

ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

Monday, August 10, 2026

The Alaiedon Township Board of Trustees meeting held Monday, August 10, 2026 was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Supervisor Steven Lott.

Members present: Supervisor Steven Lott, Clerk Kimberly Hafley, Treasurer Scott Everett, Trustee Kurt Kranz, Trustee Beth Smith and Deputy Clerk Paulette George.

Others present:

Community Members that signed in or spoke: Mark and Jan Urban-Lurain, Emerson and Charlene Hyde, Jordan Altobelli, Jason Buher, Jonathon Burge, Brian and Carrie Hindmon, Sandra Batie, Jess Norling, Britney James, Jackson Norling, Caleb Leifker, Ken Couchenour.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Trustee Kranz, supported by Clerk Hafley, to approve the July 13, 2026 Board of Trustee minutes meeting as printed.

Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Trustee Kranz, supported by Clerk Hafley, to approve the agenda as printed.

Correspondence

- Received the June 2026 Ingham County Sheriff's Report. No discussion.
- Received letter and emails from residents of Dobie Road regarding the ITC project. No discussion.
- Received the letter from Ingham County Sheriff's Office regarding the follow-up of the State of Michigan Violent Crime Public Safety grant money. No discussion.
- Received the letter from ITC regarding Upcoming Survey Activities – Oneida-Sabine Lake Transmission Project. No discussion.
- Received the July 2026 Revenue and Expenditure Report. No discussion.

Persons from the Floor

None

Public Comment:

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Motion by Treasurer Everett, supported by Trustee Kranz, to adopt Resolution No. AT-2026-6, opposing the proposed Oneida to Sabine Lake 345 kV Transmission Line Route through Alaiedon Township and requesting that less impactful alternatives be selected.

Treasurer Everett proposed the following amendment to Section 3.E. of the Resolution. The original language reads: "Utilize existing transportation corridors and rights-of-way where legally and technically feasible." Treasurer Everett proposed amending the language to read: "Utilize existing transportation corridors and rights-of-way, focusing on limited-access highway rights-of-way, as proposed by House Bill 5940, introduced by Representative Dave Prestin."

ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION NO. AT-2026-6

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED ONEIDA TO SABINE LAKE 345 KV TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE THROUGH ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP AND REQUESTING SELECTION OF LESS IMPACTFUL ALTERNATIVES

At a meeting of the Township Board for Alaiedon Township, Ingham County, Michigan, held on August 10, 2026, at 8:00 p.m., at the Township Hall, 2021 Holt Rd, Mason, MI 48854.

PRESENT: Supervisor Steven Lott, Clerk Kimberly Hafley, Treasurer Scott Everett, Trustee Beth Smith and Trustee Kurt Kranz.

ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Treasurer Scott Everett and seconded by Trustee Kurt Kranz.

WHEREAS, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator ("MISO") has approved a portfolio of regional electric transmission projects, including the proposed Oneida to Sabine Lake 345 kV Transmission Line Project ("Project"); and

WHEREAS, ITC Michigan proposes to construct a new 345 kV transmission line and associated facilities extending from the Oneida Substation in Eaton County to the proposed Sabine Lake Substation in Livingston County; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary route network identified by ITC traverses' portions of Alaiedon Township; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary route network demonstrates that multiple routing alternatives exist throughout Eaton, Ingham, and Livingston Counties and that the transmission line is not limited to a single alignment through the Township; and

WHEREAS, Alaiedon Township is predominately rural and agricultural in character and contains extensive productive agricultural lands, farm operations, rural residential properties, open space resources, wetlands, woodlots, natural drainageways, and environmentally sensitive lands that contribute substantially to the Township's economic base, heritage, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Township's Master Plan and land use policies promote preservation of agricultural land, protection of rural character, maintenance of open space, and orderly development consistent with the long-term interests of Township residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed transmission corridor would require substantial permanent easements and utility structures that may exceed 120 feet in height and would introduce industrial-scale infrastructure into predominantly agricultural and rural-residential areas; and

WHEREAS, the proposed transmission corridor would establish a substantial permanent utility corridor through active agricultural areas and will require clearing, grading, access roads, construction staging areas, and long-term vegetation management activities; and

WHEREAS, construction and long-term maintenance of a 345 kV transmission corridor would disrupt existing agricultural operations through restrictions on farming practices, limitations on future improvements, interference with farm drainage systems and tile fields, limitations on aerial application activities, access road construction, vegetation management requirements, and ongoing easement restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the Township is concerned that the proposed route would:

