

TIFA FINAL Meeting Minutes 01/08/2019

The meeting was called to order by Jim Brennan at 7:03 PM.

Salute to the flag.

Attendees: Jim Brennan, Chuck Hurst, Norine Maki and John Ulrich. Maggie Shepheard– Absent.

Public Present: Casey Honeyeager

Jim made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Norine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chuck made a motion to approve the minutes of the 12/06/18 meeting. John seconded the motion. Motion passed.

John made a motion to approve the treasurers report as presented. Chuck seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Gate loan is being processed at Range Bank and is in the bank's lawyer's hands. The loan will be for \$49,000 at 3% interest paid annually on May 1. The outstanding debt for the new gates to Republic Mountain Lake, LLC is approximately \$53,410 at the current time. The TIFA also owes \$160 on the mortgage before it was paid off. Jim will be talking to the Sportsman's club soon asking for a \$5,000 donation to help cover the interest.

CCI has donated \$10,000 on 01-04-2019 to the TIFA. The money was deposited in the TIFA account and is earning interest until the loan payment to the township is due.

New Business

Jim made a motion for the election of officers as follows:

Chairman – Jim Nominated by Norine and seconded by Chuck. Passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman – Norine Nominated by Jim and seconded by Chuck. Passed unanimously.

Secretary – John Ulrich Nominated by Chuck and seconded by Jim. Passed unanimously.

Jim made a motion for the Board member terms as follows:

Chuck – 3 years, Norine – 2 years, next new member – 2 years, Jim – 1 year, John – 1 year.

John seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A budget worksheet was presented and worked through and will be presented to the Township Board. John made a motion to approve the budget as recommended. Norine seconded the motion.

James Brennan – aye, Norine Maki – aye, John Ulrich – aye, Chuck Hurst = aye, Maggie Shepheard – absent. Motion passed.

Public Comment –none.

John made the motion to adjourn and Norine seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

John Ulrich, Supervisor

Republic Township, 906-376-8139

TIFA FINAL Open Public Informational

Meeting Minutes 03/29/2019

The meeting was called to order by Jim Brennan at 7:00 PM.

Salute to the flag.

Attendees: Jim Brennan, Chuck Hurst, Norine Maki, Casey Honeyeager and John Ulrich.

Public Present: Mike and Cindy Rautio

Jim Presented a summary of the history of the TIFA as follows:

2008 - several individuals assembled to discuss the forming of a TIFA.

2009 - Marquette county was approached with the idea and they agreed

2009 – the township board passed an ordinance to form the TIFA. The township loaned the money to the TIFA to operate until enough funds came in to pay them back.

2013 – The TIFA had received enough money to pay the township back. During this year the areas was expanded to include the area up to Bengtson Bridge.

2017 – The MDEQ prohibited the TIFA from closing the gates. Michigan state governor stepped in and the gates were closed for the fishing derby.

2018 – the TIFA bought the dam with three new gates installed. The TIFA also applied for three grants to make the dam a permanent spillway with a fish ladder.

2019 – The TIFA received one grant from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for \$100,000. The other two grants are still pending.

2019 – The TIFA will end with a possible two-year extension.

Public Comment –the question was asked if the TIFA owned the land where the fish ladder is propose to be located? Answer: the TIFA has a written agreement that went in with one of the grants for use of the land to install the fish ladder. Once the dam has been made permanent the public will learn to live with the level.

John made the motion to adjourn and Norine seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.

John Ulrich, Supervisor

Republic Township, 906-376-8139

TIFA FINAL Meeting Minutes 03/29/2019

The meeting was called to order by Jim Brennan at 7:22 PM.

Attendees: Jim Brennan, Chuck Hurst, Norine Maki, Casey Honeyeager and John Ulrich.

Public Present: Mike and Cindy Rautio

Jim made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Norine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Norine made a motion to approve the minutes of the 01/08/19 meeting. Chuck seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Public Comment –John expressed thanks to Jim for all of his hard work on the dam projects.

Communications:

Letter from Sara Cambensy congratulating the TIFA on the award of the Rural Development Fund Grant. See the Attached.

The TIFA Development/TIF plan was sent into Treasury.

The treasurer found the information for the new reporting requirements from the Treasury website and will coordinate with the auditor to ensure everything is in order,

Old Business:

Gate Loan Update – A letter and Cashier's Check for \$5,310 was sent to Roger Crimmins on March-20, 2019 for the interest owed on the monies for the new dam gates and their installation.

A donation of \$10,000 was received from Eagle Mine and placed in the TIFA account.

Jim has signed the papers for the \$100,000 MDARD grant.

New Business:

John made a motion to approve the budget as approved by the township board. Chuck seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote as follows:

Casey- yea

Chuck – yea

Norine – yea

John – yea

Jim – yea

Motion passed

A copy of the development plan was passed out to the board members. Jim asked the board members to review it by the next board meeting.

