

Watab Town Board Meeting Minutes: May 5, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Watab Town Board was held on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at the town hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Ed Kacures, Jr. and followed with the Pledge to the Flag. Board members present were: Supervisors Kacures, Craig Gondeck, and Lloyd Erdmann; Treasurer Eileen Saldana; and Clerk Pat Spence. Audience members were: Dale Rogholt, Jerry & Char Lage, Maureen Graber, Jason Kruger, Kevin Reiter, John Olson, and Allen Saldana.

The meeting began with the Annual Public Hearing on the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program as mandated by the State and monitored by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. A copy of the presentation made by Clerk Pat Spence is attached. Printed copies of the annual report that will be submitted electronically to MPCA were also available. Supervisor Gondeck also added comments regarding administration of the program. There were no questions or input from the audience. The Chair closed the public hearing and called the regular meeting to order. A motion was made by Supervisor Lloyd Erdmann, second by Supervisor Gondeck to approve the submittal of the annual 2014 MS4 report as presented; motion passed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Craig Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann to approve the agenda with no changes; motion passed. A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann to approve the minutes of the April 2nd Board of Equalization, April 7th regular meeting, and the May 4th special meeting on the lot line adjustment for Rucks with the correction of a typo "to Harddrives" in the April 7th minutes; motion passed. Eileen Saldana gave the Treasurer's Report with a \$363,354.25 checking account balance. A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Kacures, and passed to accept her report.

There were no comments or input from the audience. A motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Gondeck to pay all monthly claims #5740 through 5758 and electronic transfers totaling \$20,795.06 as presented and to withdraw the funds from the appropriate accounts; motion passed.

Mayor Dale Rogholt of the City of Rice was present to give the 2014 financial report for the Fire District. A copy of his report is on file at the township office. Watab Township had 1 fire call, 24 medical calls, and 12 other calls for a total of 37. This was 25% of the calls for the department. The City of Rice had 46.62%, Graham 11.49%, and Langola 13.51%. Mutual aid comprised the remainder 13.51%. The townships contributed 56% of the revenues for the fire department or a total of \$77,736 (total revenues were \$141,019). Department expenses were \$153,347. The board thanked Mayor Rogholt and the department for their services.

Old Business included the following:

A. Jerry Lage gave a follow-up presentation on his request for mosquito control. He had a packet of information for each board member. Benton County does not have any plan in place for mosquito control. MN DNR does not have a plan in place. MN Dept. of Health leaves it up to local communities to create their own plans. Pierz started spraying two years ago. Why spray? Mosquitos spoil quality of life and can potentially be very harmful. There are 44 different kinds of mosquitos in this area. One carries the West Nile Virus and another carries encephalitis. West Nile Virus is very serious because there is no known cure. The township has multiple areas that harbor mosquitos; stagnant water is breeding ground for mosquitos. Everyone should make sure they get rid of stagnant water. What would it take to start up something? (\$200 to thousands of dollars). Jerry said there should be more study to find areas that are infested more than others. We need to take some preventive measures: cakes or spraying. He said that he is not asking for anything tonight but giving an update because he thinks we should be proactive. He is asking the township board to do something for mosquito control. The mosquitos breed along the shore line. Supervisor Kacures asked about a preferred time of year to treat mosquitos. Jerry said that it depends on how heavy the rains are, but generally June through September are the best time. There are multiple companies that do mosquito spraying. Supervisor Erdmann asked if the cakes affect the adult mosquitos. Jerry responded that you need to spray the adults; the cakes suppress the larvae. Supervisor Gondeck thanked Jerry for his research and all the information. Clerk Spence asked about the impact

- of spraying and/or the cakes on bees. Jerry will check on this and get back to the board. The township can put something on the website about being proactive in getting rid of standing, stagnant water on residents' land.
- B. Dry Hydrant Update: Supervisor Gondeck said that Diane Wojtanowicz is willing to have the fire departments access her irrigation system if needed in the future.
- C. Johnson Road: Kevin Johnson has asked the township to widen his approach from Highway 10 onto Johnson Road. Supervisor Erdmann believes that we should build a frontage road instead. He explained that state safety program with funding available after July 1st this year or next year. The frontage road would go across Kevin's vacant lot and the front of RDO's. Supervisor Erdmann met with RDO's management; they requested a preliminary plan and that it be a 10-ton road. Today when Jon Bogart was here for a Frost Road Crossing meeting, Supervisor Erdmann asked him for a cost estimate to do a conceptual design. Jon responded with an estimate prior to this evening's meeting with the following: conceptual design at \$1,500, cost estimating at \$750, and staking at \$1,000 for a total of \$3,250. Supervisor Erdmann spoke of the importance of staking the road in house before hiring the engineer for the purpose of showing RDO the impact on their property. Supervisor Gondeck said he thinks this project is a good investment in future economic development. Kevin Reiter gave an example of a frontage road. Supervisor Erdmann said that the township can't go north of Helmin's Nursery with a frontage road because of granite outcroppings and wetlands. RDO has future plans to expand their property in the back. Clerk Spence is to request that MNDOT put in right of way stakes and Supervisor Erdmann will lay out a plan with RDO this month.
- D. Report on 105th Speed Study: the township has received the official notice to proceed with the speed study from Terry Humbert at MNDOT; a MNDOT engineer will contact the township.
- E. The AED has been repaired by Supervisor Gondeck and a technician; he recommended that we start it once a month to keep it operational. Supervisor Gondeck was given authority to order new pads.
- F. Dust Suppression for 66th Street: Supervisor Gondeck recommended that the township should pay the entire amount of \$400 rather than the residents paying half of the cost. Supervisor Erdmann said that when he was initially on the board the residents said that they didn't want it a public road; since it was acquired by some means and the board voted last year to improve it, he is willing to have the township pay the entire amount. A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann to spray 66th Street with Calcium Chloride. The road needs to be bladed first; Clerk Spence is to contact Tri-City Paving on a schedule for spraying, and Supervisor Gondeck will coordinate that with the blading of the road.
- G. Pond Assessment Procedures and Schedule for MS4 were addressed with the proposed amendment given to Wayne Cymbaluk from the MPCA. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to adopt the amended language.
- H. Grant request for the outdoor warning siren: Supervisor Gondeck attended the telephone board annual meeting. He should attend the June meeting of the board when they review the grant. A site was selected on the road tour on the road right of way near Pines Edge.
- I. Safety Cones: Supervisor Gondeck will get approval from Benton County on Thursday before ordering them.
- K. Sign Installation Update: Supervisor Gondeck completed the annual evaluation of all the township road signs; some need replacement; he will provide a full written report to the board at next month's meeting. He is checking all signs for the reflectivity.
- M. Adopt a Highway: there have been a lot of calls about interest in cleaning the ditches. The township has permission to use Langola's dumpster. Seventy-five percent of the costs are paid for by the SCORE grant.
- N. Flag Pole and Light Pole Update: Marson, Inc. personnel took down the damaged light pole and flag pole. Bob Raveling is building a new adaptor for the flag pole. The board also decided to replace the ropes on the flag pole.

