

**BEMIDJI TOWNSHIP TOWN BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, August 21st, 2012
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Jan Heuer, Pete Fredrickson, John Rowles, Lowell Vagle, Brian Merschman, Erin Stieg, JPC member Mote Eidem, Constituent Stella Wakonabo, and County Commissioner Richard Anderson

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Bemidji Township Town Board was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chairperson Jan Heuer and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

AGENDA: Brian Merschman made a motion, seconded by Pete Fredrickson, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES: The meeting minutes were reviewed and Lowell Vagle pointed out in his BATO meeting report, Bruce Bargan should be changed to Bruce Hasbargen from the County Highway Department and that the word "tarring" should be changed to "bituminous projects". He then made a motion, seconded by Pete Fredrickson, to approve the revised minutes of August 21st, 2012, (Second Board Meeting). Motion carried unanimously.

CONSTITUENTS (see attached attendance sheet): Constituent Stella Wakonabo asked about the legal status of the annexation dispute and was given an update.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Roads:

Calcium Chloride- Fox Drive NW: Road supervisor, Pete Fredrickson, has spoken with JD Hansen about the dust on the road. JD will check it out and get back to him. An update will be given at the September 11th Board meeting. Beltrami County has agreed to top cut the edge ditched of Bemidji Township, starting next week at the earliest.

There was some discussion of the construction on Peaceful Meadows and Anita's Way and the clerk is to look back in the minutes to find information about maintaining these roads.

Signs:

No report at this time.

Fire:

No report at this time.

Weeds:

County Commissioner Dick Anderson stated that a committee has been formed to discuss and handle weeds in Beltrami County. There is an understanding that there is a significant need for the committee. Bruce Hasbargen, Tim Faver, and Mr. Anderson will meet on September 4th and will have more reports at the October BATO Meeting. A board member mentioned that Clearwater County had a successful weed program and asked if Beltrami County could adopt their procedures. Part of the committee's job will be look at other counties to get ideas on how to handle noxious plants.

Joint Governance:

There was a decision regarding Ottetail Power Company at the last Joint Planning Board meeting and the Bemidji Town Board representatives do not feel they were given adequate information to make the decision at the meeting. Board members stated that Bemidji Township is not against Ottetail Power Company, but that they are simply questioning the process. A

board member stated that the decision should have been brought to the Public Utility Commission rather than Joint Planning.
Joint Planning Commission representative Monte Eidem discussed the Agenda and gave a description of the cases to be discussed at the August JPC meeting.

JOINT PLANNING:

Bemidji Township Ag Zone (Restoration of Agriculture Zone rezoned to R1 & R2):

Jan Heuer retyped the handout for "Restoration of Agriculture Zoning District" and a copy was given to Joint Planning Commission representative Monte Eidem. Discussion was held regarding differences in property taxes and farm lot size.

OTHER BUSINESS:

2012 Newsletter: This item will placed on the 9/11/12 agenda and will be discussed then.

Beltrami County 911 Ordinance: The first reading of the Ordinance was reviewed and discussed.

Storm Clean-up: Pete Fredrickson has spoken to JD Hansen about the cost effectiveness of his equipment. JD Hansen is looking into getting some new equipment and will keep Pete updated on his progress.

Rental Enforcement (waiting on contract from William Patnaude): A board member stated that if there are any rental enforcement issues, we can send Mr. Patnaude an email.

Clerk Issues:

The clerk stated that she had a quote for the Dreamweaver software and Jan Heuer made a motion to have township accountant Tim Wang purchase it. Brian Merschman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Erin also gave pricing for software training through TJ Design Studio and Pete Fredrickson motioned for Erin to do 2 hours of software training with them once Dreamweaver has been installed. Lowell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Erin had spoken to a representative from Bemidji Communications, who suggested an HP scanner all-in-one for purchase. Brian Merschman made a motion to approve the purchase of the scanner through Tim Wang or Erin. Pete Fredrickson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

OTHER:

Erin mentioned that a resident had asked about renting the town hall for a baby shower. The town hall was not approved for rental at this time. The Board will revisit Bemidji Town Hall policy in October.

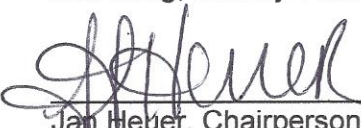
ADJOURN:

Lowell Vagle made a motion, seconded by Pete Fredrickson, to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Prepared by Erin Stieg, Bemidji Township Clerk


Erin Stieg, Bemidji Township Clerk

Approved 9/11/12


Jan Heuer, Chairperson