

Milaca Township - Monday, May 11, 2020
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Conference call (per recommendation via MAT, due to COVID-19)

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Conference Call

Board Members Present on the Conference Call: Chairman Dan Hufstedler, Supervisor Rob Droogsma, Supervisor Harold Bauer, Tami James, Treasurer, Clerk Sadie Ash, and Dave Fransen, operator.

Dan Hufstedler called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and the flag was pledged.

Dan Hufstedler **made a motion to approve the agenda**, Rob Droogsma seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Dan Hufstedler made a **motion to approve the minutes for April's regular board meeting minutes**, seconded by Harold Bauer. Motion carried unanimously.

Dan Hufstedler made a **motion to approve the treasurer's report and cash control statement for May**, as presented, second by Harold Bauer. Motion carried unanimously.

Dan Hufstedler made a **motion to approve claims and gross payroll, as presented, to be paid in May, for April wages**, seconded by Rob Droogsma. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Wendy Hoeck, manager of Stones Throw Golf Course, joined the conference call. Wendy presented the request for the renewal of their liquor license. She noted that the golf course has not received any deficiencies and have had no issues. Rob Droogsma **made a motion to approve the request**, Dan Hufstedler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Discussions then ensued to discuss the scheduling of the road review. Dan explained that if the road review were performed during the stay-at-home orders, would need each person on the review to be in their own vehicles. The board anticipates the current measures to loosen up within the next couple of weeks. Regardless as to the level of loosening up, the road review is going to take place on May 28th at 5pm, starting from the townhall. Communication of such will take place.

Rob Droogsma, supervisor, then provided the board with an update on the progress he has made in re: to the 2019/2020 winter snow season clean-up. He has about three-quarters of the dirtwork completed. He plans to have it completely done and finished by the end of the day tomorrow. He has been cleaning up the gravel, dirt and sod that had been displaced by the plow and grader during this past snow season. Has about six more roads to take care of tomorrow.

He also has been working on the brush mowing. He noted he plans to pull the hour meter, but estimates he has about 8-9 hours of brush mowing completed. He has done most of the spots that he felt definitely needed attention. Rob noted that there were a few areas that he did not brush mow due to the fact that there was standing water in some areas. Rob also explained that he did not make it out

to the shared road with Benton County and noted that this road should definitely be inspected during the upcoming road review. Milaca Township is responsible for maintenance of this road during even years. Dan commented that he did recently receive a call from a resident that lives in Big Eddie Acres, who mentioned that there is still some gravel in their ditch (some sod that was rolled into the ditch). Dan explained that there is going to be some of this that just happens – but will take a look at it during the road review. Rob also noted that some attention and thought should be given to certain areas throughout the township for which very little ditch exists --- the board needs to decide whether or not an investment is going to be made to remove quite a few trees and clean up those areas, or leave them as is.

New Business

Road Report: Dan reported that Dave is continuing to work and blade the roads regularly. Dan also noted that the intent, this summer, is to apply gravel to nearly all of the township roads – starting, hopefully, as soon as June. Dave also commented that he has been out blading and working the roads. Rob commented that there is a section of road 140th/145th – stub off of the west- that is a short little road that is in really bad condition (off of 160th). It is filled with rock but needs a lot of work. Dan and Dave noted they would address and possibly bring out some gravel to fix. Dan also commented that he is planning to set up a meeting with the green aggregate solutions company and show them the airport road to start conversations with how they might propose maintenance of this road. He wants to see what sort of a plan they would pull together to resurface. Dan will share with the board when he obtains more information.

Dan noted that the township is still looking for summer help – to assist with heavy-lifting, driving the tractor, mowing, etc. Please reach out if interested!

Sadie provided an update re: to Mille Lacs County's abatement of penalties and interest as it pertains to property taxes paid from May 16, 2020-June 30, 2020 (for property taxes due May 15, 2020). She had a phone conversation with the county auditor earlier this morning and he noted that as of earlier this month, they county was still a few percentage points ahead of the collection of property taxes as compared to last year. That being said, he does not anticipate a significant hiccup in receipt of the typically allocated property tax assessments to the township. Which, is a positive report.

Sadie also let the board know that she recently submitted a request for reimbursement of \$1,258.70 for amounts paid by the township to facilitate the March primaries. Such funds are expected to be reimbursed by the state for costs incurred to run the primary.

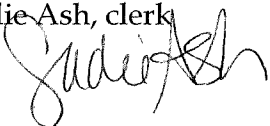
Dan solicited input from Rob and Harold as to how they would prefer to handle the June regular board meeting – namely, whether they would like to hold the meeting in person or plan, potentially, for another conference call. Both Rob and Harold agreed that the goal would be to hold an in-person meeting for the June regular board meeting. That will be the plan for next month's meeting.

Checks were signed by Sadie Ash, clerk, as approved during the regular April 2020 board meeting.

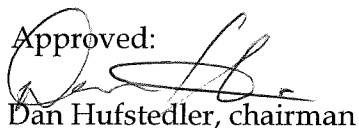
Dan Hufstedler made a **motion to adjourn**, second by Harold Bauer. Motion carried. 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sadie Ash, clerk



Approved:



Dan Hufstedler, chairman