New Business included the following:

- A. Oak Hill Golf Course sign request: Roger Peterson asked if he can install a golf course directional sign by the township's stop sign. It would be on a separate pole. Supervisor Gondeck asked for authority to install it on township road right of way; it was granted.

B. Request for speed study on 66th Street: residents have requested a speed study to an increase of speeding cars on the road. The Clerk was asked to prepare a resolution stating that it is being posted for 30mph through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck and second by Supervisor Erdmann; motion passed. A copy of the signed resolution should be presented to the county sheriff.

C. Driveway issue on West Lake Road: Al Keller brought the property and rebuilt it. DNR put a cease and desist on it, because it was built without a permit through a wetland. The Benton County Department of Development is also involved. Supervisor Gondeck measured the road at eight hundred seventy feet long and fifteen feet wide. The board decided that the township will have no involvement at this time.

D. Action on road tour findings: Clerk Spence reviewed the findings and the road and bridge budget. Supervisor Gondeck was asked to take care of gophers; brush on Shoestring Loop, Lakewood Shores, and Ferry Point; complete traffic counts; and to contact Marson's on snow plowing damage to township road right of ways. Gravel being thrown on John Pearson's lawn by four-wheelers is still an issue. The township will request ASTECH fog seal those edges to hold the rocks. Sharon Place has a couple of major cracks that have developed. The board decided to put patching material in them; Supervisor Gondeck will take care of this. The board will also ask for an estimate of filling the curve by Eileen Saldana's property; Sucker Creek Road; and County Rd 13. Future township road projects will be: West Lake Road, Lakewood Shore, south sections of Plaziak Road, and sections of Circle Pine. A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann to do necessary repairs that were itemized during the road tour; motion passed.

E. STS Crew Update: Supervisor Gondeck reported that they finished 5th Avenue at a labor cost of \$175.00 as there were not many cracks. Next projects will be Golf Haven Estates and Oak Hill Estates.

F. On May 7th an Economic Development Meeting is being hosted by Benton County to further discuss future plans; both Supervisors Gondeck and Erdmann will attend.

G. On May 14th the township will host a meeting, which is co-sponsored by the Little Rock Lake Association, Benton County Soil and Water Conservation District, and Benton County Master Gardeners on Native Plants and Removal of Buckthorn; the board authorized providing refreshments.

H. Authorization was given by the board to spend \$100 total for five door prizes for the Benton County Association of Townships District 8 Meeting in August. The Clerk is to purchase gift cards for Mills Fleet, Target, and Menards.

I. Clerk Spence and Supervisor Gondeck reported to the board on learning from the Legal Short Course they attended in Otsego. Watab Township was recognized for outstanding work in MS4 issues by the MPCA speaker.

J. Supervisor Gondeck gave a report on his attendance at the Greater St. Cloud Development Meeting. Supervisor Kacures will ask County Commissioner Ed Popp for a meeting about park dedication funds from Watab and how they can be spent. Farm Rite business is coming to Watab, and Supervisor Gondeck described his work on the project for about four months. Supervisor Erdmann was asked to activate the sprinkler system and to continue working on the Johnson Road issue. Garbage on Iten Road was brought to Supervisor Kacures' attention. The Clerk was asked to look into it and send a letter to the department of development if a problem exists. Supervisor Kacures asked about the bill for the railroad ties. Clerk Spence explained that BNSF officials are still sending each other emails trying to decide why the township was billed the \$6,000. Supervisor Erdmann raised the question if the planks on Frost Road will be wide enough to accommodate the quiet zone plan. Clerk Spence noted that there is no money budgeted for wider planks. Work during the month will be working on the sign order and installation, finishing repairs to the flag pole, and other work noted in the minutes previously.

During Citizen's Issues, Kevin Reiter asked about a Land Disturbance Permit for a project he is doing; one is not needed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:20pm.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pat Spence