

**WATAB TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 9, 2021–8:15 pm**

The Watab Township Annual Meeting was called to order by Clerk Sauer at 8:15 pm at the Old Village Hall in Rice.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those present offered allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Julie Johnson, Chair, Steve Wollak, Supervisor, Bill Little Supervisor, Kathy Sauer, Clerk, Todd Waytashek, Dothan Aleshire, Delroy Shane, Michael Barringer, Josh Wright, Robin Wollak, Jeff Wollak, Jerry Kostreba, Bob Raveling, Jack & Renee Polcher, Julie & Jeff Fandel, Lloyd Erdmann, Ray Thompson, Tom Sauer, Paul Wippler, Sandra Saldana, Ellary Prentice, John Rau, John Pearson, Ed Popp, John Olson

Attending via Zoom: Steve Johnson, Dan Steil

2. ELECTION OF MODERATOR

Paul Wippler nominated Jeff Wollak; Robin Wollak seconded. No other nominations. Vote for Jeff Wollak was unanimous.

3. ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

No additions or changes to the agenda.

4. APPROVE THE AGENDA

Ray Thompson moved to approve the agenda; Julie Fandel seconded; motion carried.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

March 10, 2020, Annual Meeting Minutes Approval

Ray Thompson moved to approve the Annual Meeting minutes from March 10, 2020; Tom Sauer seconded; motion carried.

6. ANNUAL LEVY & BUDGET PRESENTATION—Julie Johnson, Chair

- 2020: Completed road work on 105th Street NW
- Stayed on budget in nearly every category
- Ended the year with a balance of \$742,510.38

Ending Balances by Fund:

- General Fund \$146,447.40
- Road & Bridge 352,919.23
- Fire District 1 (Rice) 92,926.96
- Fire District 2 (SR) 53,656.84
- Debt Services (Roads) 73,465.78

Escrows:

- Cornerstone \$20,594.17
- Jannew 2,500.00

Bond matures in January, 2027; will possibly be able to pay off a year early.

7. LEVY FUNDS VOTE AND APPROVAL (by fund)

General Fund **\$80,000.00**

Paul Wippler made a motion to approve \$80,000.00 for the General fund; seconded by Ray Thompson; motion carried.

Road and Bridge Fund **\$550,000.00**

Jerry Kostreba made a motion to approve \$550,000 for the Road and Bridge Fund; seconded by Robin Wollak; motion carried.

Fire District 1 **\$35,000.00**

Paul Wippler made motion to approve \$35,000 for Fire District 1; seconded by Jerry Kostreba motion carried.

Fire District 2 **\$55,000.00**

Paul Wippler made a motion to approve \$55,000.00 for Fire District 2; seconded by Tom Sauer; motion carried.

Bond Fund **\$60,000.00**

Lloyd Erdmann made a motion to approve \$60,000.00 for the Bond Fund; seconded by Julie Fandel; motion carried.

8. WSB ENGINEER REPORT

a. Paver Program/Road Results

Kevin Kruger distributed large maps showing road conditions in the Township.

Overall rating of roads is 55—low in comparison to other townships.

20%--excellent

29%--good

40%--poor

b. Road Funding

If roads are maintained as currently budgeted, road ratings would drop significantly.

Several budgeting options were presented.

9. ED POPP, COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Tax Rating by County:

2013: 6th highest taxed in state

2014: 7th highest taxed in state

2017: 13th highest taxed in state

2020: 23rd highest taxed in state

- Ag values are set to increase next year.
- Home values have increased.
- Sales tax implemented in 2019—projected 1.9 million; have taken in 2.55 million.
- Gas tax down 8-11%.

10. RICE RECREATION DONATION REQUEST

Gene Thomsen reported on activities being conducted by the Rice Recreation Department. They are requesting a donation of \$3,000 for 2022.

Lloyd Erdmann made a motion to donate \$3,000 to the Rice Recreation program; Paul Wippler seconded; motion carried.

11. BENTON ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP MEMBERSHIP

Sandra Saldana presented on activities of the BEP; new director: Amanda Othoudt.
Requesting Watab Township maintain its membership with the BEP; dues are \$2,500.00.

Julie Fandel made a motion to pay \$2,500.00 for membership; seconded by Robin Wollak; motion carried.

12. MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE CHANGE

Clerk Sauer requested a monthly meeting schedule change for the second Tuesday of the month to avoid late fees on bills that come in after the first of the month.

Paul Wippler made a motion to move the meeting dates to the second Tuesday of the month; Julie Fandel seconded; motion carried.

13. ELECTION RESULTS

Julie Johnson	86
Todd Waytashek	4
Craig Gondeck	1

Deb O'Keefe	82
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14. SET DATE FOR ANNUAL MEETING, 2022

Annual meetings for Townships are held on the second Tuesday in March.

Julie Fandel made a motion to hold the Annual Meeting for 2022 on March 8; John Olson seconded; motion carried.

John Olson moved that the Township Election be held March 8, 2022, from 12:00-8:00 pm; motion carried.

15. CITIZEN'S INPUT

None

16. ADJOURNMENT

Ray Thompson moved to adjourn; seconded by Jerry Kostreba; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:34.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sauer
Township Clerk