Public comment: Mike and Cindy Rautio mentioned that a contractor bidding on the M95 bridge work talked with them. The work is going to fill in an area under the bridge between the north and south support columns and the bank under the river. This will leave a narrow passage under the bridge between the north and south columns.

Chuck made the motion to adjourn and Norine seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

John Ulrich, Supervisor

Republic Township, 906-376-8139



109TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SARA CAMBENSY
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-0498
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Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Republic Township
PO Box 338
Republic, Michigan
49879-0338

Dear Michigamme River Basin Authority,

Congratulations on receiving the Rural Development Fund Grant from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. This year, the department received 66 proposals and ultimately awarded 16 projects. Receiving this award shows the department's confidence in your proposal and its ability to positively impact our community. By receiving the \$100,000 grant the Michigamme River Basin Increment Financing and Water Improvement Authority can support modifications of Republic Dam.

This award is designated to support businesses and communities that have demonstrated a financial need to further develop their communities. This grant specifically works to present rural communities the opportunity to invest in land-based industries and infrastructure efforts. Through new projects and efforts like yours, the Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan can continue to prosper. I thank you for your commitment to this project and our region.

Communities like ours are vital to the overall economic success of our state. By constantly working to launch new projects and revitalization efforts in northern and rural communities, Michigan can continue to expand infrastructure, provide more opportunities for businesses and employees, and develop talent and training initiatives.

I look forward to seeing the realization of your proposal and any future endeavors you have aimed at advancing the projects and goals important to our communities.

Sincerely,

State Representative Sara Cambensy



Fund 247 - Tax Increment Finance Authority

Revenues

Dept 000

402 PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	5,057	5,000	5,000	9,707	5,000	5,000			
42 PENALTIES & INTEREST ON TAXES	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000		
665 INTEREST	38	25	25	12	25	25	25		
670 DONATIONS	0	0	0	36,000	0	0			
677 REIMBURSEMENTS-SAVINGS	0	0	0	1,500	0	0			
699 TRANSFER IN	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Dept 000	5,095	5,025	5,025	47,219	5,025	0	0	0	0
Total Revenues	5,095	5,025	5,025	47,219	5,025	0	0	0	0

Expenditures

Dept 000

704 EMPLOYEE WAGES	0	0	0	0	0	0			
736 OPERATING EXPENSES	0	0	2,000	1,886	2,000	2,000	2,000		
801 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	0	0	6,100	4,106	6,100	6,100	6,100		
900 PRINTING / PUBLISHING	0	0	0	0	0	0			
955 MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	5,310	0	0	5,310		
970 CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	0	50,000	30,000	50,000	50,000	50,000		
972 LOAN EXPENDITURE	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,806		
999 TRANSFERS OUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	20,000		
Dept 000	0	0	58,100	41,302	58,100	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditures	0	0	58,100	41,302	58,100	0	0	0	0

Tax Increment Finance Authority

5,095	5,025	-53,075	5,917	-53,075	0	0	0	0
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TIFA FINAL Meeting Minutes 07/11/2019

The meeting was called to order by Jim Brennan at 7:04 PM.

Salute to the flag.

Roll Call: Jim Brennan, Chuck Hurst, Norine Maki, Casey Honeyyeager and John Ulrich.

Public Present: None

Agenda: John made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Chuck seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Meeting Minutes:

Casey made a motion to approve the Open Public Informational Meeting Minutes of the 03/29/19 meeting. Norine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chuck made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the 03/29/19 meeting. Casey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Communication: None

Treasurer's Report: Expenses explained by Jim

Old Business:

MDARD Grant Update – Turned down

US Fish and Wildlife Grant Update – Turned down

Cleveland Cliffs Foundation Fund Grant Update – Jim is pursuing with Senator Mc Broom and Representative Cambensy

Contract agreement with Republic Township – paid off

New Business:

Dam Inspection contract with GEI -Jim made a motion to allow him to sign the contract once the TIFA has over \$3,000 in the account. Chuck seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote as follows:

Casey- yea, Chuck – yea, Norine – yea, John – yea, Jim – yea. Motion passed

Change Order No. 1 Funding Application - Tabled

State of Michigan Public Act 57 Of 2018 – Jim explained new requirements

Form 5176 submittal to state – Assessor needs to fill out and submit

TIFA Amended Development Plan – Jim went through the plan amendments and explained the changes to the board. Jim made a motion to accept the typed and penciled in changes to the plan dated July 2019. Norine seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Resolution to hold a public hearing within 90 days on the adoption of the Amended Development Plan and the adoption of the Amended Development Plan. Roll Call Vote as follows:

Casey- yea, Chuck – yea, Norine – yea, John – yea, Jim – yea. Motion passed

Future Funds: Jim explained what potential future paths are available to bring in addition funds.