1. Fragment active farming operations and reduce the efficiency of agricultural production;
2. Interfere with existing agricultural drainage systems, drainage districts, and subsurface tile networks;
3. Limit future agricultural improvements and farming practices;
4. Affect aerial application activities and agricultural equipment operations;
5. Permanently alter the visual character of rural landscapes through the construction of transmission structures exceeding one hundred feet in height;
6. Impact rural residential properties through visual, aesthetic, and construction-related effects;
7. Affect wetlands, streams, woodlots, wildlife habitat, and other environmentally sensitive resources; and
8. Reduce the effectiveness of local land use planning efforts intended to preserve agricultural and rural resources;

and

WHEREAS, the Township believes that alternative routes utilizing existing utility corridors, transportation corridors, previously disturbed areas, or less densely impacted areas should be prioritized to reduce adverse impacts on agricultural lands and local communities; and

WHEREAS, the Township further believes that any route selected by the Michigan Public Service Commission should minimize impacts to productive farmland, residences, natural resources, and local units of government to the greatest extent practicable.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. Opposition to Alaiedon Route. The Township formally opposes any route alternative for the Oneida to Sabine Lake 345 kV Transmission Line that traverses or substantially impacts lands located within Alaiedon Township.

2. Findings Regarding Township Impacts. The Township finds that routing the Project through Alaiedon Township would result in:

- a. Substantial adverse impacts to productive agricultural lands and farming operations;
- b. Fragmentation of agricultural parcels and interference with farming practices;
- c. Long-term visual impacts inconsistent with the Township's rural character;
- d. Adverse effects upon rural residential properties and established homesteads;
- e. Potential impacts to wetlands, drainage corridors, woodlots, wildlife habitat, and other environmentally sensitive resources;

f. Conflicts with Township planning objectives relating to agricultural preservation and protection of rural character; and

g. Permanent easement encumbrances affecting present and future land uses.

3. Preferred Alternative Routing Principles. The Township requests that ITC and the Michigan Public Service Commission prioritize routing alternatives that:

- a. Avoid active agricultural lands to the greatest extent practicable;
- b. Minimize fragmentation of farm operations;
- c. Avoid established residential areas and rural neighborhoods;
- d. Utilize existing utility corridors where practicable;
- e. Utilize existing transportation corridors and rights-of-way focusing on limited access highway rights-of-ways as proposed by House Bill 5940 Introduced by Representative Dave Prestin.;
- f. Minimize impacts to wetlands, streams, floodplains, and natural features; and

**ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION NO. AT-2026-7**

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED NEW 345 KV TRANSMISSION LINE FROM THE ONEIDA SUBSTATION TO THE SABINE LAKE SUBSTATION BE ROUTED WITHIN LIMITED ACCESS HIGHWAY RIGHTS OF WAY WHERE AVAILABLE.

At a meeting of the Township Board for Alaiedon Township, Ingham County, Michigan, held on August 10, 2026, at 8:00 p.m., at the Township Hall, 2021 Holt Rd, Mason, MI 48854.

PRESENT: Supervisor Steven Lott, Clerk Kimberly Hafley, Treasurer Scott Everett, Trustee Beth Smith and Trustee Kurt Kranz.

ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Treasurer Scott Everett, and seconded by Trustee Kurt Kranz.

WHEREAS, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator ("MISO") has approved a portfolio of regional electric transmission projects, including the proposed Oneida to Sabine Lake 345 kV Transmission Line Project ("Project"); and

WHEREAS, ITC Michigan proposes to construct a new 345 kV transmission line and associated facilities extending from the Oneida Substation in Eaton County to the proposed Sabine Lake Substation in Livingston County; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary route network identified by ITC traverses Alaiedon Township; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary route network demonstrates that multiple routing alternatives exist throughout Eaton, Ingham, and Livingston Counties and that the transmission line is not limited to a single alignment through the Township; and

WHEREAS, Alaiedon Township along with many other townships within the proposed routes are predominately rural and agricultural in character and contains extensive productive agricultural lands, farm operations, rural residential properties, open space resources, wetlands, woodlots, natural drainageways, and environmentally sensitive lands that contribute substantially to the economic base, heritage, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, construction and long-term maintenance of a 345 kV transmission corridor would disrupt existing agricultural operations through restrictions on farming practices, limitations on future improvements, interference with farm drainage systems and tile fields, limitations on aerial application activities, access road construction, vegetation management requirements, and ongoing easement restrictions; and

