



**ACME TOWNSHIP**  
**YUBA CREEK NATURAL AREA STEERING COMMITTEE**  
**Monday, April 19, 2010 6:00 p.m.**  
**Acme Township Hall**  
**6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

**Meeting called to Order at 6:05 p.m.**

**Members present:** D. Morrison (Chair), B. Carstens, V. Guntzviller, J. Heiam, S. Malaski,  
**Members excused:** J. Hullman  
**Staff present:** S. Vreeland, Township Manager  
T. Henkel, Parks & Maintenance Supervisor  
N. Edwardson, Recording Secretary

**Motion by Malaski. Seconded by Carstens to approve April 17, 2008, meeting minutes.**  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

Morrison said that the township had received a call from one of our residents who is also a member of the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians asking about the hunting seasons at the Yuba Creek Natural Area (YCNA). He has hunting licenses through his tribe for hunting on 1836 Treaty lands but the tribal hunting seasons do not match precisely to the state DNRE hunting seasons. Vreeland asked Acme township Planning Commissioner, Steve Feringa, who is a member of the Grand Traverse Ottawa Chippewa tribe to speak to the YCNA regarding this issue.

Feringa said there are five federally recognized tribes who have their own hunting/fishing/gathering seasons and regulations adopted by each tribe and recognized by the State of Michigan. There is also another organization that regulates and monitors these five tribal hunting & fishing activities – CORA, the Chippewa Ottawa Resources Authority. All tribal members have to adhere to these regulations. The seasons closely match (but not exactly) the State regulations, but there are some differences. For an example, in the early deer season tribal members can not hunt on any private or public lands, except their own and tribally owned lands. These restricted lands open up the same time as the November 15<sup>th</sup> State opener. Tribal bag limits are a little different. Feringa said a tribal member should be allowed access to property as long as he/she is within their tribe's regulations and within the treaty boundary. He left some booklets on "Inland Hunting/Trapping/Gathering Regulations" and Inland fishing regulations.

Reinhold asked if some kind of resolution by this committee be made. Feringa highly recommended that.

**MOTION BY REINHOLD TO RECOMMEND TO THE TOWNSHIP BOARD TO ALLOW QUALIFIED TRIBAL MEMBERS TO HAVE THE SAME HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING RIGHTS IN THE YUBA CREEK NATURAL AREA AND ALL SUBJECT TO THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS SET FORTH BY THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, AND TO POSSESS A CURRENT TRIBAL LICENSE AND IN LEU OF A STATE OF MICHIGAN LICENSE OR LICENSES. SECONDED BY MORRISON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Morrison commented that the Autumn Olive was not big enough to remove perhaps after another growing season before eradicating.  
The committee discussed planning other types of trees.

Morrison said there was a concern about dogs not on leases walking on the trails. Guntzviller said between April 15 and July 15 there is no training of hunting dogs allowed. Henkel will post some signs stating dogs need to be on a lease. Kladder expressed concerns with nesting.

Discussion about tree stands, minimizing US 31 road noise, water testing followed. Regarding the road noise it was suggested that perhaps we need to talk to someone with a background in landscaping such as Planning Commissioner, Dave Krause, or Erick Takayama, Board Trustee. It was also mentioned that the tribe has a noise buffer expert. Heiam suggested talking to a few people first about the possibilities before doing anything.

Morrison said he spoke with Erick at SRW Contracting about filling in the brine pits. They are still interested in doing this but have not completed any jobs where dirt was available. Kladder said the asphalt from the Shoreline project will be hauled away by either Elmers or American Waste in Kalkaska to grind up and reuse in the asphalt. Perhaps we could include the black top at YCNA also. Kladder will look into this.

Budget requests for 2010-2011 include \$200.00 for spring planting.

Reviewed the mission statement and terms expiring in 2010. Kladder said that a letter will go out to members who have terms expiring in July.

Kladder said there will be a garage sale on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Shoreside Inn. He would welcome any help that day. Also Kladder mentioned that the township is working on a service at the Yuba Cemetery on Memorial Day. Again he would welcome any help or suggestions.

The next scheduled meeting will be Monday, September 20, 2010, at 6:00 p.m.

**Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.**