SUGAR ISLAND TOWNSHIP
6401 E 1 ½ Mile Rd
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783
Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

I. Supervisor Eitrem called meeting to order at 7:00 pm

II. Supervisor Eitrem led meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll call taken: Supervisor Eitrem -present, Treasurer Brown-absent, Trustee- Williams-present, Clerk Rich – present, Trustee Morehouse -present

IV Supervisor Eitrem announced an addition to the agenda, under New Business item f. Vendor Contract Assessor Computer. Discuss and consider purchase of computer equipment for SIT Assessor.

MOTION: Clerk Rich to accept Agenda as amended. Support Trustee Williams. Motion passed unanimously.

V **MOTION:** Trustee Williams- to approve Meeting Minutes October 13, 2026 Supported by Supervisor Eitrem. Motion passed unanimously.

VI Correspondence- Supervisor Eitrem: Summarize correspondence received from AT&T regarding various products.

Clerk Rich summarized correspondence received from Michigan Township Association.

VII **Treasurer's report-** Treasurer Brown absent. Treasurer's printed report was contained in Board packets. There was no public reading of the report. Per Supervisor Eitrem: "Let the record stipulate that the Treasurer's report was "read" even though not aloud.

MOTION: Trustee Morehouse to accept Treasurer's Report as per Supervisor Eitrem stipulation. Support Trustee Williams. Motion passed 3 yes, 0 No. (Clerk Rich was absent from the table during the vote).

VIII **Unfinished Business:**

a. Supervisor Eitrem discussed the status of ongoing work with Spectrum Communication. Explained delay due to mechanical failure. Expected to resume in two weeks.
b. Discussion of increasing Center Rental fees. Currently $40. Considering increase to $200 or more depending on use of entire facility. To be discussed at next meeting.
c. Supervisor Eitrem presented information that he had accumulated regarding other EUP townships, and their elected officials' salaries/pay. Asked Board to review for consideration next month. Suggested raising pay to average of all townships surveyed, beginning next fiscal year. If after 1 year there are no complaints from Sugar Island citizens, then put out as a Referendum Vote to the public.
d. Admin Policy and procedure will be brought to next meeting for approval.

IX **New Business:**

a. Pay Bills with EFT's and Checks.
MOTION: Trustee Morehouse to pay monthly bills as presented. Supported by Supervisor Eitrem. Motion passed unanimously.
b. **NO ACTION**: Phill Haggerty as an alternate to the Zoning Committee, no show. Per Supervisor Eitrem, "let's not consider this".
c. November 3, 2026 Election Results. Clerk Rich explained that technical problems with the tabulator and the memory card reader prevented generating a report. County accepted results, and recommended fixes for the next election.

SUGAR ISLAND TOWNSHIP
6401 E 1 ½ Mile Rd
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783
Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

d. Report from Fire Chief Horner regarding AED equipment on south end Fire Barn. Project is close to proceeding and within approved budget. Intention to start at the south end, then one at the North end Fire hall.

MOTION: Trustee Morehouse to support purchase of AED equipment for the south end. Support Clerk Rich. Motion passed unanimously.

e. Resignation of Chair of the Planning Commission and the need to replace him. Supervisor Eitrem noted that an issue regarding training occurred. Duties regarding arrangement of training have been reassigned from the Treasurer to vendor Rebecca Jones.

MOTION: Supervisor Eitrem- to accept resignation of Planning Committee Chair Silas Lane. Support Trustee Williams. Motion passed unanimously

f. Vendor contract for Assessor's computer purchase.

MOTION: Supervisor Eitrem – to approve upgrade of laptop used by Township Assessor up to and including $2,000.00. Support Clerk Rich. Motion passed unanimously.

X Department/Committee Reports:

a. Ambulance Report – Zero runs. Planning for winter (tires, oil change, etc.)
b. Fire Report -Chief Horner will provide a report next month. There is a current focus on recruitment and retention. Supervisor Eitrem requested an update on the truck vendor issue. Chief Horner will bring correspondence to address the issue from Sault Fire Chief Miller, at the December meeting.
c. Planning Committee member Michelle King provided update on committee activity, four members have completed training. Next meeting of the Planning Committee will be 11-17-26 @6:30 pm. Supervisor Eitrem instructed committee that they must elect a chairperson at that meeting.
d. Zoning Board – Chair Michelle King, a Zoning Administrator class is expected in February 2027, with MSU Brad Neuman. Supervisor Eitrem spoke of his son's qualifications and candidacy for SIT Zoning Supervisor, and that there may be an opportunity for multiple townships to share his services to provide for a living wage.
e. Board of Review – No report

XI Public Comment

Andy Kay from Up North Advocacy provided a summary of the organization, and how it may assist Sugar Island Township in regard to writing Ordinances and Master Plans in light of large energy businesses looking to establish within Township boundaries. He will attend the Planning Commission meeting next week.

Holly Hutchinson. Inquired about the Trespasser issue on Island No. 1, and the Sugar Island ferry status. Per Supervisor Eitrem, the trespassing issue has been resolved, and the Sugar Islander ferry is expected to be back in service by 11-17-26.

XII Board member reports

Supervisor Eitrem – additional discussion of Zoning Administrator. Inquired of Chair King if she wanted the candidate to be interviewed one-on-one (at their homes), or in a meeting.

Trustee Morehouse – Reminder that snow will show up anytime. Recycling will be put in a different spot for ease of snow removal.

UNOFFICIAL

SUGAR ISLAND TOWNSHIP
6401 E 1 ½ Mile Rd
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783
Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Clerk Rich –

1. New Television is installed and working.
2. Reported banking access issues for Clerk.
3. Reported multiple overdraft charges to the township. Clerk could not remedy the cash flow problems, as the only person who had banking software access was Treasurer Brown, and she did not respond to messages in a timely manner. Per Supervisor Eitrem, "need to get that fixed."

Trustee Williams – nothing to report

Treasurer Brown – absent.

XIII Announcements:

a. Watch for Announcements in the Sugar Island Quacker
b. Watch for Announcements on Sugar Island Township Facebook page.
c. Watch for Announcements on the Sugar Island Township Website: www.sugarislandtownship.org

XIV 8:26 pm Supervisor Eitrem adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted by:

Brandi Rich
Original signed
Sugar Island Township Clerk

PROPOSED