WHEREAS, Alaiedon Township believes that alternative common-sense routes already exist especially within limited access highway rights of way where the easement, clearing, and drainage already exists and the disruption to the environment has already taken place.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Alaiedon Township supports the proposed new 345 kV transmission line from the Oneida Substation to the Sabine Lake Substation be routed within limited access highway rights of way where available.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

Alaiedon Township supports and encourages other local units of governments, citizens, ITC Michigan, The Michigan Public Service Commission to vocally support HB 5940 sponsored by Representative Dave Prestin requiring standards regarding utility lines and structures to locate within limited access highway rights-of-ways. Alaiedon Township encourages both the Michigan House and Michigan Senate to pass HB 5940 as quickly as practicable and for the Governor to sign the legislation.

DISTRIBUTION

The Alaiedon Township Clerk shall transmit this Resolution to The Michigan House of Representatives; The Michigan Senate and the Governor. The Clerk shall also transmit this Resolution to other local units of governments involved in the review of this project along with ITC Michigan and the Michigan Public Service Commission.

A vote on the above Resolution was taken and was as follows:

YEAS: Lott, Hafley, Everett, Smith, Kranz

NAYS: None

ADOPTED:

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) ss.

COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Township Clerk of Alaiedon Township, Ingham County, Michigan, CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Township Board at a meeting held on August 10, 2026.

Motion carried.

Board Reports

Supervisor Lott reported he met with representatives from ITC during their Landowner Open House and discussed at length an alternative route that would be less impactful to Alaiedon Township and its residents. ITC's GIS teams indicated that they would closely review the proposed route and take it into consideration.

Supervisor Lott also reported that he is still waiting for confirmation from the Ingham County Road Department regarding the start date for the Lamb Road project.

Trustee Kranz

None.

Trustee Smith

None.

Treasurer Everett he and his son, Wrett, completed cleanup work along the new Lott Oesterle Walking Trail at Leek Cemetery. They removed weeds and downed trees and returned rocks to the entrance walking path that had washed into the woods during recent rainstorms.

Clerk Hafley thanked Deputy Clerk George and the office staff for their hard work in conducting a very smooth Primary Election. She reported that Alaiedon township had a strong voter turnout for the primary Election.

Alaiedon Township Election Results:

- **Registered Voters:** 2,560
- **Absentee Voters:** 708
- **In-Person Voters:** 374
- **Early In-Person Voters:** 32
- **Total Voter Turnout:** 43.52%

Public Comment

Jan Urban-Lurain, a Township resident, requested copies of the resolutions adopted this evening so she could share them with the community, her elected representatives, and neighboring jurisdictions. She also thanked the Board for its work on the resolutions and offered to assist with distributing them to others.

Jordan Altobelli, a Township resident, reported that he attended several ITC Landowner Open Houses. He offered suggestions to residents who received letters from ITC regarding the beginning of the surveying process. He recommended that property owners contact ITC in writing to request notification of when ITC representatives plan to be on their property and to inform ITC that they intend to accompany anyone while they are on their property.

Mr. Altobelli also reported that he plans to host another neighborhood meeting on August 20.

Mr. Altobelli's wife thanked the Board for adopting the Resolution this evening and for listening to the concerns of the community.

Jackson Norling, a Township resident, presented a map illustrating the healthy forest areas that could be impacted by ITC's proposed transmission line. He noted that construction would require clearing a 200-foot-wide corridor, which would result in the removal of portions of these forested areas.

Carlene Hyde, a Township resident, reported that the Ingham County Board of Commissioners has adopted a resolution opposing the proposed ITC transmission line route through Burchfield Park.

Claims

Motion Trustee Kranz, supported by Trustee Smith, to pay the following invoices:

- General Fund: Checks #17642 - #17686 and electronic transfers #1652- #1665, totaling \$75,459.22.
- Tax Account: Checks #7856 - #7879 and electronic transfers #98 - #99, totaling \$1,087,131.93.
- Trust and Agency: Electronic transfers #401-#404, totaling \$5,538.93.

Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Kranz, supported by Trustee Smith, to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.
Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by:
Paulette George, Deputy Clerk.

Kimberly Hafley, Township Clerk