

West Branch Township
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
January 26th 2026 7:00pm

Called to order by Ray Johnson at 7:01pm

Present: Ray Johnson, Laurie Bauchamp, Brenda Aldrich, Nellie Corrine and Brandon Chmiko

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Brandon Chmiko and supported by Nellie Corrine.

Motion to approve the minutes from September 22nd 2025 was made by Brandon Chmiko and supported by Brenda Aldrich.

Public Comment: None – 2 residents present

Old Business:

Zoning Sawyer

A. Zoning for Sawyer is as the Committee would like it, recognized by Marquette County. We will assess the zoning of Sawyer in the future with regards to sales and splits of parcel.

Forsyth Township Zoning and Ordinances

B. Ray Johnson provided Forsyth Townships Solar/Wind energy ordinances for the Commission to review in depth prior to the next meeting on April 20th 2026.

New Business:

CREO(Compatible Renewable Energy Ordinances)

A. The Committee would like to see an ordinance for Solar/Wind energy. Will be defining the use and limitations on the next Planning Commission Meeting on April 20th 2026.

Recreational Grants

B. The Recreational Committee wasn't awarded any grants from the previous applications. The Master Plan should be amended to include an updated timeline for project phases moving forward. These grants will be applied for again in April 2026.

Public Comment:

1. One resident asked if the Site Plan will be updated when the Master Plan will be updated. The Committee stated that the Site Plan will be updated if it differs from the Master Plan.
2. Another resident stated that they would like to have the activity fields to be set back from their property line as much as possible. She wishes to not have the soccer pitch or baseball diamond close to their property line.

Motion:

Made a motion to have the Recreational Plan to be on the agenda for the Township Board Meeting on February 17th, 2026. Brandon Chmiko made the motion, Nellie Corrine 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

DRAFT