

Minutes of
Board of Supervisors
Moe Township

August 1, 2011

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with all members in attendance. The POA was given.

There were additions added to the agenda. Under new business, snow plowing and Fowler's holding tank and mowing ditches were added. A motion was made to accept the agenda as amended. (m- Johnson, s- Bushard, v- unan.) The minutes were presented as e-mailed to all officers. A motion was made to accept the minutes as sent by e-mail. (m- Bushard, s- Johnson, v- unan.)

As the Treasurer was going to arrive late, the next order of business was to consider the monthly claims. A motion was made to approve the monthly claims as presented by the Clerk. (m- Johnson, s- Bushard, v- unan.) The Treasurer arrived and went into her report. There were some questions about the report which were addressed by Botner. A motion was made to accept the report as given. (m- Bushard, s- Johnson, v- unan.)

OLD BUSINESS

Sign pricing by MR Signs of Fergus Falls

Bushard reported that he had submitted a list of signs to be replaced in 2011 to MR Signs and they estimate \$2,704.57. Etc. Signs and Apparel were a lot more. Strandskov asks if this is a complete list and suggests we might consider an electric post driver. Bushard replied that this list includes all signs for 2011 and posts also. He also reported that Saathoff is working on a post driver. Strandskov asked to check if the aluminum is .080 inch thick. Bushard agreed to check on this before the order is placed. A motion was made to go ahead with MR Signs. (m- Johnson, s- Bushard, v-unan.)

Gravel update

Bushard reported that Okerlund has completed gravel map from Spring tour. Because of the downpour last night, we will need more gravel in washouts. Strandskov suggests that the lip along the road should be tapered. Also, Saathoff should grade with a correct slope. Bushard is working with him to correct this. Bushard suggests adding more rock mix in washouts should help. Discussion followed concerning Saathoff's style of grading. Also, Saathoff is overwhelmed because of all the trees that were down. A number of criticisms were made by the audience concerning the Board's decisions to repair roads. Okerlund was present and will work with the Board over providing material to repair these washouts. Currently, we are under budget for normal graveling for 2011.

Tractor update

Some discussion was repeated from last month and no action was taken.

Tall Timbers & Lowering of Heart Lake update

Johnson reported that Paz Excavating came in with a lower quote than expected. He also reported that he had met with Jerome Haggemiller authorizing the high water mark. The work has been completed with Paz doing a very nice job. It seems all are happy! There was a slight washout because of the heavy rain and Paz will come back and repair. Johnson also reported that the level will be watched closely and maintained. The Clerk reported that all the easements are in and will submit them to our Attorney for recording. One complaint from the audience over not receiving advanced notice of road work. Johnson explained that it happened so fast, there wasn't time. The original plan was to provide notification. Strandskov gave kudos to Johnson for all his good work.

Elk Lake update

Bushard introduced Jerry Morical who submitted a petition from people who are severely affected by the closing of East Moe Road on a daily basis and feel it is the obligation of the Board to take care of this problem. They ask that the Board get the Engineering study done and get rolling on this problem. A couple of residents are prepared to loan money to the Township to fund this with the understanding that they get paid back over a three year period with 3% interest on their money. He submitted other quotes for tiling from different companies. Bob Neiland will not charge for an easement to cross his land. Something has to be down tonight! He concluded that if nothing gets started tonight, then build it up so it can be used. Much discussion followed. Residents admit the road bed is very good condition because they have been using it even though it is barricaded. Strandskov added he doesn't know if we can legally accept money under the conditions set forth to enter into this project which is not land locking anyone. Farmer's reply that is an extreme hardship as they have to drive their combines farther and ask if the Township will reimburse them for their gas. Questions from the audience resulted in discussion over how policies are established by the annual meeting. The Board encourages all to attend the annual meetings to have some input. Finally, Johnson made a motion to at least give the go ahead to WSN to prepare plans and specs to control the water of Elk Lake for around \$6000.00. Second by Bushard. Discussion followed. The results are requested by the October meeting. Also, the Board will look into the procedure of barrowing money from residents. Motion carried.

Truck tire quotes

Bushard submitted all quotes including Cenex, Brownies, Horning and one from Okerlund. Okerlund who was present agrees to give \$80 each for the used 8 tires. With that concession, he was the lowest bid so the Board made a motion to go with him. (m- Bushard, s- Johnson, v- unan.)