Boat Ramp: Chuck made a motion to approve the \$100 spent for a permit to install a boat ramp on the west side of M95 at River Road. Casey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

TIFA FINAL Meeting Minutes 07/11/2019

Casey made the motion to adjourn and Chuck seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

John Ulrich, Supervisor

Republic Township, 906-376-8139

Michigamme River Basin Authority/TIFA

279 Kloman Ave PO Box 338 Republic, MI 49879

906-376-8827 republictownship@gmail.com



Resolution of

Michigamme River Basin Water Resources Improvement Tax Increment

Finance Authority

WHEREAS, The Michigamme River Basin Water Resources Improvement Tax Increment Finance Authority of Republic Township, Marquette County, State of Michigan, under the authority of Public Act 57 of 2018, has determined that it is necessary to amend the 2009 Authority Development Plan.

WHEREAS, Public Act 57 of 2018, State of Michigan provides the Authority to amend the 2009 Development Plan, and hold a public hearing on the Authority's amended Authority Development Plan of 2019.

THEREFORE, Now be it resolved that the Michigamme River Basin Water Resources Improvement Tax Increment Finance Authority to hold a public hearing within 90 days of adoption of the resolution to amend the Authority's Development Plan of 2009 and the adoption of the amended Authority Development Plan of 2019.

On a motion by: Jim Brennan

Supported by: John Ulrich

Roll Call Vote:	yays:	nays:	absent:
James Brennan	X		
Norine Maki	X		
Chuck Hurst	X		
Casey Honeyager	X		
John Ulrich	X		

The Chairperson declares the Resolution on July 11, 2019 by a vote of: yays: 5 nays: 0 passed.

James Brennan

Chairperson



TIFA DRAFT Meeting Minutes 08/07/2019

The meeting was called to order by Jim Brennan at 7:00 PM.

Salute to the flag.

Roll Call: Jim Brennan, Norine Maki, Casey Honeyeager and John Ulrich. Chuck Hurst excused.

Public Present: The Polhlmans

Agenda: John made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Casey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Meeting Minutes:

Casey made a motion to approve Meeting Minutes of the 07/11/19 meeting. Norine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Public Comment: Wendy Polhman asked if the gates would be closed after the bridge repair is completed. The answer is not until next year.

Communication: None

Treasurer's Report: \$27.58 left after bills are paid per Jim.

Old Business:

Contract with GEI for the dam inspection will be paid with the \$3,000 in the account.

A Development Plan public meeting will be held 8/22/2019 at 6:45 PM before the regular Township Board meeting.

Michigan State Treasury form 5176 didn't need to be filed.

New Business:

Contract with GEI to submit for a fish passage grant. Norine made a motion to sign the contract with GEI for \$2,500 to allow them to submit the fish passage grant. Roll Call Vote as follows:

Casey- yea, Norine – yea, John – yea, Jim – yea. Chuck – absent. Motion passed

Contract agreement with the township to borrow \$2,500 to be paid back in one year. Casey made a motion to approve the contract agreement with the township to borrow \$2,500. Norine seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote as follows:

Casey- yea, Norine – yea, John – yea, Jim – yea. Chuck – absent. Motion passed

Form 5176 submittal to state – Assessor needs to fill out and submit

Ad date for the second public informational meeting was set for October 15, 2019.

Public Comment: Wendy Polhman asked if the railroad ties will remain when the bridge work is complete.

John made the motion to adjourn and Norine seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM.

John Ulrich, Supervisor

Republic Township, 906-376-8139

TIFA DRAFT Open Public Hearing for Development Plan

Meeting Minutes 08/22/2019

The meeting was called to order by Jim Brennan at 6:45 PM.

Attendees: Jim Brennan, Casey Honeyeager and John Ulrich.

Absent: Chuck Hurst and Norine Maki

Public Present: Mike and Cindy Rautio

Jim the new state act that controls the TIFA as follows:

2009 – the township board passed an ordinance to form the TIFA. The Development plan was written and approved.

2011 – The TIFA added more parcels to the district.

2019 – The TIFA updated the Development Plan and inserted the added parcel numbers during that update.

2019 – The TIFA approved the Development Plan for presentation to the public.

Public Comment –There was no public comment on the Development Plan.

John made the motion to adjourn and Casey seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.

John Ulrich, Supervisor

Republic Township, 906-376-8139

TIFA Final Open Public Informational

Meeting Minutes 10/15/2019

The meeting was called to order by Jim Brennan at 7:04 PM.

Salute to the flag.

Roll Call: Jim Brennan, Chuck Hurst, Norine Maki, Casey Honeyeager and John Ulrich present.

Jim introduced the TIFA Board to the public.

