

Deerwood Township  
Regular Monthly Board Meeting  
Deerwood Town Hall  
7:00pm  
August 14, 2023

Board of Supervisors:

James Walth- Chair

Josh Thompson - Supervisor

David Gray – Vice-Chair

Carol Pundt- Clerk

Amy Donovan - Treasurer

Steve Reilly – Road Overseer

Present: David Gray, James Walth, Amy Donovan, Steve Reilly, Josh Thompson, Carol Pundt

Absent: None

Attendees: James MncKelvey, Doug Houge, Mark Miller, Jon Danger, Bob Karls

James Walth called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by David Gray and seconded by Josh Thompson to approve the agenda. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by David Gray and seconded by Josh Thompson to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2023, Monthly Board meeting. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to approve the Treasurer's Report, subject to audit, for the month ending July 31, 2023. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The Township received the rest of the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the 2023 Levy in the amount of \$89,001.01.

Approval of Claims: A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to accept and approve the claims for the month of August totaling \$46,383.05 ck# 10163-10186, EFT-F-08-2023, EFT-P-08-2023, and EFT-W-08-2023. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Roads:

Road Overseer's Report/Steve Reilly: Steve reported to the Board \$133,275 has been spent on maintenance of Township roads so far this year out of a budget of \$282,055.00.

Old Ditch Cutter: The old ditch cutter was sold for \$200.00.

Farm Island Road Maintenance Sharing Agreement: Carol Pundt informed the Board the Road maintenance sharing agreement between Farm Island Township and Deerwood Township has been signed by both parties.

Lindberg Road Shouldering Estimate: The Board decided to defer this project to a future date.

Telcom Construction Request: A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to approve the request to lay fiber optics cable from 26319 Hassman Drive to customer's property. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Road Inspection Preparation for Special Meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am at the Deerwood Town Hall: Coffee and an egg dish will be served before going out to inspect the rest of the Deerwood Township maintained roadways.

Road Vacancy Petition: Roger Christianson did not come to the meeting to present the petition to the Board.

Deer Trail Discussion: The round-a-bout should be completed by August 18<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully, the traffic use on Deer Trail Drive will get back to 166 cars per day. Steve Reilly will be installing a traffic counter as soon as he is told the round-a-bout project is completed. The Township supervisors suggested to Commissioner Doug Houge that Deer Trail should be maintained and paved by the County as a County roadway because it is a connector to Crow Wing County Road 31 and State Highway 210. The Township supervisors would like to see Commissioner Houge's support of this initiative. There are also serious concerns regarding Deer Trail Drive and safe access to State Highway 210. Doug Houge told the Board he received a suggestion from an area resident as an alternative to the access on State Highway 210 from Deer Trail Drive. He will email Carol Pundt the suggestion for Board discussion.

Commissioner Doug Houge agreed with the Board regarding the need for future consideration of traffic needs on Deer Trail. He dispelled rumors that Deerwood Township Supervisors turned down free overlay pavement on Deer Trail before the round-a-bout construction project on State Highway 210 and Crow Wing County Road 31 was started.

Placid Roadway Concerns/Jon Danger: Jon Danger his concerns and the concerns of the Placid Lake Association regarding the speed of drivers on Placid Drive, the request to have no parking signs along the roadway by the lake and excavating companies using the roadway as a cross through from Nokay Lake Road to Hwy 6. Also, there is a need to brush around the dead end sign at the end of the Placid Drive turn-a-round. Deerwood Township does not have policing authority of the roadways in the Township. The Board suggested that it might be possible to have the County sheriff's patrol officers occasionally patrol the area especially during peak weekend periods. Also speed advisory signs can be installed at the intersection of Hwy 6 and Placid Drive along with an advisory sign stating "Speed Zone Ahead" right before going down the hill. A speed study was done by MNDOT in September 2018 which recommended pedestrian warning signs and speed advisory signs which they felt were not required but may be helpful to drivers.

Black Lake Road: Widening the roadway, ditching and cutting along Black Lake Road has greatly improved visibility on the roadway.

Variance Request For Daniel L and Lucy K Lueck: A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to defer the request back to Crow Wing County. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray for the Township Board to send a letter of support regarding the Cedar Lake Conservancy in conjunction with the Northern Waters Land Trust to purchase a proposed Cedar Lake Conservation parcel of 200 Acres as part of a Wildlife Management Area plan. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Hall Plant Update: A temporary gas line has been installed to the generator. Steve is waiting for Holmwig Excavating to stop by to cut out some concrete so that the gas line can be permanently installed.

The Township was without phone and internet service from August 2<sup>nd</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup> due to a cut in the cable.

Other Business to Come before the Board: Steve Reilly explained to the Board the need to update the present culvert policy. The culvert policy will be reviewed by the Board at the September Board meeting.

A motion was made by David Gray and seconded by Josh Thompson to adjourn the meeting at 8:37pm.

**Attest:**

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor; \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Clerk