

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING

August 11, 2015

The August Monthly Meeting of the Fairview Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:30 PM in the Fairview Town Hall on Tuesday, August 11, 2015 by Chairman Jim Weizenegger with the Pledge of Allegiance. Other Board members in attendance were Supervisors Walt Richmond and Tom Dechmann, Clerk-Treasurer Marla Yoho and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Sharon Owen.

Weizenegger/ Richmond/ Unanimous: Motion to accept the **Minutes of the July Monthly Meeting** as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Sharon reported the following month-end balances in the Township accounts: \$187,841.13 in Checking and \$177,459.77 in Money Market funds. Road & Bridge CDs total \$79,235.64 and Community Projects CD \$43,252.70. **Revenues for July totaled \$49,677.13** (\$6.20 interest, \$73.05 Electricity & Gas Reimbursement, \$148,022.88 Cass County Property Taxes, \$1,575.00 Town Aid); **Expenditures totaled \$20,751.66** (\$16,631.97 Road & Bridge, \$154.05 Fire; and \$3,965.64 General Gov't expenses). Dechmann/ Richmond/ Unanimous: Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Road Report:

Pillager Lake Rd: Bolton & Menk was able to find and stake the line dividing **Fairview and Sylvan Townships on Pillager Lake Rd.** Roseanne Brown has questioned why the township is not maintaining the road after Jason Vig's property since it is a recorded Minimum Maintenance road. Tom will discuss the maintenance with Roland Anderson, Sylvan Township road supervisor.

There were two deep soft spots on the road, possibly caused by downed trees. Rardins put about 5-6 yards of gravel in the spots. We will have to consider a more permanent solution to the problem after dealing with storm cleanup.

Anderson Minimum Maintenance Road: Guy Willis and Terry Wolfe are adamant that the motion the township passed should also have contained a reference that the township will not allow power lines under township roads. That was never an intent of the township and could never be enforced since there are already so many power lines under the existing roads. Marla tried to make them understand that even if that could be a township requirement it wouldn't have any effect on their property since the existing dead-end cartway on their property is designated as a private driveway, not a township road. Marla will be in Walker on August 18th and will meet with Katie Norby (County Recorder) to discuss removing the Anderson Road designation from county maps.

Mayfair Minimum Maintenance Road: Jim Ackerson asked Walt if the township would help with the cost of removing trees downed along the road. Walt will check on the road and advise Tom.

Fire Report:

There is still a large box of free **smoke detectors** at the fire hall. The fire association would like us to mention them in an upcoming newsletter. They must be installed by one of the firefighters.

Walt has suggested the Board create a preliminary budget, extended over several years, where they prorate the proposed **assessment formula** changes over several years so they can analyze how the townships would be affected.

Randy has been approached about the possibility of a **practice burn taking place at the Quarterdeck.** They want to remove the cabins along the lake and the 8-plex.

The Fire Department will be holding a **Family Day** on August 16th at 11:00AM behind the school.

There were 33 runs in July, including 8 in Fairview and 2 in East Gull Lake, bringing the total for the year to 160 (4 more than 2014). The runs in Fairview were mainly related to the storm.

Storm Damage Assessment Update:

Homeland Security Emergency Management (HSEM): On Tuesday, July 28th the HSEM team from the state held a meeting here at the town hall. Attendees included Greg Booth and Roland Anderson (Sylvan Township), Marla and Tom (Fairview), Kris Lyytinen and Dave Enblom (Cass County Hwy Dept), Bob Yochum (Cass Cty Administrator), Kerry Swenson (Cass Cty Emergency Mgmt), Roy Holmes, Ryan Smith and Angela Brown (HSEM). Before this meeting, the team met with Rob Mason (East Gull Lake Administrator) and took a tour of the storm damage in EGL. They didn't look at damage within the township. Some of the important points they made:

