

**Byron Township/Gaines Charter Township
Joint Board Meeting
June 23, 2008
Minutes**

Supervisor Audrey Nevins welcomed the Gaines Charter Township members to Byron Township and introductions were made.

A special meeting of the Byron Township and Gaines Charter Township Boards were called to order by Supervisor Don Hilton on Monday, June 23, 2008 at 8:09 p.m., at the Byron Township Offices, 8085 Byron Center Avenue, Byron Center Michigan.

Byron Members Present: Audrey Nevins, Joel Hondorp, Carol Houseman, Kathy Burgess, Tim Slot, Paul Nevins, Norm Wustman

Byron Members Absent: None

Gaines Members Present: Don Hilton, Crystal Osterink, Linda Pieters, Carol VanLaan, Connie Giarmo

Gaines Members Absent: Tim Haagsma, Dan Fryling

Others attending: Russ Jansen, Don Nieuwkoop

The first item of discussion revolved the number of meetings. The agreement calls for two joint meetings per year. A consensus is to continue meeting twice a year.

Fire Chief Russ Jansen presented an annual report. Chief Jansen presented several questions regarding the future of Cutlerville Fire Departments and fire service in general for the two townships. Board members discussed long range planning and possibly having the Michigan Fire Chief's Association doing a need assessment.

The Boards discussed staffing. Discussion revolved around shifts, hours, days of the week, more full time, different duty days?

Chief Jansen presented several budget issues to consider. Those included hoses, turn out gear, thermal imaging camera, building heating system and parking lot.

The Boards discussed the need of having an annual audit. It was the consensus that the two Townships' audits is sufficient at this time, but maybe bringing the two separate books together from time to time would be beneficial.

Chief Jansen was asked about the progress on the SOPs and ROGs. Supervisor Nevins asked that a deadline of July 30 be set.

Supervisor Hilton updated the Boards on the proceedings with the new Engine 136 and is working with CDBG and Kent County Fire Commission.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting of the joint Boards will be held Monday October 27, 2008, at 8:00 P.M. at the Gaines Township Offices, 8555 Kalamazoo Avenue, Caledonia, Michigan.

Joel H. Hondorp
Byron Township Clerk