

The Cormorant Township Board meeting was held on **Tuesday, January 28th, 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 Susie Braseth, and Deputy Clerk Penny Wickenheiser.

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

B. **Minutes** from January 14th, 2025, regular meeting were read. Motion to approve minutes made by John, seconded by Tony. Carried 3-0. The claims/bills were signed as presented.

C. **New Business** – No new business to discuss.

D. **Old Business**

- 1) **Teen Night** – Claudia reported that a Teen Night is going to be held at the community center on Friday, March 14th, 2025, which was previously discussed with Rachel Kohler and approved by the Board during the Dec. 17th regular meeting.
- 2) **BIO Girls** - Steve mentioned the BIO Girls group has had a positive turnout. He noted he saw about 8-10 girls participating in that program this past Sunday.
- 3) **115th Street Suit** - Claudia advised a new MAT defense lawyer, Ken Bayliss has been referred to represent the township in the 115th Street lawsuit. He requested a tentative meeting with the Board on February 11th, 2025, after the regular meeting has concluded, via Teams for a closed attorney-client session. Claudia will get details on how to proceed with this.

E. **Recycling**

- 1) **Brush/Compost Site** – The brush/compost site remains closed until Spring.

F. **Roads**

- 1) **Snowplowing** – John reported that the roadways have been a little slippery. Claudia added that there have been more snow drifts lately. Ila Mae Lindstrom mentioned that the snowplow came down her road today and she is thankful for the good job done.
- 2) **Carr's Tree Removal** – Arvig has hired Carr's to remove tree branches near telephone lines. They are parking their utility vehicles at the back of our center parking lot.

G. Other Business

- 1) **Lakeside Estates Planning Commission Hearing** – This hearing is scheduled for January 29th, 2025, at Becker County Planning Commission. The Board had no comment to extend regarding this hearing.
- 2) **Security System Options** – Claudia mentioned there are two options available for the updating the security system for the community center. She noted that Summit Fire Protection suggested the replacement of all 12 cameras and the DVR for the cost of \$4,550. If 3 additional cameras were installed by Summit, the total cost would be \$5,625.

An Arvig representative reviewed the cameras and current equipment, suggested installation of Cat 5/6 wiring for updated wiring. He also recommended improved cameras and better placement of camera, such as a “fisheye” camera that can swivel 360 degrees. The cost for Arvig’s installation is approximately \$8,500 for replacing the current DVR and using the current wiring. However, that option would not last as long, or be as current of an option. If the wiring was replaced so that the cameras could be uploaded to a server (vs using a DVR), then any updates are easily done, and video memory is stored in the Cloud. Cost would be approximately \$13,000.

Tony asked if uploading to the Cloud would add a monthly expense which can ask Arvig. Tony agreed that an up-to-date security camera system is necessary to protect the assets at the community center. Ila added that if video is saved in the Cloud, then having is available longer would be beneficial. Steve suggested that a meeting be scheduled with Arvig as soon as possible. The Board discussed the options in detail and agreed this is a worthy long-term investment for our center. Steve motioned, seconded by Tony to pursue the Arvig security system with server capabilities. Carried 3-0.

- 3) **W2, 1099s, Workers Comp Bill/Audit** – Susie said she has completed what is required and the company she uses will send W-2s to employees.
- 4) **Ameripride Class Action Settlement** – Claudia advised notification that the township is part of a class action settlement against Ameripride. Ila mentioned Ameripride used to provide floor mats for the community center.
- 5) **Annual Meeting/Elections March 12** - Claudia advised the Annual Meeting and Elections for township positions are scheduled for March 12th, 2025.

6) **Election Judges for Township Election** – Claudia stated that she, Ila, Laurie Wanke and Penny are available to serve as election judges for the upcoming township election. Board discussed and John motioned to have these people listed above as judges for the township election, seconded by Tony. Carried 3-0.

7) **Miscellaneous Mail** – None

H. **Adjournment** - The township meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m. with a motion from Steve, seconded by John. Carried 3-0. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on February 11th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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