

Dunn Township

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting

Monday, September 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Chairman D. Johnson.

Members present: D. Johnson, Kvaré, Dalman, Seifert and Herseth. Treasurer: Peplenjak, Clerk: Johnson and township engineer Stabnow.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

**AGENDA:** A request was made to add Lida letter under new business and Sheriff's Possee under old business. With those changes, a motion to approve the agenda was made by Kvaré and seconded by Seifert. Motion passed unanimously.

**PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** A motion by Kvaré and seconded by Dalman to approve the minutes as presented, passed unanimously.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** A motion to accept the report as presented was made by Herseth and seconded by Seifert. Unanimous approval.

**CLAIMS:** A list of claims was presented by the treasurer. A motion was made by Kvaré and seconded by Seifert to approve the claims list for payment, passed unanimously.

**CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS/AGENDA REQUESTS:**

Will Blasczyk asked to revisit his road (Lake Hills Rd) issues. Chair Johnson stated that he and engineer Stabnow visited the site and found several issues; that there are trees too close to the road, that there are insufficient ditches and that the road right of way (ROW) is too narrow. Blasczyk stated the county had approved a 32 ft width. Kvaré shared pictures showing where the trees were too close to the road surface and where there were no ditches. Blasczyk stated he would like the township to grant variances for those issues. Kvaré; the township requires

ditches along township roads and it would be difficult to make exceptions. Herseth; Once a road is accepted by the township, the township can be required to pay for all upgrades and maintenance. MN Statutes require minimum road width and also states that six years of maintenance causes a road to be a township road. Blasczyk reiterated that the county had approved his plat. Herseth; road has to be up to township specs before the township will take it over. Kvaré; the township would have no objection to taking over the road if the road was up to township standards. The issues are trees in ROW, ditches and a sign/rock in the ROW. Dahlman; it would be cheaper for the residents to just dust guard the gravel road rather than pay to bring up to township specs. Kvaré; doesn't appear that the current issues are insurmountable. Blasczyk agreed. Blasczyk then asked if he could address the spraying/brushing that happened along Ottoson Road. He presented a list of questions to Chairman Johnson. Johnson stated he would get back to Blasczyk within two weeks.

**PELICAN VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT:** Dave Sloten was not at the meeting. The township did not receive a monthly report.

**TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REPORT:**

1. Wood Lake Lane. Stabnow stated the project would be complete in the next two weeks and that Old 59 had been patched.
2. Lost Highway – Stabnow –culvert has been placed and the water has leveled out; dropping approx. 2 feet on the higher side. Stabnow recommended that we should let elevations stabilize over winter – monitor the impact on the soft spots along that road. Dunn should add materials on the sides and widen. Kvaré; top of that road is solid, good material. Hesitate to remove it. Residents continue to request the road be widened. It is currently approx. 20ft wide at the narrowest. Herseth; is it worth the money to widen the road? Kvaré; road is pretty heavily traveled. Herseth; suggests that Dunn increase its levy to accommodate additional road expenses. Kvaré; now is the time to finish up the project. Chair Johnson; Dunn to get estimates on cost. We need to see the cost before making a decision on additional work on that road. Stabnow to get quotes for the township.

3. 215<sup>th</sup> Ave – there are road issues along the slough, should we address? Stabnow; yes, continuing deterioration could create a hazard. Chair Johnson requested that Stabnow put together some estimates of costs to fix.