Public Present: 20 people

Approval of the Agenda: Jim made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and Casey seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes: Jim made a motion to table the approval of the minutes for 8-7-19 and John seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Casey made a motion to approve the minutes of 8-22-19 with a correction. Chuck seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim Presented a summary of where the TIFA is attempting to proceed:

The TIFA is required by law to have Public Information Meetings twice per year.

A brief history of the dam was presented. Pictures were shown to the public on the projection screen for the present condition of the basin level and water markers. An explanation was given about the water marker use. Pictures were shown of the present condition of the dam concrete. A copy of the current dam operating permit was given to the public. An explanation was given how the gates are operated. The basin water level was lowered early this year to allow work on the M95 bridge.

The TIFA has options to continue the keeping the basin level up. A spillway is considered a new dam and a fish ladder is required by law. The TIFA applied for a fish ladder grant this year and was turned down. A meeting is being put together to try and work out a way for the dam to be made a fixed crest dam without a fish passage.

The TIFA received one grant from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) for \$100,000 to build a fixed crest dam. If the money is not spent in a reasonable time frame, it has to be released back to MDARD. The TIFA is considering going to the Township Board asking for a millage request to be put on the August 2020 ballot. The TIFA applied to CCI for a grant to provide the match money for the MDARD grant. The TIFA will end in 2029 and can ask for a two-year extension to 2031. The TIFA has three years left on the current permit to operate to try and get the changes made to the dam.

An explanation was given of how the water markers are used and how the weather affects the water level. Operating the gates to control the level is difficult. Water flow through the gates has to keep flows upstream equal to downstream.

The financial report and budget were explained. Repair of the gate rails will need to be done if a fixed crest dam is not constructed.

Public Comment –1. Where is the water marker downstream of the dam? By the bridge near the water plant on Willow Dr. 2. Clarify the effect of the water coming from Lake Michigamme to downstream. Why do we have to take care of the people downstream when Lake Michigamme doesn't? A picture of the Lake Michigamme spillway was given to the public showing the low flow in August 2018. The Lake

TIFA Final Open Public Informational

Meeting Minutes 10/15/2019

below the bottom for the fishing derby this year to give the fishermen enough water. The basin with a spillway will be like a bathtub overflowing. Lake Michigamme rocked in the gates and the flow is just through the rocks and over the top now. That is the only water we get unless it rains and the water goes over the top of the spillway. 10. One thing they don't have is a fish ladder and it can't be understood? Why are they demanding a fish ladder on our end of the river? The new rule is that if you put in a dam, that is what a spillway will be, then you have to put in a fish ladder. The state of Michigan can override that requirement. That is why we are getting the politicians involved. 11. You don't have a fish passage now, so why do we need one in the future? We are fighting a fish hatchery biologist plus we are fighting the DEQ supervisor who wants the dam removed. The DEQ originally wanted a wetlands study which would cost \$1 million. They are letting us operate right now without the study. The DEQ could still try to bring the study back into play. That is why we have the politicians involved. Public comment- we have to give you a lot of credit anyway because you have gotten things done. Jim firmly believes that the river is the lifeblood of the town. If the township doesn't want to support the dam then the river will flow up and down with the rainfall. There is no silt at the dam now. Silt will flow down river the way it is now. Public comment- there is a place upriver where a guard rail has been installed because the bank has eroded and fell into the river and that sent a huge chunk of soil downriver. There was a discussion about trout in the river and Spruce Creek. If the basin can be stabilized with a spillway, then the sportsman's club could ask the state fishery to stock fish in the basin. The sportsman's club is the operator of the dam. Any member of the sportsman's club or this board has a \$1 million liability policy on them. The TIFA had to rezone the dam area out of mining which cost money. The TIFA has spent money on the dam procurement with tax money, donations and money borrowed from the township (paid back). Public comment – 1491 is too low. That was brought up to the engineering firm but they said it was for the 500-year flood flow which is a hydraulic calculation. The mine always kept the level at 1494 but the marker on the dam cannot be trusted. The two readings required by the DEQ is all we need to be concerned with. The gates cannot be closed. If they are completely closed the DEQ could fine the TIFA \$5,000. We almost got fined because someone went to the dam and cut the chains on the two outer gates and lowered them. There was an investigation by the DEQ and they were shown that the locks were cut. That was a very serious situation.

We are very happy for all of you in the public who showed up for this meeting. Once we know more information, we will get the information out. Any information you want is in the township office. 12. Is any information available on line? No. The audit is in DRAFT form right now. The TIFA has to file a financial report with the state 180 days after the end of the fiscal year with the state treasury. They want to know all income including donations. What does TIFA mean? It is called the Michigamme River Basin Water Resources Tax Increment Financing Authority. We are the only TIFA like this in the state of Michigan.

Casey made the motion to adjourn and Norine seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

John Ulrich, Supervisor

Republic Township, 906-376-8139