zemla to proceed with the approved 2026 Road Proposals.
2. There will be a meeting with Michigan Class on April 13, 2026 at 1:00 pm to discuss participating with them as a banking option.

3. A meeting with EMC Insurance is scheduled for April 13, 2026 at 10:00 am to review township insurance needs and costs.
4. The annual roadside cleanup for the township will be held April 17 - April 26 with a 10 yd dumpster located at the TWP Hall.
5. Motion by Supervisor Zemla, support by Trustee Riegler to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$10.00 in the 2025/2026 budget from 101-101-955.000 to 101-101-703.000 to balance the budget. Motion carried 5-0
6. Due to increased costs with Emergency Services a motion was presented by Trustee Riegler to present a proposal to township voters on the August 4, 2026 Primary ballot to INCREASE the millage from 1.5 mills to 2.5 mills. Support by Trustee Maynard. Motion carried by roll call vote 5-0
7. Motion by Trustee Riegler to present a proposal to township voters on the August 4, 2026 Primary ballot to RENEW the current 2.0 mills. Support by Treasurer Emelander. Motion carried by roll call vote 5-0
8. Clerk Latz reported that the General Budget has been uploaded and adopted into the BS&A program. The EMS Budget is ready to be uploaded with the Roads Budget needing a transfer of funds to cover the approved 2026 projects.
9. The removal of Fall/Winter Cemetery paraphernalia is April 15, 2026, per the cemetery ordinance.
10. Trustee Maynard made a motion to appoint Trustee Riegler and Supervisor Zemla to represent Fairfield Township on the Elsie Area Fire Authority (EAFA) for a 3-year term. Support by Clerk Latz. Motion carried 5-0

Reports:

1. Shiawassee County Report – report given as stated above.
2. Roads – report as stated above.
3. Emergency Services – There were seven EMS runs in March to Fairfield Township by the Owosso Fire Department.

Announcements:

1. Happy Easter

New Bills:

1. Motion by Trustee Riegler, support by Treasurer Emelander to approve payment of bills as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Final Public Comment: A question was asked concerning a potential wind farm coming to the township. Supervisor Zemla reported that there has been no further information presented to the township on this matter.

Next Meeting: May 7, 2026, 7:00 pm at the Township Hall.

Motion by Trustee Riegler, support by Trustee Maynard to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sonya Latz
Township Clerk