

**WOODROW TOWNSHIP**

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

**April 14, 2016**

**7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Hankey at 7:00 p.m. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were supervisors Myles Wagner, Tom Lindquist and chair Bob Hankey, treasurer Tim Mueller and clerk Diane Schires.

Chair Hankey explained that supervisors will conduct their discussions prior to giving the floor to any questions regarding the issue being discussed. Audience members will stand, state their name and if they are residents.

MSP Wagner/Lindquist to approve agenda.

MSP Wagner/Lindquist to approve March minutes with modifications.

MSP Hankey/Wagner to accept Treasurer's report of new 5 yr CD of \$100,000 at 1.65% created on 3/23/2016, 2 CD's of \$82,007.03 and \$45,622.18 for a total of \$745,394.35 in checking account. Mueller stated that all balanced.

MSP Hankey/Wagner to approve claims as submitted by Schires, with abstain from Lindquist. Lindquist's claims for January, February and March during his absence were discussed at length regarding the past precedence of not paying a board member while absent. Also at issue was that Lindquist failed to submit claims by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month that is specified on the claims forms. Schires researched area townships and contacted the MATS attorney. No other townships had this issue, and the attorney stated that since we don't have a policy, it would be decided by the two board members. Her findings were shared with the board prior to the meeting. Discussion ensued, with talk of redefining precedence, policy and technology issues at a later date so that misunderstandings of this issue will not be made in the future. Lindquist indicates that he objects to not being fairly paid for his claims. Hankey moves to accept Lindquist claims, motion dies for lack of second.

MSP Hankey/Wagner to approve payroll as submitted by Schires, with abstain from Lindquist. Lindquist's payroll claims for January, February and March during his absence were discussed at length regarding the past precedence of not paying a board member while absent. Also at issue was that Lindquist failed to submit claims by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month that is specified on the payroll claims forms. Schires researched area townships and contacted the MATS attorney. No other townships had this issue, and the attorney stated that since we don't have a policy, it

would be decided by the two board members. Her findings were shared with the board prior to the meeting. Discussion ensued, with talk of redefining precedence, policy and technology issues at a later date so that misunderstandings of this issue will not be made in the future. Lindquist indicates that he objects to not being fairly paid for his payroll. Public input: Tom Larson, resident - believes Lindquist should be compensated. Court Lechert, resident - stated that Jim Lewis was never compensated during his absences and volunteered for many things. Arlan Schires, resident - doesn't understand why there is no policy and that it appears to be a contentious issue. Hankey moves to accept Lindquist payroll claims, motion dies for lack of second.

### **ROAD AND BRIDGE REPORTS-**

Supervisor Hankey - nothing to report.

Supervisor Wagner – Spring inventory date to be set for Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m. All will meet at the hall. Roads were graded once and it rained immediately afterwards. They became messy and may have to be graded again.

Public input: Jack Thomas, Mann Lake, non-resident-requested that he be given the opportunity to point out problems on Buxton Road during the inspection. Wagner will call him as the inspection gets near his residence. Denise Foley, Interlachen, resident-questioned why roads don't take a light rain. Roads are wash-boarded and messy. Hankey redirects to Billy Herheim, who states that washboards are caused by speed. Discussion ensued regarding road conditions, with Hankey remarking that it doesn't matter what kind of aggregate you have on your road. If you're going too fast, you will get wash-boarding.

Supervisor Lindquist - four variances with the ESD were issued in April. Would like the vacating road policy posted to the website and will provide Schires with verbiage. Pointed out that August, September and October 2015 minutes are missing from website. Schires doesn't have electronic so will scan and post.