- This storm doesn't qualify for federal dollars. The state does have a reimbursement program which should kick-in once a disaster declaration is made by the state.
- It may take a while for them to meet with us to review our bills, but once they do, checks should be issued within 30 days.
- The County was planning to shut down the Knife River quarry dump site by August 7th, but they will try to keep it open until the township debris removal winds down, at least through August 15th.
- All of the debris will need to be chipped for disposal. The county has a contract with Yetser (YTS) but there is a problem with the amount of volume. (EGL had a dump chipper who was going to work for free, but that may have been a misunderstanding.)
- The local LGU's have one-year to get all of the work done, but they must have contracts in place within 30 days. All actual damage must be identified within 30 days after the declaration date.
- If all paperwork is done correctly and verifiable, then payment could be within 3 to 6 months.
- Fairview and EGL will be using a flat rate of \$7.75 per hauled yard.
- Truckers must keep a load log listing specific loads by road, within the storm damage area. Chipper must provide a log of their volume also.
- The DNR is contracting with a private contractor who started clearing roads in the Pillsbury Forest yesterday.

Town Hall Damage: Yesterday the soffits on the fire hall were rebuilt, new sheathing was installed on the roof, and the roof was completely re-shingled. The fascia was replaced today and broken vinyl siding will be replaced within the next couple of weeks. The gutter people will also be installing new, larger downspouts. The MATIT insurance agency has already issued a check for \$11,574.88 as a partial payment for damages. As actual invoices are submitted, they will issue an additional check, less the \$2,500 deductible.

Road Right-of-way Cleanup: On July 29th the township entered into contracts with Rardin Excavating and Safety Tree Service for the removal of roadside tree debris at the rate of \$7.75 per yard. Safety Tree Service, based in Kansas City, MO., is a tree service who was already in the area working for private clients on the Pine Beach Peninsula. When they were through they approached Mike's Tree Service and Northern Tree Service (Ted Sullivan) to see if they could help somewhere. They were sent to Fairview because Ted knew our damage was quite extensive and more than a small agency could handle. Some individual haulers had contacted the township, but the volume of the damage is so extensive that it requires someone overseeing several crews.

Safety Tree Service has five separate crews (with 64 to 110 cubic yard capacity single axle grapplers) working on the east side of the township while Rardin Excavating clears the west and north roads. Cass County worked out an agreement with Knife River Aggregate to use their pit on Cty 15 as a debris dump site at no charge. The pit has become very full, even with the loader pushing back the debris. Aside from the county and Fairview, private residents have been dumping there also, which has caused a problem because they just leave debris wherever they stop.

Due to sheer volume already in the pit and their concern about liability with private vehicles, on Monday, August 10th, Knife River made the decision to chain the gates to the pit without any advance warning. This caused an immediate problem since there were many trucks already loaded or partially loaded with nowhere to go. Marla contacted Al Knowlen at Anderson Bros. who gave the township permission to

dump at the Whitney Pit in Lake Shore. This pit is a bit of a problem for the taller trailers since there are power lines back and forth across Cty 77 through Lake Shore.

On Tuesday, Ron Wickham, head of Anderson Bros. Aggregate division, worked out a deal with Dave Enblom to allow the township or private residents to dump at the Hardy Lake pit in Sylvan. Both the Whitney and Hardy Lake pits require the trucks to haul much longer distances, making the hauling process much slower.

The Rardin crew worked to attack the worst, smaller areas first. The Safety crews have spent most of their time in the hard-hit Timber Ridge and adjacent areas.

Ted Sullivan explained the process he and Jon had used to form their original estimate of the cleanup cost. He said there was no way for them to realize how extensive the damage actually was. Kerry Swenson explained that the estimates were strictly to set a preliminary damage level and will have no bearing on the amount of reimbursement we will receive, which is strictly based on actual costs.

Kerry said that Crow Wing County has just completed their emergency declaration, which will allow the overall declaration from the state. He said there should be no problem with expecting the 75% reimbursement from the state.

Kerry told the Board that when there is a disaster declaration, there is no need for LGU's to wait for competitive bids and that many LGUs rely on their regular road maintenance crews. He said there are always going to be vendors who get upset because they don't get the extra business, but things have to get done. The most important things to consider are: Can the person do the job, and can they do it within the allocated time frame. In this case, we were trying to get everything done before the Knife River pit was to close on the 15th, and the roadsides had to be cleaned before the snow comes. The most important thing is keeping good records of all work that is done.

