

# Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc

## Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

**August 1, 2025**

**Time: 7:30 pm**

**Place: Sam Zue Building**

**Executive board members present:**  Blain Tarrant  Ham Hobson  Barb Hobson  Bill Fenton  Janice Clous  Larry Clous  Kelley VanAlstine  Jim Luper  Lisa Gulliver  Brandon Jenkins  Greg Thon  Todd Benson, past president

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Blain Tarrant.

The pledge of Allegiance was recited and a prayer was given by David VanAlstine.

Two deaths were reported: Sonia Tubbs and Ed Breitmeyer, who were both lifetime members.

Two members were reported as ill, Ron Bancroft and Tom Barber.

The secretary's report was read from the July meeting. The report was approved as read.

Financial secretary, Barb Hobson, reported income of \$5,541.81 for the month of July.

Treasurer, Jan Clous, reported \$11,780.38 in expenses with a remaining bank balance of \$16,139.82, savings account balance of \$10,486.81, and \$57,167.79 in the money market account. \$15,000 was moved from the money market account to checking. The financial report was approved as read.

Barb introduced our new members, Patrick Tuttle and Dean Chandler.

Carl VanWylen had no new donations to report.

Pete Labelle shared that there is enough coal for the show but not for education days. He found some surplus coal and he will discuss it in further detail at the eboard meeting. He reminded members that the wood is for the steam engines and not free for the taking.

Paul Raffel will be having a conductor's meeting on the Wednesday before the show at 2:00 pm. This will take place on the train platform. Please attend if you are interested in helping out.

Blain reported that there all kinds of things that need prepped on the show grounds for the show. Please see Blain to find out where you can help out.

The last call for budget requests was announced. They will be presented to the eboard for approval at the August 2nd eboard meeting.

#### Committee Reports:

The handicap shuttles are in need of help, especially the 4-8 pm shift. Please see them if you have some time to help out.

The train depot is in need of a committee head. This is a junior member oriented area. The kids need someone to oversee handing out train tickets and helping schedule their work shifts. Todd March is willing to coordinate the shifts along with the soda fountain. Please see Todd if your interested in working with the youth.

The main gates need help with putting on wrist bands during the busy parts of the show. Please volunteer if you have some time to help with this.

The north gate is also in need of workers. Please see Llsa if you can help out.

Tony is looking for some help in the Webber Building with the snow engine and oilfield engine. Please see Tony if interested.

Blain shared the priority project list of things that need done before the show. The ridge cap on the museum needs repaired and the clubhouse chimney has a leak. A manlift is available for these repairs.

The new committee chair list for the website was voted on and approved. This is a requirement of the club bylaws.

An increase for flea market sites for 2026 from \$100 to \$125 was voted on and approved.

Anyone interested in running for a position on the eboard has until the September meeting to put your name on the list. You must be a member in good standing for 3 consecutive years. Open positions for this election are as follows: President, Vice

President, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, a one year trustee position and two 3 year trustee positions. If interested, please be sure to see Todd Benson to get your name on the ballot.

Bill Swath from Springdale Farms has donated wheat for threshing this year. It will be returned to him after the show. The straw will go to the 4H fair.

Blain reminded everyone that generator quiet hours for everyone during the show are from 10 pm until 7 am unless you are in the designated generator area.

There has been a lot of non-club trash found in the dumpsters. They are already full. Please use the dumpsters for club waste only.

Glen Arnold donated and hauled in a large amount of seasoned, split wood. This is to be used for the steam engines, not campfires.

The machine shop dedication ceremony for the Dunmyers will be held on Wednesday, August 13th at 6 pm.

There will be a committee chair post-show meeting on Saturday, August 23 at 7pm. If you are a committee chair member, please try to attend.

All fire extinguishers need to be set out for inspection before Monday, August 11th.

Please take some of the remaining show books and distribute them in your travels.

Please remember to sign in and sign the get well cards.

Any campers that are not in their designated camping spot need to be moved. If you are roping off your areas, please make sure the ropes are visible.

There is no permanent water hookup or piggy backing of power cords allowed. Also, no leaking of gray tank water. Inspectors are looking for all of these infractions during the show.

Jim thanked everyone who has worked so hard to make the post office a reality for the show this year.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by Kelley VanAlstine, secretary

