

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, July 28, 2011**

Board Chairperson Nancy Karjalahti called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Charles Quale and Ron Smith; Treasurer John Brula; Clerk Candace Bartel; road maintenance employee Tim Turner; and residents/property owners Rich Biernat and Ron Clasen.

The minutes from the July 14, 2011 regular board meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Charles Quale.

Correspondence: The following was received: Horseshoe Lake Association thank you for donation, Northwoods Regional ATV Trail meeting information, and newsletters from Sen. Saxhaug and Rep. McElfatrick

OLD BUSINESS:

Road report: Tim Turner reported 400 yards of gravel was hauled, regular grading of roads, mowing of intersections has been worked on, the chainsaw has been replaced, the old one will be used for parts, noxious weeds have been sprayed in some road right-of-way areas, maintenance was done on the grader, and they will be mowing ditches again in the next few weeks. A resident on 508th LN complained about tree branches in the right-of-way; this may be taken care of when the area is mowed. Board members reported positive input from residents regarding the road maintenance this summer.

486th Street: Nothing new to report.

218th PL: Two plans for water runoff management were received from TSA#3 (Nicole Sternquist). Both plans were discussed. The consensus of the board was to do work in the road right-of-way but not on private property; assistance may be given for developing a plan. There was previous mention of a culvert in one area; the maintenance men will continue to try to locate it. Input/permits may need to be obtained from the DNR and the Army Corps of Engineers. Adjoining neighbors will need to be included in any project. After further discussion, Nancy Karjalahti will take the plans to the August 10 BSLWAMP meeting and also share them with Janet Smude, Aitkin County Soil & Water.

508th LN: Nothing new to report on possible blacktopping project.

Long-Range Comprehensive Road Plan: SEH has been doing road inspections. Traffic counts will be provided to SEH where available.

Ball field: Charles Quale has the Twins grant information. It may be possible to apply for the Lake Country Power Round-Up Grant. Information on costs for fencing, ag lime, grass seed, bleacher upgrades, dugout slabs, score board, etc. will be needed to complete the grant requests. An area trucker will be contacted regarding hauling the ag lime. Additional work on the field is planned for this fall.

Maintenance Building: The district court approved the petition to turn the adjusted balance due on the maintenance building over to the court to administer. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith, to send \$22,416.29 to the court; motion carried unanimously. All subcontractors listed in the petition will be notified by registered mail by the township attorney.

The board approved the new claims sheet, as corrected, in the amount of \$100,544.51 for disbursements for July.

Townhall remodeling: Nothing new to report.

Tax-forfeited land classification: The township parcels listed on the county list were reviewed. The board did not have any objection to re-classification of these parcels. (Parcel numbers 29-1-123800, 29-1-366000-300, 29-1-409200, 29-1-409300, 29-1-468600, 29-1-468700, 29-1-469100)

ACAT meeting: Members were reminded that the township's sign management plan needs to be in place by January 2012. The compliance date for regulatory, warning, and ground-mounted guide signs is January 2015. It is estimated that the township has at least 200 signs that will need to be replaced. The estimated cost per post and sign is \$100. GPS coordinates may be recorded when installing signs to identify locations. A special meeting may need to be scheduled in September or October to work on the plan. The clerk will try to find a sample plan to use as a reference.

A presentation was presented on broadband in Aitkin County.

Lake Country Power capital credit allocation: After further discussion on the allocation distributions it was suggested to invite the LCP District 8 Director, Jim Huhta, to a board meeting to explain the capital credit allocation/distribution program.

Town line road agreements: The four townline road agreements with Workman Township have been signed by Workman Township. The agreements will be reviewed again in 2014.

Road right-of-way issues: Nancy Karjalahti reported there are several property owners on 188th Avenue that are filling in corners in an effort to stop vehicles from cutting corners. This presents problems for road maintenance. It was decided to have these locations surveyed to establish the location of the road right-of-way. Nancy will contact Marv Kohout to survey 188th Avenue from 473rd Street to 186th Avenue and install right-of-way stakes. The survey will be shared with SEH for use in the long range comprehensive road plan. An informational article for the newspaper and the website will be written regarding obstructions in the road right-of-way.

Employee Work Agreement: This was moved to the end of the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Survey of MN Townships: The Office of the Legislative Auditor sent a survey to townships relating to the consolidation of local governments. Copies will be provided to board members and the survey will be completed at the next meeting.

Central MN Jobs & Training Services: This is may be an option for getting a part-time person to work in the maintenance shop. More information will be presented at the next meeting.

Fall Clean-up Day: The fall clean-up day will be Saturday, September 24, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the townhall site only.

Kennecott Mining: An e-mail was received from Matt Jeschke, Regional Communities Manager, inquiring if we were interested in having an update on their mining program in the area. It may be possible for him to attend a meeting this winter.

Employee Work Agreement: After discussion on the hourly wage and benefits for the road maintenance employees Charles Quale moved to increase the hourly rate for each employee by 60 cents (approximately 3%), seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried unanimously. The agreement will be discussed further at the next meeting. The uncertainty of the health care insurance premiums was a concern.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Nancy Karjalahti
Shamrock Township Board Chairperson

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE AUGUST 11, 2011 REGULAR BOARD MEETING