

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Emergency Flood Management
Wednesday, April 12, 2023 – 3:30 pm

An Emergency Flood Management Meeting for Watab and Langola Townships was called to order by Supervisor Johnson at 3:30 pm in the Watab Township Hall.

ROLL CALL

Board supervisors present: Julie Johnson, Steve Wollak, Jesse Arndt, Allen Klecker, Greg Bruestle, Anita Seviola, Mark Petron, Frank Hard, Kristen Tschida, Andrew Saldana, Sandra Saldana

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss plans for a response to the flood emergency throughout Watab and Langola Townships.

Current conditions:

- river in Royalton is at 13' and climbing as of noon today;
- one more gate will be opened at the dam today;
- ice is jammed at Gordon Bridge;
- wetlands around Sucker Creek are full

Kristen Tschida reported that, according to the National Weather Service in St. Cloud, the river is expected to crest at 9' early next week and then tail off.

Frank Hard questioned when the Benton County Emergency Operations Center would kick in. Kristen Tschida said that the threshold to open the Center is high; it would warrant a life-threatening situation that would continue for an extended period of time.

Sandbags are available free of charge from Watab Township and the Rice Hardware store. Sand is available at:

- Saldana Excavating
- Thompson Excavating
- Knife River
- Minnesota Paving
- South Side Paving
- Saehr Excavating (Pierz)

Andrew Saldana is offering free sand to residents. It will be available just past the gate at the Saldana Excavating property. Hours 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Residents must shovel and bag their own sand. Frank Hard said Langola Township will supply funnels for filling the bags. Delivery is available for a fee.

Residents must properly dispose of sandbags as they become hazardous waste material after they become wet. Henkemeyer Landfill will take used bags.

Traffic cones will be placed in areas deemed dangerous due to flooding.

Jesse Arndt will contact coaches at Sauk Rapids High School to request volunteers for bagging sand.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:29.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sauer
Township Clerk

Julie Johnson, Board Chairperson

Date

Kathy Sauer, Clerk

Date