

Fish Lake Township
2170 Brunswick Road
Harris, MN 55032
May 9, 2011 Regular Monthly Meeting

Township Officials Present: Chair Bob Carter
Supervisor Diane Larkin
Supervisor Corey Johnson
Andrea Nekowitsch, Clerk

Township Officials Absent: Sharon McAndrew, Treasurer

Chair Carter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All in attendance stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

Approve Agenda

Motion made by Johnson and seconded by Carter to add the following to the agenda: board member duties, 420th St., turnarounds, culverts and part-time employees. Motion passed.

Road Report

Gary Guse reported that the brakes on the plow truck are in need of repair. Motion made by Larkin and seconded by Carter to repair plow truck brakes for \$250. Motion passed.

Gary Guse reported that the housing in the John Deere tractor is cracked. Motion made by Larkin and seconded by Johnson to have Frontier Ag and Turf repair the housing for \$2400 and the funds be used from special projects and equipment. Motion passed.

Gary Guse reported that Leaf Construction can help with the ditching and culvert replacement on 430th St. Motion made by Carter and seconded by Johnson to schedule Leaf Construction for ditching and culvert replacement on 430th St. for \$1500. Motion passed.

Gary Guse reported that Knife River used a portion of Amery Ave. and Antler Rd. as a haul road and paid the Township \$3600 for damage caused by their trucking. Gary recommended that the portion of road used on Amery and Antler be added to the gravel list this year. Motion made by Larkin and seconded by Johnson to add the portion of Amery Ave. and Antler Rd. that was used by Knife River to the gravel list for 2011 and the expense be paid for from the \$3600 paid to the Township by Knife River. Motion passed.

Gary reported that he will be testing gravel 1-2 times per day during crushing.

Scheduled Appointments

1. Patty Hoskins (Cambridge Drive). Ms. Hoskins requested time to present a petition to vacate a platted undeveloped road in Cambridge Lake Estates. Ms. Hoskins did not attend the meeting or her appointment.
2. Rick Landowski (Paces Restaurant). Mr. Landowski presented the Board the renewal form for Paces annual liquor license and reported that there have been no incident's at the Bar and

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Restaurant. Motion made by Larkin and seconded by Johnson to approve Pace's Bar and Restaurant's annual liquor license. Motion passed.

Road Report Continued.....

The Chloride Policy was moved from "Old Business" to enable Gary Guse's input. Over the years resident chloride requests have substantially increased. Thus creating substantially more time spent to fulfill the demands. The Board expressed their concern with the amount of man hours and costs to the Township this program is creating. Motion made by Carter and seconded by Larkin to discontinue the chloride program for residents. Motion passed. A letter will be sent to residents who have purchased chloride through the Township in the past few years notifying them of the change and information where they can purchase chloride independently.

Pat Devine reported to the Board that stump grinding in the Dahlstorp Cemetery should be done soon. Motion made by Carter and seconded by Johnson to authorize \$1500 from the cemetery fund (donated by Lois Eaves) to grind stumps in the Dahlstorp Cemetery. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report

The Board reviewed the treasurer's report.

Blacktop Fund (Peoples)	\$104,083.33	Equipment Fund	\$5,493.69
Savings (Peoples)	\$ 39,080.49	SSD/Debt. Service	\$26,248.44
Savings (Camb. State)	\$177,007.31	Cemetery	\$7,005.95
		Checking	\$1,821.03

Motion made by Johnson and seconded by Larkin to accept the Treasurer's Report, approve payment of check #10479 to #10495, for the amount of \$9,297.41, authorize up to \$4,000.00 in operating disbursements for the upcoming month, approve the claims list as presented and transfer \$12,000.00 from savings to checking and transfer of \$116.52 from Cemetery to Checking. Motion passed.

Motion made by Carter and seconded by Larkin to officially appoint Sharon McAndrew as Fish Lake Township Treasurer as well as thank her for her years already served. Motion passed

Minutes

Motion made by Larkin and seconded by Johnson to approve the April 2011 minutes as discussed. Motion passed.

Supervisor Johnson reported that he followed up with Rick Klick regarding DSL discussed at the April 2011 meeting. Unfortunately, DSL provided through Qwest, will not be available any time soon to residents around North Goose Lake, the area is too far from the nearest Qwest DSL location.

