

Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc

June Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: June 5, 2026

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: Sam Zue

Executive Board Members Present: ☒ President Blain Tarrant
☒ Vice President Ham Hobson ☒ Treasurer Jan Clous
☒ Financial Secretary Barb Hobson ☒ Secretary Kelley VanAlstine
Trustees: ☒ Brandon Jenkins ☒ Jim Luper ☒ Larry Clous ☐ Lisa Gulliver
☒ Bill Fenton ☒ Scott Oeverman ☐ Past President Todd Benson

The meeting was called to order by President Blain Tarrant.

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

There were two deaths reported; Irene Taylor and Gail Buyze. No illnesses were reported.

Officer's Reports:

The secretary's report was read and approved.

Barb Hobson read the income report for the month of May. Total income was \$9,150.41 which includes \$.57 in checking interest and \$182.54 in money market savings interest.

Jan Clous read the expense report for the month of May. The total expenses were \$30,620.88, leaving a bank balance of \$15,996.33 and money market balance of \$139,748.32.

The financial reports were approved as read.

Committee Reports:

New Members- There were no new members to report.

Donations- A 1937 Allis Chalmers C tractor and a full size windmill have been donated to the club. The windmill will need to be disassembled and moved to the showgrounds.

Train- Pete shared that they continue to do maintenance work on the train and on the track. Please talk to Pete if you are able to help the train committee out.

Grounds Maintenance- There are many ongoing clean-up projects that need to be done on the grounds. The large cherry tree at the end of the flea market needs to be cut down because it is hollow in the middle. Please use some volunteer hours to help if you can.

Building Maintenance:

- *The clubhouse bathroom toilet drain has been repaired. Non-flushable items, such as wipes, had it plugged. Please be mindful of what you flush.

- *The Railroad Crossing Guard building needs to be stained.

- *The Township Hall needs to be painted but is covered in lead based paint. The bid to remove the lead paint and repaint the building was \$18,000. The eBoard discussed the possibility of using a good quality vinyl siding instead. This would be a long term solution to the maintenance of the hall. After some discussion, it was decided that we will pursue looking into the cost of vinyl siding. This will be revisited in July.

- *The Post Office porch needs to be painted.

- *The floor in the Toybox needs to be sanded and finished.

Oil Well Lease- Ham shared that the oil well lease payments are up to date but they still have not signed a contract. Our lawyer has sent a certified letter stating that we need a signed contract. The eBoard will continue to work to get this resolved.

Budgets- Please get your budget request submitted in writing to be considered for any projects you would like done this year

Barb reminded the members who haven't paid their dues that the cost will increase to \$20 in June. Please make sure you have updated your email addresses as well.

Ham shared that there are two concept plans on the whiteboard. One is for an addition to the steam building to house two boilers and a tugboat engine. The other is for the blue building to house the Kahlenberg engine. Please take a look at them.

Unfinished Business:

Committee Head List- A motion was made to accept the committee head list as written. Motion approved.

Proposal to Increase Membership Dues- A proposal was made to increase active member's dues from \$10 to \$20 per year and working associate member's dues from \$55 to \$75 per year for 2027. Motion approved, with one 'no' vote.

New Business:

Anyone needing signs or banners for the show or if you have any signs in your area with outdated information or any printing needs, please see Paula Tarrant.

Work Schedules- Committee heads will need to start looking for help if you are in need in your area during the show. Please reach out to new members as well.

2027 60th Anniversary Show- We are looking for some creative ideas to help celebrate our 60th anniversary show next year. Please reach out to the eBoard with any ideas you may have.

New Chairpersons:

Food Committee- Ginger Farnsworth will be stepping down from the food committee. She gave a brief description of the food committee chair's responsibilities. She is willing to mentor someone who would be willing to take over this position. Please see her if you are interested.

Memorial Chapel- The Memorial Chapel is looking for a co-chair to replace Nelda Fredrick, who is stepping down. Please see her or Dan Ockert if you are interested in helping out in this area.

Volunteers:

There are several opportunities available to volunteer your time before, during and after the show. Some areas that have been specifically mentioned are: Yesterday's Home/ Town Hall, Drivers for the Shuttle Bus, and the Handicap Tractor Shuttles. Please reach out if you can help with any of these.

Announcements:

Blain thanked Cory Wall for transporting the donated bulldozer to the showgrounds from the Underwood property in Stanwood.

eBoard meetings have been moved to Thursday nights before the membership meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Jim Luper shared that the Swap Meet and Car Show was a huge success this year. There was a large turnout of cars, vendors and spectators.

Member Camper registration will start at the July meeting. For the show, all members need to enter at the East Gate.

For additional safety this year, all golf carts and UTVs will be required to have an orange flag that measures 8 feet from the ground. If you need a flag, they can be purchased at the East Gate for \$10.

Vendor Contracts- All vendor contracts will be reviewed and approved annually by the eBoard in July, the year before the next show. Contracts will be updated and provided to the committee heads before the next show. If any changes are being requested, they need to be presented to the eBoard before the July meeting.

Please sign in and sign the get well cards.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

