

Cato Township Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2025

The Cato Township Planning Commission met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at the Lakeview Community Center.

Meeting called to order:

Vice Chairman Main called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present:

Main expires 12-2025
Striker expires 12-2026
Behrenwald expires 11-2028
Cumings expires 12-2026
Rasmussen expires 12-2028

Others present:

4 members of public
Ethan from McKenna

Approval of Agenda:

Cumings motioned and Rasmussen supported to approve the meeting agenda as presented
All in favor, motion carried

January 2025 Meeting Minutes:

Striker motioned and Behrenwald supported to approve the January meeting minutes as presented.
All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment-Agenda Items Only:

Main opened public comment.
-Frank Acosta property owner on Lake Forrest
Spoke on the positive impact of Short term rentals for the local community.
Main closed public comment for agenda items.

Zoning Administrator Update:

Kelsey Absent

Board Liaison Update:

Behrenwald reported on
-Community First Federal Credit Union and Leppink brought a banner from the world ice fishing tournament to display in the township building.
-Covered insurance two meetings ago
-Changed the rental fee to \$100 for resident, \$200 for non resident. Ginger Imhoff and Jamie Boehm will handle the keys and fees. People who have a reservation need to put a deposit down to get the original price of \$50 within a week or the new pricing of \$100 will take effect for their reservation.
-Working on roads will be the next month or the month after.
-Behrenwald asked if the Township board wanted the planning commission to put tiny homes on their agenda ahead of short-term rentals. The response was after short term rentals.

Old Business:

Election of officers:

Chairman

-Striker made a motion to select Main as Chairman, Cumings Second.

All in favor, Motion Carried

Vice Chairman

-Main made a motion to select Rasmussen as Vice Chairman, Striker Second.

All in favor, Motion Carried

Recording Secretary

Striker made a motion to select Cumings as Recording Secretary, Main Second

All in favor, Motion carried

Rezoning boundary lines:

-Ethan from Mckenna displayed the suggested changes for the zoning district boundary lines for Lake Residential, Rural Residential, and Suburban Residential .

- The commission looked at the map and made recommendations on changes based on the new Master Plan.

-The commission discussed a public hearing on the presented information with changes for May 14th.

New Business:

Short-term Rentals:

-Main presented some information on what other townships in the area are doing with short term rentals for commissioners to look over.

-Rasmussen thanked Mr. Acosta for the information he presented on short term rentals during public comment.

All in favor, Motion Carried

Public Comment:

None

Next Meeting:

Next Regular meeting scheduled for May 14, 2025.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the commission, a motion was made by Cumings and supported by Striker to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Recorded by:

Jacob Cumings

Commissioner, Cato Township Planning Commission