

Watab Town Board Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Watab Town Board was called to order at 7pm by Chair Ed Kacures Jr at the Watab Town Hall. All board members were present: Ed Kacures Jr, Lloyd Erdmann, Craig Gondeck, Eileen Saldana, and Pat Spence. Audience members present were Jim Hoihjelle Jr., Roger Peterson, Rich Matthies and Brian Erdmann.

Following the Pledge to the Flag, the Chair called on those present who were requesting **Liquor License renewals**. Rumors Bar & Grill requested license renewal for On & Off Sale, Wine & Strong Beer, Intoxicating Liquor, and Sunday Sale; motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck and seconded by Supervisor Erdmann to approve the renewal; motion passed. Oak Hill Golf Club requested renewal of its license for On Sale and Sunday Sale; motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Kacures to approve; motion passed. Pines Edge Liquor renewal was for Off-Sale; motion for approval was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Kacures and passed. They were commended by the board for doing a good job running their businesses in Watab.

Reorganization of the Board: Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck to appoint Ed Kacures Jr. as Chairperson, seconded by Supervisor Erdmann; motion passed. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Kacures to appoint Supervisor Gondeck as Board Vice-Chairperson; motion passed. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Erdmann to appoint Ed Kacures Jr. as the Rice Fire Board representative; motion passed. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Kacures to appoint Craig Gondeck as the representation to the Sauk Rapids Fire Board; motion passed. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Kacures to have Craig Gondeck serve as the Benton County liaison person with meetings attended to be pre-approved by the board; motion passed. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck and seconded by Supervisor Kacures to continue the same payment schedule now in place for board meetings and hourly rates of pay: \$75 for board meetings and \$25 for other work. Motion passed. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann and seconded by Supervisor Gondeck to set the rate for opening and closing the town hall at a maximum of 1 hour per event. If less time is needed, charge should be made at ¼ hour intervals with no charge for mileage; motion was passed. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Kacures and passed to make Bremer Bank, Falcon Bank, and Edward Jones the official 2011 depositories of town funds.

Resolution 2011-2: Setting Dates for Regular Meetings was approved through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Kacures, and passed. Dates are: May 3, June 7, July 5, August 2, September 6, October 4, November 1, December 6, January 3, February 7, March 6, and April 3. Meeting times are 7pm.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda: Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Kacures and passed setting the agenda as printed with the addition of the Newsletter to Old Business; Monthly Bills—All Spec Services; Presentation of Additional Bills; and Railroad Crossings to New Business.

Approval of the March 1 minutes was made through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck and second by Supervisor Erdmann with a change on page 1 to state that “Supervisor Gondeck

told Commissioner Wollak that there has not been good response from one county staff member to requests from our attorney.” On page 3, #8 the change should be that “Supervisor Gondeck talked to a Brockway township supervisor.” Motion passed with these two corrections. Sympathy was extended by Supervisor Gondeck to the families of Greg Hesch and Norbert Bialke.

Treasurer’s Report was approved with Treasurer Eileen Saldana reporting \$159,899.41 in checking. Motion for approval by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to authorize payment of corrected invoice #4581 to All Spec Services, LLC and to have the Clerk and Treasurer review past bills for accuracy. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed to approve payment of additional bills presented by the Clerk: All Spec Services, Joan Spiczka, and Burski Excavating. They should be sent a reminder letter that all bills must be received at the Clerk’s office by the Wednesday preceding the monthly board meeting to be paid that month.

Old Business:

1. Board of Equalization Date is Friday, April 8th at 2:30pm.
2. MAT Short Course Training: all board members attended and reported on their sessions.
3. Emergency Management Report on Flooding: Supervisor Gondeck reported on the process; Jim McDermott doesn’t think there will be any flooding. He thanked Jim and Public Health, RSVP, Citizens Emergency Response Team, Benton Co. Sheriff’s Office, Allen and Sandy Saldana.
4. Fifth Avenue work was described by Supervisor Erdmann: two culverts froze, and Jerome Nelson steamed them open. There was erosion, so crushed concrete was brought in. Residents plowed snow into the road right of way that contributed to the problem. Post cards should be mailed out in the fall reminding people that if it continues and causes damage, they will be assessed for the work to fix it. Supervisor Gondeck reported that Brian Erdmann had repaired a washout on the minimum maintenance road.
5. Supervisor Gondeck talked to Joe Lyons about our town hall heating system; there is a problem in the maintenance room; he questioned if the furnace and air conditioner were big enough to handle the size of building; Supervisor Erdmann talked to Albany Plumbing and Heating owner who installs similar equipment. He said that the setting on the electric boiler shouldn’t be set higher than 100 degrees. He lowered the temp so we can see how it affects our bill. It would cost \$8-10,000 to correct the problems.
6. Clerk read letter from Sean Moe, Benton County Land Use Technician about the name change from 10th Ave NW to Plaziak Road for those living on the west side of the railroad tracks. Supervisor Gondeck was asked to contact Sean about contacting the Rice Fire Department of the address changes

New Business:

1. Fire Call Billings: Supervisor Gondeck offered to contact the City of Foley for their billing process for medical calls; he stated that he reviewed our ordinance with the MAT attorney, and learned that the township can bill the property owner (including Rockwood Estates) for any unpaid calls; the Clerk was asked to prepare a resolution

listing unpaid bills including residents' addresses and date of incident. New Fire Contract with Rice should have a revenue recapture clause for accidents on the highway; if the township has an uncollectible bill, we ask the city to collect it.

