

Mansfield Township Monthly Board Meeting Minutes - Draft

Date: July 07, 2026 Time: 4:00 PM Location: Mansfield Township Hall

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by **Russ** at **4:00 PM**.

2. Pledge of Allegiance - Invocation

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

3. Roll Call

Board Members Present:

- Russ
- Mike
- John
- Jeff

Board Members Absent:

- George

Others Present in the Audience: There were 3 public attendees.

- Bill Flemming,
- Lynn Fleming
- Rob Anderson from GEI

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from 04-07-2026

Motion by **John**, supported by **Russ**, to approve the April meeting minutes per the change on the fire ordinance minutes that stated that we modeled the Fire Service ordinance to the City of Crystal Falls and changed it to Crystal Falls Township.

Motion carried.

5. Zoning Report

Pam reported that she completed **eight new site inspections** for new buildings.

6. Approval of Agenda

Motion by **Mike**, supported by **John**, to approve the agenda as presented / amended.

Motion carried.

7. Chair Report:

Russ announced that the purpose of the meeting was to finalize the Master Plan.

8. Unfinished Business

8.1 Open Public Meeting

Session Opened: 4:10 PM

Comments from the Chair:

Russ thanked the board for their work on the Master Plan revisions.

Summary of the Proposed Master Plan Amendments:

No comments

Public Comments

- **Bill Flemming** proposed revising Chapter 3, Page 21 wording to: *“The township would like to preserve the lakes and wetlands along the shores of the Michigamme Reservoir and the Michigamme River watershed including the Fence River, Fence Lake, Lake Ellen, and other bodies of water in the township.”*
- **Lynn Flemming** expressed appreciation that the township is open to studies on greenbelt options **Close Public Meeting**

Session – Session Closed at: 4:12 PM

9. Open Board Meeting Session – Session Opened at: 4:12 PM

9.1 Chair Comments

Russ noted that the preface and the Fire Ordinance were approved at the June 15, 2026 meeting and will take effect July 1, 2026.

9.2 Finalize Changes to the Master Plan

Discussion included clarification of the intent behind the Michigamme Reservoir language on Page 21.

- Mike stated the goal was to protect the reservoir and the entire watershed, preserving wilderness as long as possible.
- John noted the Master Plan already protects the entire watershed.

After discussion, the final approved wording is: *“The Township would like to preserve the lakes and wetlands along with the entire Michigamme watershed.”*

Motion: Mike **Support:** John. The Planning Commission, by resolution, votes to adopt the updated Master Plan per the amendments discussed at this Public Hearing.

Roll Call Vote on this Motion:

- John: Yes
- Mike: Yes
- Russ: Yes
- Jeff: Yes
- George: Absent

Motion carried.

10. Public Comments

None.

11. Board Privilege

- Jeff raised concerns about increasing development of data centers on rural land and suggested exploring ordinance options.
- John agreed an ordinance plan should be developed.
- Russ agreed to add the topic to the **October meeting agenda**.

Pam reviewed the next steps for the Master Plan: The Board may approve it, decline it, approve portions, or return it to the Planning Commission for further revision.

Russ noted that **John and Jeff's terms end this year**, but both expressed interest in continuing.

12. Adjournment

Motion by **Mike**, supported by **John**, to adjourn the meeting at **4:45 PM. Motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted

Jeff Tushoski Mansfield Planning Commission Secretary