

Adams Township Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes for March 18, 2026

March 18, 2026 meeting called to order at 6:03 PM

Pledge of Allegiance done

Roll Call:

Chairperson Martha Dugdale present
Secretary Terry Parolini present, tardy
Member Paul Eister present
Member Sherry Kinnunen present
Member Dan Coponen present

Guests: Patrick and Tracy Nettell

Minutes of the last meeting, Dec. 17,2025 were not available for review yet

Public comment: Pat Nettell reminded the commission that we were appointed for 3 year terms and that we are now past our due date for reappointment. The Township Board will need to address this. All current commissioners are willing to continue to serve.

Old Business:

- 1) map update not available from UPEA at this time, we will look at other approaches to this
- 2) the ice rink is now closed for the season due to weather, they had a pretty good season. There's some discussion on the Township board about having the Sexton having some hours in the winter to work on maintenance and minor repairs at the rink. Sounds like a great idea to the ATPC.
- 3) The township's obligation for man hours donated towards the South Range water tank project has already been met by the DPW team, thanks guys, we'll cross that off our list.
- 4) Martha did more research on the data center issue; the MTA is advising that local governments consider data centers as a special land use when considering allowing such development. MTA is developing some sample ordinances to deal with the special issues that data center development can present in the community, including high demands for water and electricity, as well as noise and light pollution. The ATPC unanimously voted to request that the Adams Township Board pass a one year

moratorium on applications, permitting, and any steps towards allowing data center development in the township while we wait for guidance and educate ourselves on this issue.

Martha will rough out the moratorium and ask Keven Maki for assistance.

5) Paul asked about the wetlands boardwalk project we're supposed to help Jeffers High School with, we haven't heard anything from the school on that yet. Jay Ruohonen, who donated the land, has asked Martha a couple times about what's going on, he hadn't heard from the school either. Maybe we can give them a nudge.

New business:

1) Martha talked about the Laird Township ice rink renovation. We would love a project like that in Adams Township but there are a number of differences in our circumstances here. Their building was already in use year round and has other purposes besides the ice rink. They also had a dedicated group of volunteers that spent years planning and seeking funding. So far we haven't had that kind of public interest.

Announcements:

Next Adams Township Planning Commission meeting will be
May 20, 2026 at 6PM

Adjournment:

Motion by Paul Eister to adjourn, seconded by Sherry Kinnunen

Minutes prepared and submitted by Martha Dugdale, Chairperson ATPC