2. Donations to non-profits were approved by the board according to the decisions made at the annual meeting: Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed donating \$1,000 to the Tri-County Humane Society. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Kacures and passed donating \$1,500 to the Little Rock Lake Association. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed donating \$2,000 to Rice Recreation. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Kacures and passed donating \$500 to the Benton Co. Agricultural Society. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann to have the Clerk and Treasurer prepare the checks as stated and withdraw the funds from the appropriate accounts; motion passed.
3. Setting Dates for Fire Meetings: Watab Supervisors were asked by Langola and Graham Supervisors to have a meeting to discuss Supervisor Kacures' analysis of the Rice Fire Budget on Tuesday, April 12th at 7pm. Motion was made by Supervisor Kacures, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to set the meeting. Motion was made by Supervisor Kacures, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed to have the entire Watab Board of Supervisors attend the Rice Fire Board meeting at 5:15pm on April 20th at the Rice City Hall. The Clerk is to past both meetings.
4. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed to set the 2011 Road Tour for Saturday, April 16th at 7:30am at town hall.
5. Planning for 2011 Road Project Schedule: Supervisor Erdmann asked the board for discussion on proceeding with improvements to the Lakewood Shore Railroad Crossing improvement as discussed at the annual meeting. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck and seconded by Supervisor Kacures to have Supervisor Erdmann apply to BN for no whistle zone at the Lakewood Shore Rd Crossing. Motion passed. Supervisor Erdmann was asked to prepare a check list of what needs to be done to work on the crossing. Summer road projects will be on the May agenda. Supervisor Gondeck commended Supervisor Erdmann for his expertise on road issues. If BN approves the application, Supervisor Erdmann said a special meeting would be called at the site where specifics would be laid out. Brian Erdmann recommended traffic counts on Lakewood Shores; they are available on the BN website. Supervisor Erdmann was also given authority to request a no-whistle zone for the railroad crossing on County Rd 79 past the town hall.
6. The Clerk notified the board of the new phone numbers for the town hall security system; they are also by the phone in the Clerk's office. The Clerk was asked to give Supervisor Kacures a card with the security system id number.
7. The board completed the signature page for the MAT.
8. Board of Canvass Minutes: motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Kacures, and passed to approve them as printed.
9. Resolution 2011-3 was presented regarding work by township supervisors: additions should be Supervisor Gondeck does township sign work; supervision of road

- construction is directed by the board; Supervisor Erdmann is the liaison with BN for railroad crossing projects; board should review and vote will be taken on it next month.
10. Newsletter Feedback: there were many good comments; the board should start trying to get sponsors in June; board should submit articles in November.
 11. Supervisor Gondeck reported on the Benton Co. Economic Development Committee meeting: two businesses are looking at locating or expanding; Somalians have started 31 businesses in area; Nancy Hoffman now directly reports to Monty Headley rather than Chelle Benson. There is \$700,000 available in gap loan financing. Monthly meeting will be at Pines Edge.
 12. Town Hall rentals: town hall is rented for April 20, April 25, May 7, June 4, and June 9.
 13. Fire Board Meeting was held. Supervisor Kacures described the meeting. Langola and Graham Townships were not charged with the same increase as Watab. He couldn't find anything in the city council minutes authorizing this action. Meeting next Tuesday will be with other townships to look at his analysis. Langola Township is meeting alone with the Rice City Council tonight. He said he isn't prepared to vote on the proposed budget.
 14. Supervisor Kacures reported one citizen complaint: a resident of River Road is stockpiling equipment on land that isn't his. Clerk Spence was asked to send a letter to the county. Also, Vic Saldana would like to have reflectors on a curve on West Lake Road.
 15. Citizen's Issues: none
 16. Supervisor Gondeck was given the authority to purchase the remaining items needed for emergency management from the Benton Telecommunications grant.
 17. Approved meetings for the upcoming month: two fire meetings; board of equalization; and Supervisor Erdmann meeting with county commissioners on the railroad crossing. Supervisor Gondeck was given authority to order signs as determined through the road tour.
 18. Brian Erdmann reported a sign missing on Jackal Road.

Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Kacures, and passed to adjourn at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Spence