

**BELGRADE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
NICOLLET COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE  
MARCH 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
MINUTES**

The Belgrade Township regular monthly meeting for March was held on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Nicollet County Satellite Offices on Howard Drive in North Mankato. Supervisor Craig Smith, Supervisor Mary Milbrath Supervisor, Supervisor Andy Goettlicher, Treasurer Ashley Hanley and Clerk Lori Cullen were present as well as Harlan Olson, Edward Olson and John Walser. Chairperson Cheryl Michels and Supervisor Gerri Krueger were absent. Vice Chair Andy Goettlicher conducted the meeting.

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

Craig made a motion to approve the agenda. Mary seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

Craig made a motion to approve February 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes. Mary seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

Craig made a motion to approve the February Claims. Mary seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

Craig made a motion to approve the February Payroll. Mary seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

Ashley gave the Treasurer's Report for February. There was \$16,098.65 in Simple Checking and \$9,827.44 in the Platinum account as of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The ending balance in the ICS account as of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 was \$338,173.15. Interest for the month of February for the Platinum Account was \$0.93. Interest for the month of February in the ICS Account was \$68.93. Craig made a motion to approve the February Treasurer's Report. Mary seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

Andy 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 – Snowmobiles; Board letter & Newsletter

Employees – Nothing new

Equipment - Heated Wiper Blades

FEMA - Updates

Fire Report -Craig

Roads - Gravel Quotes; Plowing/Grading; Questions regarding work on Birch Bluff; Weight Restrictions on ORBR from Nicollet County

Other - Bonding; Garage/Shed (Photos from Cheryl); Annexation; L&R 2-17-2021 9am sign up; MAT Regular Updates 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues @ 10am Conf.

Call; Planning & Zoning; Annual Town Meeting

Tabled Items - 526<sup>th</sup> Ditch; Oshawa Shared Road; Timber Trail ditches; Utility Permits; Top of 490<sup>th</sup> hill

FYI - Nothing new

### NEW BUSINESS

#### **Culverts & Ditches**

Mary got call from a man saying he was going to build a house on the SE corner of Cty13 & 490<sup>th</sup>. Mary expressed concerns regarding how close some vegetation is being planted to the road. He pressed Mary for an answer regarding building. Then he called and withdrew his request. Mary spoke with someone at MAT about coming up with ordinances that match the county's zoning restrictions. There is a new property where the shed is now extending into the setback. The county has scheduled a hearing to decide what to do about that. Andy asked what kind of requirement would be put on the town board to make such an ordinance. He said if doing so gives the county a little strength in what they require it might be advantageous. What's our responsibility in enforcing and what's our involvement? Mary will find out the answers. TABLED

Gerri called and told Mary residents can purchase the break away mailbox poles through Nicollet County.

#### **Employees**

Nothing new.

#### **Equipment**

Mary called Crystal Valley to see if we can contract diesel fuel for the township. Craig thought it was a good idea.

Mary made a motion to get up to 5,000 gallons. Craig seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **FEMA**

Today \$139,218.47 was deposited into our bank account. There is still \$5,736.58 pending. That is all from 2019. The initial request was for roughly \$282,000. Total received is \$272,046.55. Andy gave Mary great accolades on sticking with it. It's been a long, arduous process, which involved working with 7 rep transfers, which meant submitting all the information 7 times.

#### **Fire Report**

Craig attended the meeting. He reported there was nothing new.

**Roads**

Craig addressed soft spot on High Hill (490<sup>th</sup> Street) caused by a frost boil. He spoke with Joe Lorentz, who requested it be fixed ASAP so the road could be opened up (it’s currently closed due to the frost boil). Craig suggested. have Harlan pull the rock aside, put 1 ½” rock there, then cover it up with the regular rock. He would like to see that done tomorrow. Edward said the soft spot is almost across the entire road. Harlan and the board discussed that it may not be able to be worked on until sometime next week. Craig said whenever Harlan thinks it will be effective, do it as soon as he can. Andy wondered if the 1 ½ could follow the crown of the road. Craig also brought up the lack of ditch, especially on the north side, and to clean out both sides of the ditch, making it 1 ½’ – 2 feet deep and wide. Lori expressed concern that our equipment isn’t big enough to do the job right. Craig said we aren’t going to hire it done. Lori reminded the board that they already committed to hiring it done. Craig made motion for 1 ½ rock to be applied there along with the ditch dug as discussed, as soon as Harlan thinks the road surrounding it has firmed up enough and to make the shallow ditch. Mary seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The lights on the hill are amber and the sign says “use caution when flashing”. Craig said perhaps we could switch to red lights and the sign saying when red lights flashing road is closed. Edward wasn’t sure people would be respectful of the red lights and was curious about if it would at least protect the township regarding liability. Mary said even the yellow ones do that.

Dust control for 2021 was discussed. John Walsler from Valley Dust Control came and explained the benefit and purpose behind using dust control. He said the product not only keeps dust down, but it also helps hold the road rock in places. That helps prevent washboard on the roads insomuch as it slows the process down. In 2019 there were 2 applications. Last year it was one application. 2 applications would be \$5,940. A single application runs \$4,590.00. Mary asked about safety concerns if we didn’t use dust control. Harlan said you don’t save \$1,500 dollars on the single application because the amount of labor to maintain the hills increases with only one application. He said it really helps hold the hills better with 2 applications. Mary made a motion for one application for safety sake on all 3 hills. The board decided to table it until more board members were present. TABLED

Timber Trail weight restrictions were on and people were hauling and caused severe damage to the road. We will send the responsible party a bill for the material, time, labor and mileage to repair the road. The cost was around \$4,500.

Haul roads on 510<sup>th</sup> are breaking down quite a bit. Harlan is working on those roads. Excel Energy will continue to reimburse us for the repair costs.

Two of the hills are open. High Hill will remain closed until Harlan can firm up road. The Land Use Meeting has been rescheduled to April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**Other**

MAT Training will be March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. It will be entirely virtual.

**General FYI:**

**Tabled Items**

Timber Trail - spring of 2021; Planning and Zoning; Top of 490<sup>th</sup> hill; Camera for Harlan; 526<sup>th</sup> Ditch; Paying off International; Dust Control on hills; Set back ordinance

**Adjourn**

Craig made a motion to adjourn. Mary seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

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Cheryl Michels, Chair

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Date

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Lori Cullen, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date