

The Cormorant Township Board meeting was held on **Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022**, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cormorant Community Center. Board members present were Supervisors John Buhaug and Tony Hubbard, Clerk Claudia Hanson, Deputy Clerk Penny Wickenheiser and Treasurer Susie Braseth. Chairman Steve Sorenson was not present.

A. **Call to Order** by Supervisor Buhaug followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. **Minutes** from the April 26<sup>th</sup> regular meeting and Board of Review were approved. Minutes from Road Inspection were approved with revision to include road repairs needed just before curve on 147<sup>th</sup> Street. Motion to approve and revision of minutes made by John, seconded by Tony. Carried 2-0. The claims/bills were signed as presented.

C. **New Business**

- 1) **Deb Dondoneau (Viking Bay Road Water Issue)** – Ms. Dondoneau was present and provided photos on Viking Bay Road that she is concerned about standing water. She mentioned a neighbor put in a new septic system that the Township had previously approved, but water has been unable to drain due to dirt left from the new sewer system and also added dirt from a natural gas line installed. Board discussed that this area where the water is not draining is in the County road right of way. Board advised Ms. Dondoneau to contact Cormorant Lakes Watershed District for further assistance and contact Ellis Peterson for point-of-contact at the Watershed.
- 2) **Water in Basement of Cormorant Community Center** – Ila Lindstrom advised that after the last rainstorm, water flooded into the basement of the Cormorant Community Center, primarily by the library and Internet corner. Ila reported she hauled out 8-9 containers of water and had to rent commercial fans to dry the carpet. Once it is dry, she will use a carpet cleaner. John mentioned that some changes could be made outside of the building to mitigate further water leaking into the hall.
- 3) **Picnic Shelter Work** – Ila asked the Lions to stain the township picnic shelter. They agreed to this and already power washed it. Ila will purchase 5-6 gallons of stain, brushes, and rollers for the Lions to use for staining. Lions indicated that six

members plan to begin staining at 1:00 pm on Monday May 16<sup>th</sup> , 2022. Susie mentioned issues with township ramp by the kitchen. John indicated that he would contact someone to fix the ramp.

- 4) **Dacotah Paper Issue** – Claudia spoke to Gary at Dacotah Paper, and they are backordered on new paper towels dispensers as old ones are outdated. Dacotah Paper has one box (6 rolls) of outdated towel refills, and they will deliver them to the township on Friday so have towels available for Lions Fishing Opener breakfast. Ila indicated the two air fresheners that the township has been trying to return to Dacotah Paper, have finally been returned.
- 5) **New Zoning Contact, Nikki Hultin** – Claudia indicated that Rachel Bartee has transferred to the Records Office so our new contact with Zoning is Nikki Hultin who will now schedule the variance hearings. Claudia mentioned to Ms. Hultin the Tuesday, August 9th, 2022, township meeting is rescheduled to Wednesday, August 10, 2022, due to State Primary Election. Claudia asked Ms. Hultin to not schedule more than three, at most four variances, during one hearing date. One variance hearing is scheduled for the May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

#### D. Old Business

- 1) **Show Team Update (Errin Bjerke)** – Claudia emailed with Errin Bjerke and advised that Rachel Johnson, former member of Show Team, is willing to connect with Ms. Bjerke about Show Team. Contact information was given. Susie provided Show Team files to Claudia so that she can pass them along to Ms. Bjerke.
- 2) **Ideal Beach Road right of way** – Board discussed the continued Ideal Beach Road right of way conflict between two neighbors. The position the Board decided is that this is a private conflict and does not interfere with township business in maintaining that road. Therefore, this issue should be dealt with between those individual parties and the Becker County Sheriff. Tony motioned that as this issue does not interfere with regular township road business, the township does not need to be involved and is deemed a private matter. John seconded motioned and carried 2-0.

**E. Recycling**

- 1) **New Signage for Brush/Compost and Recycling Sites-** Ila mentioned she has not heard back from Sign Post regarding the new signs.
- 2) **Closure of Co Rd 1 Brush/Compost Site** – Discussion ensued amongst Board members regarding small amount of brush/compost allowance at new site. There is some digging work and prep work still being done and people should not be dumping at new site until all work is done and also when lease agreement completed, however small amounts of mulch are already being left at new site. Discussion continued about impending lake associations clean-up day.
- 3) **Sam Rufer, Attorney, Appointment re: Contract/Agreement for Brush/Compost Site** – Mr. Rufer will be unavailable until June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 a.m., for lease agreement appointment, as he is preparing for a trial. A description of the acreage to be used for the site will be needed, and hopefully, a survey will not be required.

**F. Roads**

- 1) **Road Inspection Results** – The Board members annual road inspection occurred on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Road patching with tar will see an increase of 50% in costs; thankfully, we have a surplus of money to use this year. There is no update about the tar kettle.

**G. Other Business**

- 1) **Bank Follow-up Signatures of Approved Parties Required** – Minutes for the April 12, 2022, meeting and personal identification information was delivered to the State Bank of Lake Park to confirm the individuals approved by the Board to sign township checks. A new signature card is required for all Board members including deputies to sign and return to the bank.
- 2) **Election Judge Information** – Training for election judges (head, new, and basic training) is available from June 14<sup>th</sup> through July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The locations for the training are at the Becker County Courthouse (5 dates), Osage Community Center (1 date) and Callaway Community Center (1 date). Claudia will send out registration instructions to current election judges and interested parties as registration is to be

completed online. Ila mentioned someone who is interested in judging and Tony indicated his wife's willingness to potentially participate also. Claudia noted Head Judges have to complete training on new ballot machines in July.

- 3) **ARPA Report** – Claudia indicated the ARPA report has been completed.
- 4) **Safety Meeting Update** – Kathy Ness has been hired as a new employee and will serve as the back-up for Ila. Jim Wild had previously applied and is also a new hire for tar crew.
- 5) **Day of Caring** – Day of Caring was scheduled for May 11th, 2022; however, due to weather issues, it has been rescheduled to Monday, May 16th, 2022.
- 6) **Township Meeting Rescheduled Due to State Primary (from 8/9 to 8/10)** – The regularly scheduled township meeting on August 9th will be rescheduled to August 10th due to the State Primary Election. Zoning has been informed for the scheduling of variance hearings.
- 7) **Miscellaneous Mail** – No mail received to discuss.

H. **Treasurer's Report** Susie mentioned she is still working on matching with the Bank statement and will have complete report by end of month.

I. **Adjournment** - The township meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. with a motion from Tony, seconded by John, and carried 2-0. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia M. Hanson, Clerk and  
Penny G. Wickenheiser, Deputy Clerk