

The Cormorant Township Board meeting was held on **Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 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 May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, regular meeting and variance meeting were read, as well as minutes from the Board of Appeals & Equalization meeting. Motion to approve minutes made by Tony, seconded by John. Carried 3-0. The claims/bills were signed as presented.

C. **New Business**

- 1) **Jim Baker – Lot Question by Alley near Cormorant Beach Villas-** Jim Baker was present and inquired about vacating the dead-end alley by his residence that is located next to Victory Road at an odd angle. The plat copy identifies this gravel path as an alley and is a turn around on the back, or north side, of Cormorant Beach Villas, Middle Cormorant Lake. He mentioned this to Ron Holland, the President of the Villa Condo Association who has expressed no concern if this alley is vacated. A lengthy discussion ensued between Mr. Baker and the board members. It is not evident or clear if this alley is actually a township road/right of way, and Steve informed Mr. Baker that the township has been advised not vacate township-owned roads or land. It was recommended to check with the County Records' office on what type of road they advise it being.

It was further discussed as to why he would like this area vacated and he wishes to build a larger dwelling. Board explained the variance process and to pursue that avenue versus vacating a potential township road. He was advised to contact Becker Cty. Zoning for further guidance.

- 2) **Mary Erickson, Author**– Mary Erickson was present and noticed the book she wrote, “A Tale of Two Villages” was no longer in the Historical Room, thus wondering if the township could purchase another copy to replace the missing one. This book documents the history of the Cormorant area. The Board agreed to purchase another copy. Mary also presented a binder contains a map and list of all the deceased and their gravesite

locations for Lake Ida and Cormorant Lutheran cemeteries. The Board agreed to have a copy of this binder to be included in the Historical Room.

- 3) **New Yoga Class** – Claudia advised someone would like to start evening yoga classes at the community center, possibly on Tuesday and/or Friday evenings . She would charge a \$15/per person fee to attend and donate 10% of the proceeds to Cormorant Township. Claudia, Steve, and Ila Lindstrom discussed the fact that the community center is very busy on Tuesday evenings, especially during the summer months. Claudia will discuss other possible open evenings for the yoga class with the instructor.

#### D) **Old Business**

- 1) **Window Replacements for the CLWD Office and Township Office** - John confirmed the windows have been received and are pending installation. Ila added that no water has leaked into the basement area since the new concrete and wall repair was completed.
- 2) **Dredging of Bullfrog Bay** – David and Marcia Dahlgren were present at the meeting. Mr. Dahlgren mentioned that it is difficult to get an even a fishing boat through the channel that is between Big Cormorant Lake and Bullfrog Bay, as it is only about 6-8 inches deep. Steve advised he has been in communication with the CLWD, DNR, and Becker County Zoning and Planning.

#### E. **Recycling**

- 1) **Move of Braseth Bay Site to Brush/Compost Site** – John reported that they are levelling off the new recycling bin area and once that is completed the site can be relocated.
- 2) **Tim Erickson, Recycling bin lids** – Tim Erickson advised he needs new lids for the recycling bins located on his property. Discussion ensued that other recycling sites may need lids as well. Claudia will contact Sandy Gunderson with Becker Cty. Environmental Services to coordinate the ordering of lids as these bins are owned by the County.

#### F. **Roads**

- 1) **Wermager Beach Road Ditch on NE Side** – John advised that the ditch area north of Lyle Hanson’s is getting filled up with dirt from runoff in the field.
- 2) **Road Work Priorities** – The abundance of rain this spring and summer has delayed the ability to begin roadwork.

- 3) **Dustguard** – Claudia connected with Corbin’s to apply dustguard and our township roads have been added to their list to complete.
- 4) **Mow Ditches, June** – John mentioned that ditches will be mowed the first or second week of June.
- 5) **Duane Olson, Gravel** – Duane Olson was present and mentioned that gravel is needed on the hill on Klondike Road. It was also added that the hill on Nels Erickson Road could also use gravel.
- 6) **Blading on 130<sup>th</sup> Avenue** – Tyler and Mike Lage asked to have Dean (grader operator) blade their gravel road a little less.

**G. Other Business**

- 1) **LARL Library Site Expansion** – Ila mentioned that Cindy, Librarian for the LARL site, has requested to use some of the Historical Room space as library space. She is hoping to use a little more space when children are visiting for comfortable reading area (use beanbags). No opposition was expressed.
- 2) **Refile W-2** – Susie advised that the State of Minnesota denied her previously submitted W-2’s from 2023. She reentered all information into the system on Sunday night.
- 3) **Planning Commission Public Hearing, Becker County** – This meeting will be held tomorrow on May 29, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. (Courthouse) to request final plat approval for 69 units (Elite Storage Condos) being built at 15912 Co Hwy 6, by Sheyenne Commercial Condos LLC. Board had no comment on this request.
- 4) **40th Anniversary for Susie Braseth** – A special recognition and thank you was made to Susie Braseth for being our township treasurer for 40 years as of April this year!
- 5) **Miscellaneous** - Claudia added the township received thank you cards received from LPA seniors Anton Wickenheiser and Ballie Hostrup for their scholarships.

**H. Adjournment** - The township meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. with a motion from John, seconded by Tony. Carried 3-0. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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