

Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc

August 2026 Membership Meeting Minutes

August 8,2026

Time: 7:30 pm

Place: Sam Zue

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

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and an opening prayer was given by David VanAlstine.

There were two deaths reported; longtime members Lee Lowing and Larry Wichern. A moment of silence was held in remembrance of them.

The secretary's report was read and approved.

The finance report was read by Barb Hobson. She reported total income for July of \$5,530.03 including \$0.46 in checking interest and \$174.57 interest in the money market savings account.

Jan Clous read the treasurer's report. She reported total expenses for July of \$21,288.34. This left a bank balance of \$11,981.13 and a money market balance of \$120,099.78. The financial reports were approved as read.

Blain thanked several members who helped get many of the much needed projects completed on the grounds.

Emergency Action Plan: Shawn Bott presented an Emergency Action Plan outline that she has been working on along with Paula Tarrant. The club is required to have this plan on file. Each committee chair will receive a packet with all of the details for their area. This plan continues to be a work in progress until all the details are finalized.

Committee Reports:

New Members: Lesa Rice introduced 7 new members to the club. Tammy Clous, Brad Clous, Tammy DeCharme, Scott DeCharme, Zack Konchek, Jim LaBreck and Susanne March were all welcomed by the membership.

There were no new donations to the club in July.

Train: Pete reported that they plan to start the train to make sure it is ready for the show. There is still work to be done on the small train. The railroad crew needs help during and after the show.

Grounds Maintenance: Blain shared that most of the mowing has been completed but there is still trimming that needs done before the show.

Building Maintenance: Blain asked anyone who may need some last minute maintenance done before the show to please see him.

Budget Requests: Please get any budget requests for any pre-show needs turned in right away.

New Business:

Todd March shared that there will be a meeting at the Soda Fountain on Wednesday before the show for any youth members interested in working there. Youth are also needed at the depot to hand out train tickets, the Old Time Necessities building with rope making and help with a brief survey for our guests.

Other areas reporting needing help are all of the gates, banding guests, trash pickup, fire lane patrol, drivers for the shuttle bus and moving things back into the Toy Box before the show. Please help out where you can.

Credit Cards: We will be using 3 credit card machines during the show this year. They will be used at Barb and Lisa's gate, the hospitality building and one will be shared at the North Gate and Flea Market gate. If they prove successful, we look into using them on a wider scale next year.

Ginger Farnsworth is stepping down from the food committee. She is willing to mentor her replacement. If you are interested in taking over for her, please let Ginger or Blain know.

There is a new sign out sheet for anyone using a radio during the show. Please be sure to fill out this form when you pick up your radio at the East Gate.

The Toy Box is looking for someone to take over as the committee chair to replace Carl VanWylen. Please let him know if you are interested in this.

Please have all of your fire extinguishers set out on Monday morning, August 10th.. The fire inspector will be here to do his inspections that day.

The 2026 Buckley show calendars have the wrong date for the September meeting. The correct date is Friday, September 11th.

If you are turning 65 this year or have a youth member turning 16, please see Barb.

Please pay your dues at the soundbooth during the show. This is the most convenient way to do it.

Please remember all members must enter through the East Gate for the show, whether camping or exhibiting.

Members who are bringing in a UTV or golf cart must have a flag for safety. They must be 8 feet from the ground. If you need one, they are available for loan at the East Gate.

All members can get their registration bands starting Tuesday morning at the Sound Booth.

Please return any leftover advertising show books to the Sam Zue building.

Scholarship applications for college students are being accepted. Please get them mailed in.

If you are planning to run for an open board position, please let the past president, Todd Benson, know by the end of September meeting.

The pre-show meeting will be held Wednesday night at 7:00 pm in the Webber Barn.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

