

**BELGRADE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
NICOLLET COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE
August 13th, 2019
MINUTES**

The Belgrade Township regular monthly meeting for August was held on August 13th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Nicollet County Satellite Offices, 2070 Howard Drive in North Mankato, MN. Chairperson Mary Milbrath, Supervisor Tim Lorentz, Supervisor Cheryl Michels, Supervisor Tom Langdon, Treasurer Konnie Pierson and Clerk Lori Cullen were present as well as Harlan Olson, Dave Chambers and William (Bill) Douglas from Bolton & Menk. Supervisor Tim Lorentz was absent.

The meeting opened with The Pledge of Allegiance and was called to order @ 7:00pm by Mary Milbrath.

Craig made a motion to approve July 9th Meeting Minutes with one brief addition requested by Mary. Tom seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Craig made a motion to approve the July Claims. Tom seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Craig made a motion to approve the July Payroll. Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed. Tom abstained because he had a claim for payment included.

Konnie gave the Treasurer's Report for July. There was \$6,618.06 in Simple Checking and \$12,555.78 in the Platinum account as of July 31st, 2019. There was \$394,810.50 in the ICS account as of July 31st, 2019. Interest for the month of July for the Platinum Account was \$1.22. Interest for the month of July in the ICS Account was \$856.86. Tom made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mary reminded everyone of Board Meeting Etiquette. The meeting is being recorded only to assist in preparing minutes.

OLD BUSINESS – There were no additions or corrections to the following old business:

Culverts & Ditches: Fee and Voucher system for Resident Culvert purchases; Weed Spraying - Vegetation on hills; Clean ditches; Ditch at top of 490th (High Hill); Timber Trail; Timber Lane; 492nd between 169 & Old River Bluff; 50032 Old River Bluff Road; Update on Old River Bluff; Update on 405th culvert; Spillway (Smith)

Employees: Time Card breakdowns; Training updates

Equipment: Lights on Trucks; Printer/Copier for Treasurer; Tool Inventory List; Quotes for a new truck to replace Dodge

Fire Report: Craig

Roads: Signs on Hills; Hill Rating; Gamble Hill repair; Minimum Maintenance Roads; Authority to Close Roads during emergencies – Road Supervisor with Harlan

Other: Vandalism – Tim; Huntley Wilmarth; Dust Control; FEMA 1; FEMA 2

Tabled Items: Greg Depuydt's field berm

NEW BUSINESS

Culverts & Ditches

Lori asked about the ditch at the top of 490th. Tom said there needs to be an engineer to come and look at it. There was a question regarding how much the retaining pond contributes if it overflows. Lori said this year was the first year the pond has spilled into the ditch.

The Smith spillway was discussed. Bill said it's sediment, mostly sand and gravel. It's common to have these sediment problems. He had 4 suggestions: 1) build a pond upstream (\$120,000); 2) build a couple of abutments with a grain elevator grate between (\$250,000 - \$350,000); 3) place an 8 X 8 box culvert in the channel (\$60,000), but due to the meandering nature of water channels it would be a waste of money spent if the waterway moved; 4) DNR style concrete boat planks (<\$30,000). He said but he said only one is financially feasible due to the meandering nature of water channels is #4. The boat planks (12'X1'X6") with gravel going around are moveable. If they get covered they can be lifted up (by their built in hooks) and placed on top of the new sediment. Bill passed around pictures of it. A geotextile fabric and chain link fence can be laid underneath it for stability, too. Dave Chambers suggested hog slats. Cost on the concrete planks is \$14/sq ft delivered or \$55 per concrete plank. Tom is concerned that it will be covered in 6 months. We need the weight to know if township equipment can handle repositioning them when needed. Bill will get more information.

Harlan asked if the policy should read 16" instead of 15". Dave said he was always under the understanding that it was a minimum of 15", which is how it is currently worded. The board said to leave it as is. The clerk will post the new policy on the website.

Virginia LaFrance contacted Mary asking when seed was going to get put on their ditch on Timber Lane. Harlan said a contractor looked at it and he said nothing is going to hold. Craig said we could put some seed on it. Tom said it might be helpful if the property owner could reroute the drainage pipe they have coming out of the hill that is constantly draining.

Employees

We will not be doing extra timecard breakdowns at this time.

MAT Annual Conference is November 22nd & 23rd at the Mankato Civic Center. Board members should only attend if they can participate in the full event due to cost.

Equipment

Tom will get prices for lights on the Freightliner. Harlan said we Tom should consider lights like what the county has on their trucks.

The board decided to purchase a Printer/Copier for the Treasurer. Mary found and purchased a demo model printer for \$52.

Harlan said he can compose a Tool Inventory List when things slow down a bit. It's beneficial for insurance purposes.

FEMA

FEMA 1 (2018) Kerns has been denied. Bill Douglas, from Bolten and Menk, is writing the appeal letter to FEMA for reconsideration. The sink holes that happened may be the key to appeal and substantiate that the damage occurred all in one swoop. Harlan will write a letter explaining his observations regarding the sink holes. Mary and Bill will sign the letter of appeal that Bill brought. Cheryl made a motion to send off letter. Craig seconded. Motion passed. Mary said a determination was made on 490th, Timber Lane and Deerwood Trail for \$21,000. Mary must send paperwork proving our expenses for those projects. Craig said he has also been attending MAPO meetings. They lobby for money through MNDOT. He had Bill submit the drawings for Kerns and our spillway project.

FEMA 2 (2019) Mary was told to wait for their initial contact before beginning.

Fire Report

There is a Board Meeting on the 26th @ 7:00pm. There's very little new stuff on the agenda. Craig asked if Cheryl would be interested in taking over with the fire department meetings. Cheryl said she works Mondays.

Roads

492nd between 169 & Old River Bluff will be graveled.

There was an email sent to the Board from Mr Michaletz, which is currently a Minimum Maintenance Road. They sent a letter asking to take over the road if the board made several improvements first. Joe Lorentz rents property down there and he is not interested in that. Harlan will check on the road. Tom made a motion to deny the request. Craig seconded. The Motion passed.

The Oshawa shared road claim is ok to pay.

Kristin Gunsolus sent an email wanting to set up a maintenance schedule for the shared road. We already have a schedule. No further action is necessary. Mary will reply to her request accordingly.

Tabled Items

Harlan asked about making some of the roads 10-ton roads. Mary did some checking and said It's a big request. Craig thinks the new gravel we're using will help. The roads will remain as currently are.

Harlan said the culvert on 409th Ave needs to be dug out and the culvert repaired or replaced. Tom said we should look at it and think about getting it taken care of. Tom made a motion to repair or replace it. Craig seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mary abstained because it involves her road.

The culvert on 391st Lane might need an 8' piece added along with aprons put back on. Due to this year's expenses that culvert will have to be readdressed next year.

Tom has firm quotes for a new truck on the box and equipment, but not firm pricing on truck itself. We have pricing from Ford for budget purposes, but we might not go with the Ford. The Ford 650 is a bigger truck, which is what was originally considered, but only comes in 2-wheel drive. Chevy has a truck called a TopKick(?). It's quite a bit bigger than the 550. Tom will continue to work on pricing. Lori went through 2017/2018 claims and said that the rough combined total spent on repairs to the Dodge came to \$15,722.

Adjourn

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Craig seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Mary Milbrath, Chair

Date

Lori Cullen, Clerk