

Watab Town Board Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Watab Town Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Ed Kacures Jr. All board members were present: Supervisors Craig Gondeck and Lloyd Erdmann, Treasurer Eileen Saldana, and Clerk Pat Spence. Audience members included Scott Mareck, St. Cloud APO, Jon Bogart, Township Engineer, and Kevin Reiter.

Announcements were made by Supervisor Gondeck as follows: thank you to Wayne Larson and Guy Spence for water monitoring work on Little Rock Lake this summer; thank you to Dennis Carstenson who volunteers to sweep corners of township intersections to make them safer for bikers; sympathy to the John Muhlbauer family, a request for board members to reach out to Chuck Ertl, who does the township road mowing; congratulations on 50 years of marriage to Mr. and Mrs. Erv Christle; congratulations for September twins born to Erin and Adam Nordmark; and thoughts for the Verso employees for what they're going through. Approval of the agenda was given through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Kacures with the possible addition of David Watts to speak about a neighborhood issue under New Business. Motion passed.

Approval of the September meeting minutes was given by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Kacures and motion passed. Treasurer's report was given with checking account balances totaling \$195,739.27. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Kacures, and passed.

Scott Mareck, Executive Director of the Area Planning Organization attended the meeting, at the board's request, to explain the benefits for Watab Township to become a participating member of the APO. The APO does long-range transportation planning for the St. Cloud Area. It is a joint-powers agreement with bylaws, which is a by product of federal law. Watab Township is currently part of the planning area, but it is optional to be part of the advisory board. Haven Township and LeSauk Township are members; St Joseph Township dropped out because of annexation issues. St. Cloud, St. Augusta, Sartell, Sauk Rapids, and Waite Park are city members. There is a policy board; three representatives from each jurisdiction are voting members of the policy board. It is a voluntary organization, so the plans and information are all advisory in nature. The City of St. Cloud gets 11 votes on the policy board because of its size. There is a monthly executive committee that meets on the second Thursday of each month with a dinner meeting at Jimmy's Pour House in Sauk Rapids. Each jurisdiction has one voting member on the executive committee, except for St. Cloud, which has three members. The board dialogued with Scott about potential benefits to the township. The APO lobbies the state legislature and Congress for transportation dollars; with more members they would have more political influence. Cost is 81 cents per capita, so the cost for Watab to join would be \$2,513.00. The next meeting is October 25th. Dues are billed semi-annually: January and July. Executive board meets at 5pm; the policy board meets at 7pm at Waite Park City Hall.

Authorization to pay bills as presented for Claims #4972 – 4996 and Electronic Transfers for PERA and IRS and to withdraw the funds from appropriate accounts was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed.

Old Business:

1. Jon Bogart reported on the two proposed railroad crossing/road projects. BNSF has advised the township that the cost for the railroad to widen the Lakewood Shore Rd crossing is \$41,000, which is more than expected; however, the cost is still within the township's budgeted amount for the project. Jon suggests that we re-bid the project in the spring as a gas line also needs to be moved, and it is getting too late in the season to begin the project. If we re-bid the project, County Engineer Chris Byrd will be asked to bid the Co. Rd 79 project at the same time. The

board felt that projects should be advertised for bids in February. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion to reject all the bids for the Lakewood Shore crossing because of difficulties with the timing of decisions from the railroad for this season's construction and re-bid the projects for opening at the first board meeting in March, seconded by Supervisor Kacures, and motion passed.

