

West Branch Township
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
April 20th, 2026 7:00pm

Called to order by Kris Shaw at 7:01pm

Present: Kris Shaw, Brenda Aldrich and Brandon Chmiko

Absent: Laurie Bauchamp, Nellie Corrine

Ray Johnson resigned as Chair

Motion to approve the agenda with (3) amendments was made by Brandon Chmiko and supported by Kris Shaw. M.C. 1st amendment, elect a new chair, secretary and vice chair. 2nd amendment, add "PA Zoning (Public Access) to New Business. 3rd amendment, add "Resident Letter" to New Business.

Motion to approve the minutes of January 26th, 2026 was made by Brenda Aldrich and supported by Brandon Chmiko. M.C.

Public Comment: None

Elect New Chair: Brandon Chmiko nominated Brenda Aldrich as new Chair. Kris Shaw supported. Brenda Aldrich accepted, approved.

Elect Vice Chair: Brenda Aldrich nominated Brandon Chmiko as Vice Chair. Kris Shaw supported. Brandon Chmiko accepted, approved.

Elect New Secretary: Brandon nominated Laurie Bauchamp as new Secretary. Brenda Aldrich supported. Kris Shaw accepted on behalf of Laurie Bauchamp.

Old Business:

Zoning Sawyer

A. As turn over of property/parcels take place through sale or other means of transfer, the properties will need to be brought to current zoning guidelines.

Forsyth Township Zoning and Ordinances

B. Zoning and Ordinances of Forsyth Township was shared during the prior meeting to be reviewed and to be utilized as a template for West Branch Township to build from. Will continue to discuss and review the details for the following meeting.

New Business:

CREO(Compatible Renewable Energy Ordinances)

A. CREO discussions will continue under upcoming new business, Solar/Wind/Radio Towers, etc.

PA Zoning(Public Access)

B. The Zoning Administrator will check with Marquette County on the zoning for the West Branch Townships current parcels to ensure proper categories are current and upheld.

Resident Letter

C. After reviewing the resident's letter, the commission will review, update and bring to the Township Boards attention of the outdated ordinance verbiage.

Public Comment: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm

Submitted by Brandon Chmiko