### **OLD BUSINESS-**

*Road Contract-* Hankey states that the original contract is a maintenance contract and after speaking to a MAT road expert last month it should specify between routine and non-routine. Wagner explained Special Work Order (SWO)'s go by standards and is spelled out in contract. Hankey thinks that if we're going to assign a dollar amount threshold to a SWO it will assure the township is accountable and fiscally responsible. Wagner states our Operational Guidelines should state that any SWO that exceeds X amount will be bid out. All agreed that we will pursue at a later date. Lindquist remarked that Sunny Acres and Buxton Road would have been

a SWO. Regarding compacting new gravel or every time roads are graded, Myles talked to Dave Emblom and stated that costs will increase by 30% every time it's graded. Hankey stated that he also spoke with Emblom and that he noted that more "front end" work with compacting could result in increased time between grading. Herheim notes that Cass County has different classes of roads and questions if 30% increase is enough. Myles suggests that any new gravel will be packed and put in contract language. Hankey questioned the culvert language in contract and that new culverts are now SWO. Discussion ensued regarding the start time of the contract with consensus of having it start on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Lindquist suggested that old Road Liaison language was better, so now it will state that claims for work will be verified by road liaison. Termination process on the road contract will use the old contract language. Agreement that 15 & 18 in the old contract needs to be added back in. Exhibit A to include "as warranted as necessary by road liaison with consultation with road contractor". Culverts could be part of SWO, so we will leave in contract. Lindquist suggests directing contractor to use "Best rule practices" and use "will" instead of "may" as it's a catch-all term. Also suggests abandoning "mitigation". Establish road liaison language to role definitions in Operational Guideline. Discussion ensues regarding the use of "extreme" as opposed to "as necessary" in the snow plowing policy and using it as a reference to website instead of in contract. Public input: Tom Larson states contract is too complicated and subjective to opinion. Brenda Mathison, Trillium, resident-do we need attorney approval for all these changes? MSP Hankey/Lindquist to modify contract to eliminate any language specifying how the project will be completed.

*Knoll Road* – Hankey will arrange for Kelly Condiff with the DNR (JPB) to be at next monthly meeting.

*Gerner Road Easement* – Lindquist states he worked over the winter many times with the engineer, attorney, and property owner and will be meeting with the property owner this weekend.

*Electronic Meetings* – Lindquist stated he was confused after reading the January minutes that the technology issue wasn't passed because it doesn't take a lot of technology, and the attorney he spoke with says that other townships do it. Hankey explained that the motion died for lack of second.

*Rock Crushing* – Hankey will look into crushing the boulders in the pit. Wagner suggested that any boulders too large to crush should be sold.

*Hawk Trail Site Plan Review of all Drawings* – Lindquist passed out 3 drawings of proposed plans and explained that a public meeting with the engineer will take place at the next township meeting next month at 6:30 to discuss plans. Public input: Court Lechert, resident - stated that no budget has been designated to this project and that given the expense paid out thus far, and

lack of progress, he expressed frustration as a taxpayer. Hankey states that the first engineering proposal wasn't viable, and reminds everyone that the County will be sharing in the costs. Discussion ensued regarding the different plan options.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

*Board Salaries/Stipends* – Wagner read aloud proposed language regarding absences from the township, outlining that if you're absent from the township as a board member you will not be paid . Discussion ensued with public input: Chuck Tralle, resident- we should reconsider if we can use electronic meetings. Tom Larson – Agrees with Chuck. Arlan Schires, Child Lake, resident – believes that if you are out of the township for an extended time, you don't get paid. Irene Schires, Child Lake, resident – how do the board members communicate without violating open meeting law? Hankey moves to adopt proposed language. Dies for lack of second.

*Joint Powers Change with Longville Fire Dept* – Hankey explains that the Joint Powers Board will redraw boundaries for fire protection and that it will be \$940.21 less in the year 2017. Will be meeting this summer to sign a resolution and totals will be discussed.

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mark Gardner, resident- recommends using Authentisign to use if electronic signatures are needed.

Arlan Schires – asks if we would consider inviting the Cass County Sherriff's to speak of crime in the area in the aftermath of a township resident recently being robbed and not even hearing about it. Hankey stated he would take it under advisement.

Tom Larson – stated that the Sherriff's office wants to be informed of any electronic scams.

MEETING ADJOURNED MSP Lindquist/Wagner at 9:20 p.m.



Chair, Bob Hankey



Clerk, Diane Schires