Clerk Report

Clerk Nekowitsch reported that PEIP (Public Employees Insurance Program) will no longer be offering the current health insurance benefit package and a new one will need to be chosen for Gary Guse. More research needs to be done to find the plan that is comparable to his current benefits.

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The DNR had agreed in the past to pay their \$8000 share of the Blue Heron Trail paving project. They have recently stated that they will pay \$4000. Their tax role has been assessed over the past years for the full amount and will continue to be assessed at the full amount. Carolyn Drude of Ehlers and Associates, who helped the Township's with the subordinate service district process will has offered to contact the DNR regarding this issue.

The annual meeting of the Cemetery Board is scheduled for May 18, 2011 at 5:55 p.m.

The shop time clock printer ribbon needs to be replaced. That model of time clock and ribbons for that model are no longer available. Motion made by Larkin and seconded by Carter to spend up to \$300 to purchase a new time clock for the shop. All in favor.

Motion made by Larkin and seconded by Carter to reconvene on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 6 p.m. Motion passed.

MAY 18, 2011 – 6 PM

Supervisor Larkin called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Board Member Reports

Chair Carter reported that he attended the Isanti County Planning meeting on May 12th concerning 420th St. The Isanti County Planning Commission recommended to the Isanti County Board to require a \$20,000 bond to insure satisfactory and timely compliance to finish a pond that was created on the Fish Lake Township border with North Branch Township in Isanti County. The pond that was constructed on the Peterson property by a second party has potential to flood the border road and affect Fish Lake Township. Supervisor Larkin stated that if the pond is not in compliance in the given time frame, it will ultimately be the landowners responsibility to make sure the requirements are met. Although the landowner gave permission to a second party to construct the pond, the landowner is responsible for the actions of his agent. Chair Carter spoke with Mr. Peterson, the landowner, and was given approval for Fish Lake Township to open a waterway before it floods the road. It would take Gary Guse approximately 30 minutes to do so.

Chair Carter reported that he and Cambridge Fire Chief Shawn Okerlund viewed some of the Township roads and turn-arounds. Although the turn-arounds are adequate for fire trucks, some of them need more gravel.

Chair Carter reported costs for gravel markers. A six foot 18 gauge post is \$2.68. The reflective band is \$10. Culvert markers used by Chisago County are approximately \$23.00 each.

Doug Rogers, the Township's part-time employee, has indicated that he may want to fully retire soon. The Board will speak to Doug about his plans and time frame and then proceed with hiring and training a new part-time employee.

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Motion made by Carter and seconded by Larkin to choose the Advantage Health Plan through PEIP, this plan is the most comparable to the current Township health insurance plan. The premiums will be \$20 less per month.

Clerk Nekowitsch reported that after some more research she was able to find an aftermarket printer ribbon for the time clock in the shop. A new time clock will not be needed at this time.

Supervisor Larkin proposed that the Board work together and split up the current projects that Chair Carter was working on. Each member took a few projects to work on individually.

Chair Carter offered to donate his time to dig stumps out of the Dahlstorp Cemetery if the Township would rent the back hoe. The Board agreed and Chair Carter will perform the work as soon as he is available.

Old Business

The Township was approached by Dave Ktorba, owner of the Full Moon, about purchasing a 1/10 of an acre parcel in Stark that is owned by the Township. Research on selling this lot has been completed. The value of the lot is \$200. The Board discussed how to publicize the sale of the lot. Due to the value of the lot being low, a public advertisement, meeting and bid process is not required. Supervisor Larkin stated that the Township should wait and sell the lot in the fall and utilize the reminder card being sent to all residents about the reconvened annual meeting to take place in September. The notice of sale can be put on the card. Chair Carter stated that he feels it would be sufficient to notify the abutting landowners to the property by letter. Motion made by Carter and seconded by Johnson to send sale information by letter to Dave Ktorba, Mr. Stiles and Jim Saari notifying them that the sale of the lot will be by sealed bid and the buyer is to pay all costs associated with the sale. VOTE: Carter-Yes; Johnson-Yes; Larkin-No. Motion passed.

New Business

Motion by Johnson and seconded by Carter to amend the regular monthly meeting schedule by changing the start of the monthly meetings to 6:00 p.m. to enable finishing the meetings at a more reasonable time. Motion passed. All regular monthly meetings will begin at 6 p.m.; scheduled appointments will remain at 8 p.m.

Citizen Comment

None.

Motion made by Larkin and seconded by Johnson to adjourn at 8:25 pm. Motion passed.