

**BELGRADE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**TELECONFERENCE DUE TO COVID 19**  
**May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**MINUTES**

The Belgrade Township regular monthly meeting for May was held on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference due to COVID 19 restrictions. The board passed a resolution that this meeting be conducted by teleconference due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. Chairperson Mary Milbrath, Supervisor Cheryl Michels, Supervisor Tom Langdon, Supervisor Andy Goettlicher, Treasurer Konnie Pierson and Clerk Lori Cullen were present as well as Harlan Olson and Matt, Scott and John Michaletz, John Speckel, Kevin Michels, Benjamin Sneer, Karen Smith. Supervisor Craig Smith was absent.

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

All motions approved at this meeting were done by a voice, roll call vote by each supervisor and are documented as such.

Cheryl made a motion to approve the agenda. Andy seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

Cheryl made a motion to approve April 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes. Tom seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

Tom made a motion to approve the April Claims. Mary seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0 -1. Cheryl abstained due to conflict of interest.

Cheryl made a motion to approve the April Payroll. Andy seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

Konnie gave the Treasurer's Report for April. There was \$10,389.55 in Simple Checking and \$14,036.30 in the Platinum account as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. There was \$97,716.34 in the ICS account as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Interest for the month of April for the Platinum Account was \$1.43. Interest for the month of April in the ICS Account was \$22.23. Cheryl made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Craig seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

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

## OLD BUSINESS

There were no additions to the following old business:

Culverts & Ditches - Field Drive/Culvert gone on Old River Bluff; Ditch on 526<sup>th</sup>; Timber Trail For Sale Sign; Letter for Board to approve for John Speckle

Employees – May 13<sup>th</sup> Teleconference call with MAT

Equipment - Tires for Kubota; \$409.22 credit at Crysteel

FEMA - Nothing new

Fire Report - Nothing new

Roads - Huntley Wilmarth Permit and Bond; Work on Spillway and MMR; MMR or TC (Township Cartway); Town Bridge Funding; Road Tour plans

Tabled Items – Timber Trail ditches

Other – 2020 Census Reminder

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Culverts & Ditches**

Mary received a phone call from Eric Mann. During the ditch cleaning on Old River Bluff Rd last year Mr Mann's culvert for a small access onto property was removed. If Eric pays for the culvert and aprons the township could put it in. Harlan said it would take half a day or so. Tom made motion. Cheryl second. Motion passed 4-0.

Craig and Mary met with property owner John Speckel regarding the height of his ditch after some recent work he did. He requested a letter from the board outlining what the requirements are for the ditch. Mary found an example letter for a simple ditch diagram including what the dimensions of a township ditch are. John said the water issues are to the west and east of him. John tilled up the hard pan dirt in that right of way area. He measured his elevations with a laser and said there is already a 6" dip (6" of fall in ten feet). He said there is fall away from the road. He said he welcomes the board members to come out and laser read it with him. Tom suggested tabling issue until John gets the certified letter from the township. He also suggested getting some assurance from Mr Speckel that if there are future water problems there he'd be willing to correct it. John said if there's water issues it's not his fault because he didn't change anything. John said this was part of his site plan he had with the county. Mary and Andy will meet John at 8am tomorrow meeting.

There is a very large for sale sign on Timber Trail on Kent Schwickert's property, but in the right-of-way at the edge of the road. Harlan will have problems turning the grader around without hitting the sign. The realtor was contacted and said the sign company will move it.

### **Employees**

There will be a MAT teleconference call for board members with Governor Walz from 4:30-5:00pm tomorrow.

## Equipment

Harlan said we will need to replace the tires for the mower. He checked on 10-ply and 8-ply tires. They will cost between \$1,338.50 and \$1,580. Tom asked if it's something we can get by without for a while. Harlan said since we won't be mowing until fall we could push it out until August.

Lori ask the board to decide what to do with a \$609.22 credit at Crysteel. Tom said just leave as a credit because it will get used up very quickly.

## FEMA

Mary sent a bridge permit request to the county today. Seth Greenwood called Mary and explained that if the county puts in a bridge the township has put up \$10,000. We also might have to purchase some land rights from the parties who have property next to it.

Mary has heard nothing from the state regarding the bond. The state said they sent it on to federal.

## Fire Report

Craig said there is nothing new going on right now.

## Roads

Huntley Wilmarth requested sending a letter of credit in place of a bond for \$75,000 to the township as a security to cover potential damage costs incurred during their project work. They also asked that members of the public due not approach the workers due to safety and COVID 19 issues. Mary will place a map in the shop with timelines and worksites. Lori will put a notice on the township website.

Harlan cleaned out the Smith spillway and used what he cleaned out to fill in some potholes.

Mary did some research on the road east of 169. The record said it is TC193. Mary said the MAT attorney said townships typically do not maintain TC (Township Cartway). He also said if the township has materials they've used on the property that the township would be able to retrieve those with the landowners permission. Mary said the board would need to decide if they should send this to a state attorney. Tom made motion to send this to township attorney. Cheryl second. Motion passed, 4-0. Mary will call the MAT lawyer for some recommendations and then call John Michaletz. Gary Bennet from the DNR said from the arial views he can see that there is a change in the river.

Road Tour plans amidst COVID 19 issues recommends riding in separate vehicles. Mary suggested 2 supervisors go one way and 3 go the other way with everyone looking at the 3 hills and the Kerns bridge. It will be tentatively set for May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm.

## Other

Reminder to everyone: Fill out your 2020 Census online.

Benjamin met with Mary to request making an entrance onto their property. Tom spoke with Abby about the culvert. Harlan said Tom told them they need to come to the board for board approval. Mary would like to make a resolution that everyone gets board approval before putting in a new culvert. Cheryl made motion for resolution that prior to placing a culvert all residents need to obtain board approval. Andy seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-1 Tom had left the meeting. Andy made motion for Benjamin and Abby to put in a culvert according to our guidelines at their expense. Cheryl seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-1. Harlan asked if they could move the trees they planted close to the road. Benjamin said they would move some.

## Tabled Items

Timber Trail discussion for spring of 2021.

## Adjourn

Andy made a motion to adjourn. Cheryl seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0-1 (Tom had already left the meeting) and the meeting adjourned at 8:49pm.

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Mary Milbrath, Chair

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Date

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Lori Cullen, Clerk