

The Cormorant Township Board meeting was held on **Tuesday, May 14th, 2024**, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cormorant Community Center. Board members present were Chairperson Steve Sorenson, Supervisors John Buhaug and Tony Hubbard, Clerk Claudia Hanson, Treasurer Susie Braseth, and Deputy Clerk Penny Wickenheiser.

- A. **Call to Order** by Chairperson Sorenson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- B. **Minutes** from the April 30th, 2024, regular meeting and Board of Review and Equalization meeting were read. Motion to approve minutes made by Tony, seconded by John. Carried 3-0. The claims/bills were signed as presented.

C. **New Business**

- 1) **Dredging of Bullfrog Bay on Big Cormorant Lake (Across from Swannies)** – Kyle Varberg, Becker County Zoning and Planning, was present at the meeting. He advised Cormorant Lakes Watershed (CLWD) previously had a permit to dredge the access from Big Cormorant to Bullfrog Bay (unofficial name), due to this passageway into Bullfrog Bay becoming filled up or too shallow for boat traffic. CLWD has not renewed this permit as there is not a 100% consensus within CLWD to continue this dredging. Mr. Varberg suggested the township research a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) permit if the township has an interest in this. The end of Holiday Beach Road which leads up to the passageway, has in past years, been built upon with property owners sheds and small garages, however the township easement would still exist. Mr. Varberg also suggested to use the term “adjacent properties” versus adjacent property when discussing permitting options with the DNR. Steve is in support of the dredging as it would allow easier access for Big Cormorant boaters into Bullfrog Bay. There are also landowners on Bullfrog Bay that need access into Big Cormorant Lake. Swannies’ owner, Brad Olek, has offered to cover the cost of the dredging. He is providing boat slips on Bullfrog Bay to access Swannies. Steve and Mr. Varberg will continue their dialogue about this subject.

D) Old Business

- 1) **Newsletter** – Board approved the Spring newsletter and Claudia will upload onto the townships website. A few paper copies will also be available.
- 2) **LPA Community Education Classes** –The last ECFE class will be held at the community center on May 16th, which everyone is sad to see the children leave, but understands having to utilize the new LPA Elementary School space. The Board mentioned ECFE is more than welcome to return to our community center if they needed the space again.
- 3) **Window Replacements CLWD Office and Township Office** - John said replacement windows will be installed soon and added the window well for the township office needs to be dug out more for installation of the new window.

E. Recycling

- 1) **Tree Damage at Brush/Compost Site** – John advised that some of the new trees were damaged by individuals on a 4-wheeler and three to four people drove over the trees with their vehicles.
- 2) **Move of Braseth Bay Site to Brush/Compost Site** – John updated the ground leveling is still in process. Once that is completed, the site can be relocated.
- 3) **Sign for Brush/Compost Site** – Ila proposed a sign to be installed at the brush/compost site to alert patrons to not leave their plastic bags or flowerpots at the site. The Board agreed the sign is cleverly created and needed.

F. Roads

- 1) **Road Work Priorities for this Summer** – The Board indicated that they are working on road project priorities.
- 2) **Dustguard**– Claudia has notified Corbin’s again what township roads need this application, determine when they can apply dustguard and final estimates.
- 3) **Tar Crew** – The “crack crew” has already been out on the roads applying tar to cracks.

- 4) **Update on 115th Street, Gravel Trucks** –John noted he spoke to gravel truck driver flattening the gravel road, which advised John he was instructed by his boss to flatten the road two times per week. John told him to cease his actions, as it is damaging the gravel crown established on 115th Street
- 5) **LRIP Grant Update May 14th Meeting Recap** – Claudia and John joined meeting on along with Jim Olson, Becker County Engineer, a DOT engineer and the grant representative. Jim Olson will have a plan review ready between the end of August and October. Bonded funds are required for this project, and the township does have to spend their own funds for the project, and then ask for grant reimbursement.

G. Other Business

- 1) **June Calendar** – Claudia distributed the June calendar to board members.
- 2) **Election Judge Training** – Claudia will send notice to potential election judges about training.
- 3) **PNP Election Reimbursement** – Susie advised she has submitted the PNP (Pres. Nomination Primary) expense report to the State of MN and reimbursement should be about \$4,000 for township costs in administrating this election.
- 4) **Schedule August Meeting (Primary on August 13th)** - The Board agreed to reschedule the first August township meeting on Wednesday, August 14th due to the Primary on August 13th.
- 5) **Miscellaneous** – Claudia read thank you cards received from LPA seniors for their scholarships.

H. Treasurer’s Report - Susie presented her treasurer’s report for *April 2024*. Board reviewed claims (payments) and receipts. Data is available on request.

Beginning Balance	\$216,459.43
Receipts	+ \$ 1,931.14
Disbursements	- \$ 62,595.71
Ending checking acct. balance	<u>\$ 155,794.86</u>
Investment beginning balance	-0-
Investment purchased	-0-
Investment transferred/sold	-0-
Investment interest	<u>-0-</u>
Ending Investment value	<u>-0-</u>

The Treasurer’s Report was approved by Tony, seconded by John. Carried 3-0.

I. Adjournment - The township meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m. with a motion from Steve, seconded by John, and carried 3-0. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on May 28th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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