

2026 ARAGO ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

March 10th, 2026

Meeting Began at 7:03pm

Pledge of allegiance

Board in attendance: Larry Bumgardner, Lance Barnum, Kristie Edelman, Kristin Hoff, Megan Auzenne

Residents in attendance: Eric Ramlo, Charlene Christensen, Carol Smith, Carol Schellack, Lowell Schellack, Barbara Bumgardner, Patricia Stulic, Robert Stulic,

Speakers in attendance: Gail Weaverson (Library), (All Veterans Memorial) (HCLL/LAH) (HCFR)

1. **Moderator** → **Charlene Christenson nominated Larry, Kristie Edelman. Eric Ramlo brought up the moderator pay and set it to \$75.**
2. **Agenda** → **Charlene Christenson made a motion to accept the meetings as presented, Lance Barnum seconded.**
3. **2025 Annual Meeting Minutes** → Charlene Christenson made a motion to accept the 2025 Annual Meeting minutes as presented, Lance Barnum seconded, etc.
4. **2025 Treasurer's/Audit Report** → Kristin Hoff mentioned diversifying the large amount in the checking account between the three banks in town. Larry Bumgardner mentioned levies and keeping the budget as is until we know what is happening in the state. Larry Bumgardner called on Charlene Christenson to speak about her thoughts on the matter. Charlene Christenson detailed the amount the state is holding for rules for education levies. Charlene Christenson spent time explaining to Eric Ramlo about the funds we may or may not be losing out on from federal funds. Robert asked about the funds. Robert made a motion to approve the financial report
5. **Road Report** →
 - Hummingbird Drive completed
 - 260th culvert replacements & new gravel, fresh gravel on Hobby Road, Spring & Fall road tours completed, June 2025 storm amounted to a lot of tree and brush clean up, prep for asphalt apron on Beckerline Road that Northern Paving completed after Hummingbird Drive.
 - Larry went through the list of items above. Larry asked Terry about the report. Terry mentioned the safety improvement to Beckerline apron.
 - Larry asked for a motion to accept the road report, Lance , Robert second
6. **2027 Township Levies** →
 - Fire Contract for 2026: \$25,641.64
 - (Previously: \$25,622.31 in 2025)

2025 ARAGO LEVIES	
General	\$70,000
Roads	\$255,000
Fire	\$30,000
Total	\$355,000

- Larry Bumgardner looked for a motion to accept the levies as presented, Lowell made a motion to approve, Lance Barnum second. Eric Ramlo had a question about the overflow of funds, if there was a firewall if funds reached a negative state, and how the township handles that. If the set fund falls below the amount, it would fall on the board to pass a motion to apply more funding from the General levy. Eric Ramlo asked the clerk and treasurer how they felt about the current levies. Megan Auzenne told Eric Ramlo she is an Arago township resident and is fine with leaving the levies as is. Kristin Hoff was fine with the funding and mentioned it all settles evenly at the end of the year. Larry made a second attempt to accept the levies as presented.

7. Donation Requests (Separate page) → Speakers who presented before the Annual:

- Hubbard County Historical Society on February 4th
- YESS (Youth Emergency Service & Support) on February 4th

8. Speakers that have RSVP'd for Annual:

- **Hubbard County First Response** - Terry Long arrived to speak for the first responders and emergency services. Arago Township had 36 calls in 2025. He thanked the residents for the support. Charlene C asked about the funding and Terry explained the first responders are completely donation funded and do not receive any tax dollars from the county. Eric Ramlo asked about training that is provided by HCFR. Terry Long brought up CPR training and thin ice emergency training.
- **Headwater's Center for Lifelong Learning** - Carol Schellack is speaking on behalf of HCLL. Providing free programs for 25 years. They host 8 Spring courses and 8 Fall courses. Carol spoke in detail about their program they provide and how diverse their calendar is. Overall average of guests is _ They

awarded 2 \$500 scholarships to the high school in 2025. HCLL worked with the American Legion to purchase a 100" smart television for presentations. Eric Ramlo asked if the presenters are paid.