2. West Lake Road Speed Study: DOT hasn't heard anything yet.
3. Tree Trimming: Jason Zwilling did not have the required contractor's insurance; Supervisor Gondeck moved to hire Green Skies owned by Alan Adkins from Indian Road for the same parameters as set at last month's meeting for hiring Jason Zwilling. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Kacures; motion passed. Work can begin this week. Supervisor Erdmann brought up the need for the company to place cones and advance warning signs where they are working for safety of residents. The Clerk will prepare a contract with the contractor and flyers for the neighborhoods, which Supervisor Gondeck will distribute.
4. Sign Installation: Supervisor Gondeck has six signs to install with Supervisor Kacures' assistance. Work is scheduled for Thursday at 9am.
5. Lake Andrew Development Signage: Supervisor Gondeck spoke to Scott Jarnot last Friday and told him again that the signs must be installed without further delay. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion for the Clerk to contact Nancy Scott and instruct her to not issue any building permits in Lake Andrew Development until the signage is complete; seconded by Supervisor Kacures; and passed. Clerk is also to send letter to Scott Jarnot advising him of the board's action.
6. MS4 Issue with Tretter Contracting: Supervisor Gondeck was asked to contact David Schwinghammer to stay on top of this issue and also to invite him to come to the November 13th meeting. Tretter also needs to restore the approach for the township road.
7. Watab Clean Up Day results: 240 vehicles came through. Suggestion for next year is to create a simpler channel 3 ad. The board chair asked Supervisor Gondeck to thank his family for their work. It was a great success. Supervisor Gondeck commented on the popularity of the event for township residents. There were also residents from Graham, Langola, and Brockway Townships.
8. Indigo Road: Clerk Spence reported that Supervisor Erdmann had noticed a deed for the easement on the Lake View plat. She obtained a copy of the Deed Record 110, which gives a permanent easement 20 feet wide extending along the southerly side of Lots 1 to 15 and also an easement 20 feet wide extending along the southerly and easterly sides of Lots 24 to 42 in Lake View plat. Indigo Road will need to be extended past the former Steven Sommers lot: parcel # 12.0022601. Supervisor Gondeck was asked to contact Green Acres for an estimate to chip the brush on the road way by this lot. Supervisor Erdmann will put in steel fence posts by the irons that he located for the property. Supervisor Gondeck suggested inviting the residents of Lake View Plat, Roger Peterson of Oak Hill Golf Club, and David Walkoviak to inform them about the easement. Clerk Spence was asked to prepare a letter of invitation as a flyer for the November 13th meeting.
9. 95th Street ditch project: Allen Saldana is going to start the project this week. 80th Street corner by Jerry Solarz will be repaired; invite Nathan Sanoski, Maureen Graber, and Guy Spence to meet with Supervisor Gondeck for the purpose of planning a buffer strip at Shangri La Development. Supervisor Gondeck has spoken with the residents to inform them of the project.
10. Rice Fire Contract: Supervisor Kacures went to the Rice City Council meeting on October 1 and the city has done nothing on the Watab Contract; Mayor Fiedler promised to have a contract to the township by the end of August. Supervisor Kacures said that the Mayor, Allen Voigt and Marie Weinand are meeting today at 3pm to start to work on the contract for 2013-14

New Business:

1. New 5-year road plan: the board will start working on a new five-year plan next month. The Board Chair expressed appreciation to Supervisor Gondeck for the new maps. Clerk Spence has poster markers that will allow the map to be used for many years.
2. Approval of Resolution 2012-10 for appointment of additional election judges was given through a motion by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Kacures, and passed. The motion included approval for the Clerk and Chair to sign the resolution.
3. Monthly Correspondence: Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck and seconded by Supervisor Erdmann for the Board Chair to sign the annual road certification to Benton County; motion passed. The Clerk presented a thank you card from BCSWD for use of town hall for their meeting; Benton County Zoning packet was reviewed; and the Clerk read an email from Sue Souba regarding clean up of Indigo Road by her new property. Three calls were made to Supervisor Gondeck thanking the township for the good job on 85th Street and for the speed study on Burton Place. Supervisor Kacures also had calls of appreciation for 85th Street.
4. Supervisor Gondeck reported that at 8685 Burton Place, the renter has built a berm to prevent water from running down his driveway; now water is running into the neighbor's garages. After board discussion, it was decided that the Board Chair will go out to look at it. Supervisor Gondeck said that the road by Wapicada Golf Course was seal coated by Caldwell Asphalt using heavier granite chips than ASTECH has been using on our town roads. It may be more durable.
5. Kevin Reiter asked about ditch mowing status: Supervisor Gondeck said that Chuck Ertl has ordered the parts he needs for his tractor since the accident but the state has impounded it for review. Supervisor Gondeck will contact him about the status of the work.
6. Benton County Economic Development Board: Supervisor Gondeck reported that there were three meetings with the commissioners to keep the board and department in tact; however, the board is ceasing operations and hiring a consultant; the current board has decided to continue meeting regardless of the commissioner's decision.
7. Collection report on unpaid bills: Clerk Spence reported that she has turned over \$7,058 to the collection agency. Some will be moving to the court system.
8. Dave Watts didn't appear at the meeting on his neighborhood issue.
9. Benton County Association of Township Meeting and District 8 meetings: Annual Meeting for MAT – Nov 15-17: Supervisor Gondeck will attend; Supervisor Kacures is considering attending. The Clerk is to register them for the conference by the November 2nd deadline.
10. Board work for the month was outlined during the meeting.
11. Supervisor Erdmann commented on Bob Lanners project and his question about a proposed road.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15pm through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann; and motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pat Spence