

The Cormorant Township Board meeting was held on **Tuesday, June 24th, 2025**, 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 Cindy Wipplerling, and Deputy Clerk Penny Wickenheiser.

A. **Call to Order** by Chairperson Sorenson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. **Minutes** from June 10th 2024, regular 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) **Stacy Palmer Scott** – Ms. Scott was present to update on the actions of her neighbor's, Kevin Dahl, who has been having contractors blocking the easement to her property and they are using the wrong access to get to Mr. Dahl's property. This is a rather short easement that according to Stacey, there has been only historically limited access and use by the few people right next to Stacey. This easement is adjoining and parallel to the north line of John Johnson Subd. 2, (north end of Big Cormorant Lake) beginning at the west line of Lot 13, runs parallel with County Hwy 6 right of way. Mr. Dahl is not one of the allowed people to use access, and Stacey has expanded part of a survey that specifically notates that easement's usage. The neighbors allowed to use the easement are on Lot #9-13. Mr. Dahl has 2 cabins, and a house and should be using an approach to his properties westbound off of Viking Bay Road. She noted that her garbage was not collected by the garbage collector, as her easement was blocked by a contractor working on one of Dahl's properties. Copies were taken of a September 22nd, 1992, survey which states only Lot #9-#13 can use this easement. Board discussed this issue and John will make appointment with Kyle Varberg, County Zoning administrator, to get some recommendations on how to enforce this easement's use stipulations.

D. **Old Business**

- 1) **Michael Anderson Shed** – Final Plat Public Hearing to be held tomorrow, June 25th, at the Becker County Courthouse.

- 2) **115th Street Lawsuit**– Claudia and John will meet in St Cloud for depositions on July 22nd by the plaintiff attorney and will be virtually meeting with the township attorney before the deposition takes place.

E. Recycling

- 1) **Brush/Compost Site** – Claudia stated the Cormorant/Lake Eunice Townships joint compost site agreement has been completed. Lake Eunice Township has submitted their annual payment of \$2,500 for their township’s residents use of the site. John made a motion to enact this agreement and Tony seconded the motion.
- 2) **YMCA Site Dumping Issue** – John advised issue this past weekend with an individual dumping several lawn chairs that the YMCA recycling site, involving the Becker County Sheriff’s Department. The individual stated he was told, by someone at Tracy’s RV Campground, to dump whatever items in the recycling bins. The individual is scheduled to take back items he dumped there. The Board suggested the individual should be fined \$250. A letter will also be sent to Tracy’s RV Campground to alert them of issue and remind them what are allowable recyclables for the blue bins at this recycling center.
- 3) **Brush Burned Down** – John updated the brush has been burned.

F. Roads

- 1) **Cormorant Road** – John is still awaiting for gravel on Cormorant Road by Olson Construction.
- 2) **Pheasant Run Crackfill** – This was done.
- 3) **Dustguard** – John stated that 145th is the last road that needs to have dustguard applied.
- 4) **Tar Crew** - John advised that most of the Tar crew will retiring in 2026 and new crew members will need to be added. Question arose regarding tar clothing stipend which the Board agreed \$100 should be paid to each tar crew employee for a clothing allowance, as motioned a few years ago (increase from \$50 to \$100).
- 5) **Sherbrooke Road Culvert** – John agreed to continue repair/fill holes in the culvert area.
- 6) **Rick Julian – Lake Ida Easement/Road** - Tony researched this area on Becker Cty. GIS maps to have a visual for the Board to review. It seems there are two properties that require easement access, which do not officially have that access? Tony added the

township does not maintain any of easement but is it still an issue the township should consider further?

G. Other Business

- 1) **LBAE Supervisor Training (MN Department of Revenue)** – This training is due July 1, 2025.
- 2) **Becker County Tax Distribution** – Claudia mentioned the Becker County tax distribution (first half) was supposed to have been received on June 20, 2025, but was not deposited into the township account. After some research, the check was inadvertently still mailed to the former township treasurer’s Susie Braseth’s address, which Claudia picked up from Susie and deposited it. Claudia stated State Bank of Lake Park needs ACH forms to be filled out so future payments can be made directly into the township bank account.
- 3) **Push Pedal Pull Exercise Machine** – Ila mentioned Casey from Push, Pedal, Pull (PPP) still waiting for a part. Another bill was received by PPP, will not be paid until the repairs are completed, which Claudia will email that to their billing department.
- 4) **SAIL Class Schedule Change** – There is a slight change in schedule, advised by Claudia, as the manager of the SAIL program is starting another class in Dent MN. The last week of July SAIL class will now be rescheduled to Monday and Wednesday, versus Tuesday and Thursday.
- 5) **Fan Work Bathroom and Kitchen** – John never received another estimate for the repair needed for kitchen and bathroom fans. Claudia was given another handyman option to contact which she will get in touch if this person can give estimate for both items.
- 6) **Air Conditioner issues** - Ila spoke to Glen Smith, who is approaching retirement, and he suggested another HVAC repair person for A/C issues.
- 7) **Ad Credit** – Claudia will receive an advertisement credit with Lakes County Connection as all phone numbers for the township were cut off in the latest newspaper print.
- 8) **Evacuation Plan** – Ila created a diagram for community center and park patrons to use in case of an emergency evacuation and/or bad weather. The diagram was posted in several locations within the community center.

- 9) **Emergency location address** - Ila received an ALERT ambulance call as they did not know the address of the community center. Ila printed the address of the community center and posted it in different locations in the center so patrons know physical address for any emergency services.
- 10) **Website Photo Update** – Claudia is working on gathering updated photos for the website.
- 11) **Thank You Cards** - The township received a thank you card from the Becker County Historical Society.
- 12) **Trish Maloney memorial** - The Board approved a memorial check for Trish Maloney, a longtime pillar of the community, one of the founders of Cormorant Daze and steward of Cormorant Township, who has passed away. Ila mentioned residents would like to plant a tree as a memorial to Ms. Maloney on the township property, which Board agreed with to pursue the idea.

I. **Adjournment** - The township meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m. with a motion from John, seconded by Tony. Carried 3-0. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on July 9th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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