

Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc.

Approved Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 9/05/2025

Time: 7:30 pm

Place: Sam Zue Building

Executive board members present:  Blain Tarrant  Ham Hobson  Kelley VanAlstine  
 Barb Hobson  Janice Clous  Larry Clous  Lisa Gulliver  Brandon Jenkins  Bill  
Fenton  Jim Luper  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 by the Membership and a prayer was given by David VanAlstine.

There were no deaths to report. Tim Hartline, Jim Luper, Leslee DeJonge and Ronda Ance were all reported as having upcoming surgeries.

The minutes from the August meeting were read and approved.

Barb reported total income for the month of August of \$288,202.85 with money market interest of \$89.67 and checking interest of \$3.25.

Jan reported total expenses of \$146,789.45 with a remaining bank balance of \$165,453.96, savings account balance of \$10,986.81 and \$57,264.05 in the money market account. The finance reports were approved as read.

**Committee Reports:**

Lesla Rice introduced a new member, Joshua Bowser.

Carl VanWylen informed Blain that a big rock crusher is available for donation. It is located near Monroe, Michigan. Please see Blain if you are interested in helping transport it.

There is still a lot of clean up to be done on the showgrounds this fall. Keith and Kevin Beerens are looking for help to clean out the toybox so they can begin laying the new floor. Please help out if you can on any of these projects.

Please get your budget requests turned in as soon as possible for any upcoming projects. Please submit them on a budget request form. This helps with planning for next year.

Barb reported new membership cards will be coming soon.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Any committees that had any extra forms left over from the show, please get them to Paula.

### **New Business:**

Blain gave an update on how the show went this year. There were issues with people in the campgrounds and the flea market resulting in some being trespassed. He thanked everyone for all of the hard work they put in during the show. The eBoard will be discussing some rule changes for next year. They will be presented to the membership for a vote.

A group of members went to the Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion in Rollag, Minnesota. They met with the current president and past president. They toured the grounds. Many questions were asked about how they run their show. The biggest thing they do differently is charge everyone to be there. Their show has a very efficient shuttle system. They do not have a flea market and all of their food vendors are local non-profits. Our show is about a third of the size of their show. They take credit cards. They feel we are losing money by not doing it at our show. They charge \$50 to camp for the whole show and \$15 per person entry fee for 11 years old and over.

At our show, we had 868 exhibits registered this year. Each exhibit got 2 free entry bands totaling 1,736 free bands. At \$25 per band, \$43,400 was given away. Blain did a rough estimate on 1,000 campers. If we raise our camping fees to \$40 and everyone pays, that would bring in another \$170,000.

All of this information will be considered as we figure out how to increase our revenue. Greg reminded the members that our show is non-profit and all of the money we make goes back into the grounds and show for next year. Our costs continue to increase every year, along with the necessary maintenance of our grounds, buildings and equipment. This will be a gradual thing, and not done all at once.

Jim Luper spoke about Education Days coming up on September 17th and 18th. We have a large number of students scheduled to come this year so many volunteers are needed. There will be a meeting at 8:00 am each morning and a potluck both days. Please sign up to help if you can.

### **Announcements:**

Bill Fenton shared that there has been a very positive response to members turning in their volunteer sheets. Over 7,000 hours have been accumulated not including the show hours.

The Buckley Old Engine Show is now on TikTok and Instagram. Thank you to Sarah Fenton for making this happen.

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

Blain wanted the members to know that their work does not go unnoticed. He doesn't get a chance to thank everyone individually, but he appreciates everyone's dedication to the club.

If you have something on loan to the club, please make sure you have your blue sheet filled out and up to date. Please see Ham if you have any questions.

Brandon Jenkins shared that Martin Holschu took home the mini Baker fan to work on it.

### **Election:**

Past President Todd Benson took over the meeting to announce the election candidates for the upcoming year. They are as follows:

**President- Blain Tarrant** Motion to close nominations was made by Dan Ockert, 2nd Dave McCall. Motion carried.

**Vice President-Ham Hobson** Motion to close nominations was made by Tom Farnsworth, 2nd Chris Grouix, Motion carried.

**Secretary- Kelley VanAlstine** Motion to close nominations was made by Paula Tarrant, 2nd Jim Luper, Motion carried.

**Treasurer- Jan Clous** Motion to close nominations was made by Andy Heintzelman, 2nd Ron Stark. Motion carried.

**Financial Secretary- Barb Hobson** Motion to close nominations was made by Dan Janik, 2nd by Gloria Ockert. Motion carried.

### **3 Year Term Trustee (2 Open Positions available) Ron Stark**

\* Member nominees from the floor:

**Brandon Jenkins**, nominated by Tom Graham, 2nd by Charlie Clous. Motion carried. Brandon accepted the nomination.

**Scott Oeverman**, nominated by David VanAlstine, 2nd by Paula Tarrant. Motion carried. Scott accepted the nomination.

A motion to close the nominations for the 3 year trustee term was made by Paul Raffel, 2nd by Melissa Embody. Motion carried.

**1 Year Term Trustee- Bill Fenton**, nominated by Blain Tarrant, 2nd by Jim Luper. Motion carried. Bill accepted the nomination. Paula Tarrant made a motion to close the nominations. 2nd by Gloria Ockert. Motion carried.

**Absentee Ballots-** An absentee ballot can be requested from Jan Clous. She needs names and addresses. The request must be made by Monday, September 22nd in order to be mailed back to you by the October 3rd meeting. The ballot has to be mailed back with a return address. If there is no address, it won't be counted.

Scott Oeverman, Brandon Jenkins and Ron Stark all addressed the membership explaining why they desire to be on the eBoard.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.