The Board was presented with bills totaling \$61,736.50 from Rardins and \$344,510.75 from Safety Tree Service. These are not the final bills but cover work completed through 8/10 and 8/9 respectfully. The township doesn't have enough money in their accounts to cover these amounts. Marla spoke with the loan officer at Bremer Bank to discuss a possible line of credit loan. He will try to arrange a straight maturity loan of \$250,000 with a 4-6 month term at a variable interest rate of 4%. There would be a \$100 processing fee and they may have a charge for an attorney to review the documents. He will try to process it as "unsecured" which will shorten the turnaround time. The township will need to provide 3 years of audited year-end financial statements, a copy of the motion approving the loan application and a copy of the actual Disaster Declaration from the State of Minnesota, which should confirm the 75% reimbursement conditions.

Dechmann/ Richmond/ Unanimous: Motion to immediately apply for a \$250,000 line of credit (straight maturity loan) through Bremer Bank with a 6 month term, at up to 4% interest. (Aye: Weizenegger, Richmond, Dechmann; Nay: None)

Dechmann/ Richmond/ Unanimous: Motion to pay \$50,000 to Rardin Excavating and \$225,000 to Safety Tree Service tonight. (Aye: Weizenegger, Richmond, Dechmann; Nay: None)

Dechmann/ Richmond/ Unanimous: Motion to pay balance of these two bills, as well as the bills accumulated through the end of the contracts to Rardin Excavating and Safety Tree Service once the line of credit is approved. (Aye: Weizenegger, Richmond, Dechmann; Nay: None)

Gull Lake Trail: Lake Shore has received notification from the Greater Minnesota Regional Trails Commission division of the Clean Water, Land & Legacy Dept. that the "**Gull Lake Trail**" has received designation as a "Regionally Significant Trail" with a "High" ranking. This designation and ranking will allow the trail to be included in the statewide Trail System and will allow Lake Shore (and hopefully, Fairview) an advantage when applying for funding to complete their portion of the trail.

Clerk's Report:

On August 4th Marla attended a demonstration of new **election equipment** from Hart Interactive at the Crow Wing Courthouse as part of her involvement with Sharon Anderson and the Cass County election equipment replacement committee. The committee will meet again on August 18th in Walker.

The **MAT District 11 Annual Meeting** will take place in Walker on August 26th at 6:00 PM. Tom will attend with Marla.

Richmond/ Dechmann/ Unanimous: Motion to approve payment of all Claims as submitted. (Aye: Weizenegger/ Richmond/ Dechmann).

10815	Xcel Energy	Natural Gas	26.72
20815	Crow Wing Power	Electricity	97.00
30815	CTC	Internet	44.95
40815	CenturyLink	Telephone	92.64
50815	PERA	Retirement	450.98
3903	Elite Detailing	Town hall/ Sign Mowing	255.00
3904	Rardin Excavating	Patching Westwood Shores	350.00
3905	Rardin Excavating	Emergency Road Clearing	15,817.50
3906	Bolton & Menk	Engineering Gregory Dr	4,467.00
3907	Rasinski Excavating	Emergency Road Clearing	2,400.00
3908	Rasinski Excavating	Clearing Trees from Town Hall	2,500.00
3909	Sylvan Township	Pillager Park Dues	2,000.00
3910	Loren Heffron	Emergency Road Clearing	2,000.00
3911	Tom Dechmann	Administration to 8/11	352.58
3912	Sharon Owen	Administration to 8/11	115.06
3913	Marla Yoho	Administration to 8/11	1,959.71
3914	Walt Richmond	Administration to 8/11	350.81
3915	Jim Weizenegger	Administration to 8/11	233.87
3916	Johnson Landscaping	Emergency Road Clearing	3,250.00
3917	Rardin Excavating	Pillager Lake Rd Fill	276.00
3919	Rardin Excavating	Roadside Storm Cleanup	50,000.00
3920	Safety Tree Service	Roadside Storm Cleanup	225,000.00
		Total	\$312,039.82

Richmond/ Dechmann/ Unanimous: Motion to close this meeting at 8:00 PM and to reconvene at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, July 21st to review storm damage updates and continue the meeting of the Board.

Dechmann/ Richmond/ Unanimous: Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marla Yoho, Clerk

Jim Weizenegger, Chair