- **Living at Home** - Carol Schellack presented for Living at Home. The mission statement for LAH is helping keep people in their homes and providing them with services to keep them comfortable. A variety of services is provided by volunteers and now includes a form of adult day care. LAH is working with meals on wheels to deliver meals to people's homes. Charlene C asked who funds the meals on wheels. Half of the money is from grants and the other is from donations to cover these events for the public.
- **Kinship** - Brandon Lesfall presented on behalf of Kinship. He provided mentor cards for adults and children who are interested in Kinship. Carol Schellack asked how many children are on the waiting list for mentors and Brandon said there are currently 8. Lowell Schellack mentioned mentoring a child from a broken home until he graduated high school. Brandon is looking to fund training for the mentors with donations. Gail W asked about the ages of the kids. Brandon said the ages range from 6 to 16 years of age. Eric asked about the number fluctuations in mentors. Brandon responded that the major factor has been staffing.
- **Hubbard County Foodshelf** - Vicky Deshane presented on behalf of the Hubbard County Foodshelf. The foodshelf covers all of Hubbard and some of the surrounding counties. Food and monetary donations come from townships and churches. \$160,000 was the 2025 budget and 2026 is set at \$183,000. 380-480 families are served a grocery basket once a month. Vicky mentioned that less vegetables get donated since Coborns has closed. Carol Schellack asked about how many times families can visit and Vicky said once a month. Robert asked about the amount raised at the Chili Challenge and Vicky said they raised \$13,000. Charlene C said members of Primewest Insurance in Hubbard county qualify for food credits.
- **All Veterans Memorial** - Everett Decramer presenting for All Veterans Memorial. 2003 is when the pillars and flower boxes were installed. The building was added in 2017. He spoke about the events that are hosted at the museum. The museum has displayed from the Civil War all the way up to the Korean War. All Veterans operate primarily off of donations. Hammer Fitness raised funds for the museum in 2025.

- **Let's Go Fishing** - Carol Smith is presenting on behalf of Let's Go Fishing. 28' pontoon boat operated June through August. Each excursion is 2 hours long. 2025 marks their 16th year of operation. 30 trips serving 16 different organizations and 300+ guests. 40 volunteers work on the water and at the various fund raisers throughout the year. Mantrap Sportsman Club hosts a bingo event to raise funds for LGF. Bob asked about the Darkhouse Association Spear House and if they were involved with Let's Go Fishing. The room responded that they are different entities.

- **Northwood's Wildlife** - Kristie Edelman spoke on behalf of Northwood's Wildlife. 2025 hosted the most amount of baby deer due to the early spring spike.
- **Headwater's Animal Shelter** - Char C presented on behalf of Headwater's Animal Shelter due to the previous presenter being ill.
- **The Park Rapids Library** - Gail Weaverson speaking on behalf of Park Rapids Library Board. Gail went through the stats on business for the library in 2025: the library usage covers the meeting rooms, printers, internet, book check outs, and documents. 112 programs were hosted in 2025 to support the youth in Park Rapids. There is a designated fund that township donations go into to not mix with the other funds coming into the Library. _ asked about the libraries craft projects and if they shop locally. Gail says that they do the best to shop within the budget for their projects. _ asked how many volunteers worked at the library and 1,348 hours were worked in 2025. Eric Ramlo asked about a specific amount the library was trying to seek for donation this year. Gail mentioned \$500 being an ok ask.
- **Family Safety Network not in attendance.**
- **Support Within Reach not in attendance.**
- Larry spoke before about the people who presented before the Annual Meeting.
- Carol Schellack asked if the people who did not present before or at the Annual Meeting were still going to receive funds. Larry doesn't recall the last Annual Meeting's exact wording, but the board did strongly advise.
- There was some discussion about
- Charlene Christenson spoke about Family Safety Network and that they are funded by mostly grants.
- Charlene Christenson mentioned that the endowment for the library is a fixed budget and that the library rentals are permitted for anyone.
- Chris mentioned that the funding the library aids Kinship.
- Charlene asked to amend the motion and then rescinded.
- Larry Bumgardner called for a vote to accept the amounts as presented on the donations list (attached) everyone voted yes except Lowell Schellack

9. 2027 Arago Township Annual Meeting date voted on →

-Eric Ramlo wanted to make the motion that the Park Rapids Enterprise is the official paper we post of Annual Meeting notice, Charlene Christenson seconded.

- March 9th, 2027

- March 16th, 2027

- March 23rd, 2027

- Larry looked for a motion to accept the meeting dates and back up dates, Bob made the motion, Kristie second.

Larry made the motion to adjourn, Lance seconded 8:51pm

*** MINUTES SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT ANNUAL MEETING