Kvare noted that on the spring road report there were several large cracks on Ottoson Rd. Johnson stated they had been sealed and appear to be holding up. Also, Kvare noted that there was alligating of the tar on 460<sup>th</sup> St. Johnson informed that nothing has been done on that issue yet.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** 1. Notice that the second installment of township aid will be paid December 26th. 2. A letter from Nycklemoe re the Richard Peterson Cartway. 3. A notice of public hearing on the Local Option Sales & Use Tax for Transportation meeting. 4. A notice of variance on Fish Lake Road property – does not impact Dunn roads.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Meadowland Surveying (MS); Scott Walz, president explained to the board what they had done for Hobart Township regarding surveying their roads. Dunn needs to decide how much work they wish to do on properly recording roads. MS researched the 66ft corridor impact to landowners for Hobart. Work took approx. 3 to 4 years and was split in to two sections. Walz; most township road placement is determined by usage. The bigger question is usually width. Kvare; Dunn is similar to Hobart. We need to know what needs to be done and how expensive the project would be. Walz; Hobart's cost was approx. \$50,000. State law says that township roads need to be recorded. Suggested that Dunn should address the roads of main concern and do over several years. These projects are good winter work for surveyors and that helps keep the cost down. Walz stated that if Dunn picks out a road they would like surveyed, Meadowland would provide an estimate of cost. Chair Johnson stated that the board will table the issue and discuss over the winter. He thanked Walz for his time and presentation.

2. Fadness stairs; It appears that Mr. Fadness has constructed a stairs on both sides of Franklin Lake Road that are within the ROW, approx. 6 feet from the road surface. These stairs would be a detriment to the township as it is very likely the

stairs would be damaged or cause damage during snowplowing. Pictures were presented to the board for review. Herse; is this a County Land & Resources Management issue? Dalman; the township can require that an encroachment agreement be signed if the obstruction is within 33 feet of centerline. The township can also require any obstruction in the ROW be removed. Kvarre made a motion that Clerk should check with the L&R Management office. Supervisors Kvarre and Seifert to visit with Fadness once Clerk gets info from L&R Management. Seifert seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

3. Grobe Beach Rd. Clerk informed the board that a resident had requested that the sod be pulled back as the road has narrowed over the last several years. Arntson will widen the road as needed before winter.

4. Lida Township letter. Dunn received a letter from Lida asking that Dunn township share in the expenses of removing bogs from Hosterman Dam. Chair Johnson; Dunn has asked Lida several times to contact the DNR before hiring someone to remove bogs from the dam as the DNR will frequently clear the bogs themselves or help pay for removal. Clerk will write a letter to Lida asking them why the DNR wasn't contacted regarding the bogs or to provide proof the DNR was contacted.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Legal Representation – Kennedy & Graven, Chartered have been notified and are now the official legal representatives of Dunn Township.

2. Security/Sound System. Both Arvig and Team Electronics submitted bids to upgrade the Dunn town hall security systems. With the inclusion of monitoring (recommended by both providers) the total costs were within \$30 of each other. After some discussion Seifert made a motion to accept the bid by Team Electronics. Kvarre seconded and the motion was passed unanimously. Clerk provided some info from TriCorne Audio, Inc. on a sound system for the Board. Kvarre; acoustics are poor in the town hall even after baffles and carpet put in. Treasurer Peplenjak; a new system might interfere with the current mic system in the hall. Dalman; should we discuss at the annual meeting? Kvarre; include in

next year's budget? Seifert; it would be nice to have a sound system for other users of our building also. It was decided that a decision be delayed and the purchase be considered when addressing next years' budget.

3. Rental Policy Review – Herseth provided a red-lined document showing changes to the existing policy. After review and discussion Herseth will update and bring back to the board for approval.

4. GIS project update. Herseth – Nothing further to add. See Meadowland Surveying under New Business.

5. Sheriff's Possee. Dalman spoke to members of the possee regarding the PLPOA Pelican Lake 4<sup>th</sup> of July event. Dalman relayed that as a volunteer organization they didn't feel like the attendees listened to their instructions or advice and therefore the possee didn't feel they had been effective during the event and declined to participate this past year. Kvaré felt this should be relayed to the PLPOA – Sherry Trepp. Clerk to send letter.

**TOWN BOARD MATTERS:**

1. Fall Road Tour dates will be set at the October meeting.

2. 245<sup>th</sup> Ave – Dalman to look at ditch issue.

**MEETINGS:**

The next monthly town board meeting will be Tuesday, October 13, 2015 as Columbus Day falls on the second Monday..

**ADJOURNED:** Motion by Seifert and seconded by Kvaré to adjourn, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_ Michael Johnson, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ David Johnson, Chairman