

Regular Meeting of the Vernon Township Board
September 14, 2026
6801 S Durand Rd, Durand, MI 48429

Present: Supervisor Bert DeClerg, Clerk Susan Bannister, Treasurer Mary Jane Edwards, Trustee Janet Sprague, and Trustee Nathan Charles.

Absent: None

The meeting was called to order with the saying of the pledge at 7:00 pm.

The Board approved the agenda and the minutes from the August 10, 2026, regular meeting and September 1, 2026, special meeting.

The Fire Department reported 14 fire runs and 11 EMS runs for August. No burn permits were issued due to the burn ban. The department completed training on new e-tools, passed inspections for Engine 1, Tanker 2, and Rescue, and participated in several community events, including National Night Out, Labor Day activities, Leisure Lake fireworks assistance, and Shiawassee County Fair coverage.

A public hearing was held regarding an ambulance special assessment. Residents asked questions about ambulance service, assessment rates, campground assessments, ballot requirements, and the wording of the public notice. Written protests were also submitted and entered into the record.

Following the hearing, the Board approved an ambulance assessment of **\$142.47 per household**, consisting of the **\$140.00 SSES fee** and a **\$2.47 administrative fee** for the 2026–2027 tax cycle. The Board clarified that this fee is **not in addition to** the current \$125.00 fee.

Campgrounds will continue to be assessed at half the household rate under the existing SSES contract. The Board also voted not to collect the proposed **\$5.00 pro rata fee**, as sufficient funds were available in the Ambulance Fund.

The Board entered closed session to discuss the purchase of real property and later authorized the township attorney to draft a purchase agreement in consultation with the clerk.

Additional reports were received from the Building Department, Ambulance, Sheriff, and Clerk. The Building Department reported five permits issued in August with fees totaling \$1,127.00, and the Sheriff's report listed 184 incidents for August.

During public comment, residents addressed SATA ballot reconsideration and the Greenwood Cemetery restoration project. Under old business, the Board approved an additional \$864.00 for 2.165 miles of road gravel. The Board also approved township, fire, ambulance, and general fund disbursements.

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.