Funding by Bushard & Becker

It was reported that Bushard and Becker had met with Pat Conroy over what available funding might be for some of the high water projects we have been dealing with this summer. As the State was shut down, his hands are tied, but assured us that when the State was back to normal, he would continue to check. Currently, there isn't much out there for these types of projects. The Legacy fund does not apply. Bushard didn't have time to visit with Wolbersen over declaring Douglas County a disaster county over recent heavy rains. Strandskov did report that Otter Tail County did receive legislation for these types of projects and encourages all to contact our Legislators. The Clerk read a letter from the Department of Agriculture reporting all the grants that were approved but none would pertain to our high water problems.

NEW BUSINESS

Brush removal

Johnson reported on all the trees that went down since the past storm. Yesterday's storm has not been assessed yet. He suggests we hire a tree service to help cleanup the mess. Saathoff opens up the roads but hasn't had time to go back and clear the right-of-way yet. It was the consensus of the Board to leave this up to Saathoff as he sees fit.

Culvert requests

Johnson reported that Corle will install a culvert after his house is moved in. Also, Johnson reported that a driveway has been installed without a culvert which the Board feels one should be installed. The Clerk was instructed to write a letter to resident informing him to install a culvert. This would be 12727 Crooked Lake Lane.

Weed trimmer

Bushard reported that Alexandria power products has determined that our is bad. Also, Saathoff has told us that he does not want to continue to use his equipment. Saathoff would like a trimmer with a chain saw attachment. Strandskov cautions the Board about safety issues with our employees and liability issues with others wanting to help out the township. The consensus of the Board is to let Saathoff purchase what he needs.

Rock removal from roads

Bushard reported that there are a lot of rocks surfacing on our roads. The consensus of the Board is to use common sense and maybe Bob's backhoe might have to be called occasionally to remove the larger ones. Strandskov gave kudos to Bushard for all he does.

Sign installation helper

Saathoff wants someone to be with him when he installs sign post and signs. Bushard agreed to help out if he can't find one. It is estimated that 41 signs will

have to be installed this year. The Clerk noted that he had been told that a Supervisor can't do any other job then that he has been elected. Bushard agreed to help Saathoff in the interim until someone can be found. Johnson will be available also.

Snow plowing help

Strandskov reported that he made a request last winter to switch routes. Kim Johnson stated that if he is required to change, he would quit. Much discussion followed pointing out that operators must be cross trained in case it is needed. Strandskov has been approached by one person who is willing to work as a part time helper. Therefore, Strandskov suggests we put an ad in the paper looking for applicants for a snow plowing helper. It was suggested that Kim Johnson be asked if he is willing to do any job he is asked. If he does not agree, then we will publish the ad in the paper. Strandskov would like to see this ad in the August paper. Bushard agreed to notify the Clerk of Kim Johnson's decision.

Fowler holding tank

Bushard went to hearing and the variance for a holding tank passed, also that the subdivision near Timber Shores most likely will be approved.

Ditch mowing

Saathoff will mow this fall as the tractor is fixed and the mower has new blades. The Board would like this done this month if possible to free up time for sign installation. Bushard will continue to look at other options in tractors.

Damage of Town Hall

Discussion followed how damage should be fixed and who should do it. It was the consensus of the Board to put a lock on the inner doors so anyone trapped in the winter could at least take refuge behind the outer door. Strandskov agreed to contact Kyle Nieland for an estimate. Consensus of the Board is to approve \$600 to \$700 for all repairs.

Announcements & Correspondence

The Clerk reported on the oil test of the grader. It was reported that there will be a school election in November. Moe people in 206 will vote in Ida Town Hall. Some of Moe judges may be asked to serve. Building permits were read. Reported on letter from Terry Strater, his E-mail and response is on file. Finally, a survey from the Office of Legislature Auditor is being sent to all officers to respond to the possibility of abolishing township government in the effort to streamline the system in a more cost effective way.

Time & place of September meeting

All agreed that Wednesday September 7th will work for all. Place will be the Town Hall at 7:00 pm.

Public input

Jerry Kosbreba asks the Board what they can do about the water over Horseshoe Lane. He is worried about the winter driving conditions. Strandkov would like to see the water recede before repairing road. There was a question about plowing East Moe Road after water freezes. Board says no, it is a safety issue for our truck and driver.

A motion was made to adjourn. (m- Bushard, s- Johnson, v- unan.)

Respectfully submitted by,

Wayne E. Becker, Clerk
Moe Township

9:20 pm

Chairperson