

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF POPLAR BOARD MEETING

August 10, 2021

The Board meeting was called order by President Randy Jones at 6:57 PM

In attendance: Randy Jones, Dan Bergsten, Bruce Bergsten, Ralph Rounsville, Virgil Nelson, Pete Kruit

Absent: Jim Tollas, Board Trustee
Gina Ormond, Clerk/Treasurer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPEAKERS:

- Brooke Grathwol – requesting land use permit to put in a trailer. The plan is to put the trailer where the old trailer is. She will bring in the application and the permit will be issued once the trailer is purchased.
- Mark Liebaert:
 - Reported on Towns Association re: monies from the APRA funding. We can spend these on the basically whatever the village wants/needs.
 - Discussion of the share of review from forests. There is an increase in payment/acre.
 - There was an accident in the jail resulting in the death of an employee.
 - There was a tractor that was mowing and was hit by a truck. The truck driver was killed.
 - Highway D – a section was to be closed until it can be determined who will fix it, but it was temporarily fixed and opened.
 - Superior Days will be October 10-12, if they are able to continue with this.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

- Approve Minutes. Motion made by Virgil Nelson, second Dan Bergsten to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2021 meeting. Motioned carried without negative vote.
- Pay Bills: Motion made by Dan Bergsten, second by Randy Jones to pay the bills for July 2021. Motion carried without negative vote.

UNFINISHED BUSIENSS:

- Paint bids - Virgil Nelson reported that Greg Nelson would not be able to paint the village hall this fall, but could do it next spring. The roof has not been checked after the hailstorm.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Resolve wages for 2021 of Village President and Board of Trustees – Randy Jones reported that this has been resolved and will discuss more at the budget meeting. There was concern that the wages were at the bottom of the pay scale for the county and that there may be issues with getting new trustees. There was discussion to survey other villages and towns, and a possibility of decreasing the number of trustees.
- APRA - Discussion of where some of the funds could be used:
 - Possibly use on the roads because of the Maple School District buses using our roads to keep the buses off Highway #2.
 - Heating/air exchange system in the village hall
 - Wastewater project
 - Broadband
 - Our plan is to be submitted by 2024 and all funds should be spent by 2026
- Advertising signs on the road – they need to be removed from the right of way. If the signs are in the county right of way, they will be collected/removed.

CLERK'S REPORT: Randy Jones reported that Gina Ormond has completed the 3rd year of Clerk's Training. There is only year training for the Treasurer that she will need to take.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- *Fire Department* – no one from the Fire Department was in attendance.
There was discussion of which equipment in the fire hall belongs to who.
Their by-laws are needed.
Discussion of the fire signs – they should be perpendicular to the road for reading.
Fun Days went well.
- *Sewer* – Randy Jones reported that construction has started. The pump in the pond is to be repaired, the water is out and only sludge remains. The village asked for bids to repair or fix the liner and 2 bids were received.
Possibly use APRA funds for this project.
- *Cemetery* – Dan Bergsten reported that it has been quiet. The ground is very hard.
- *Parks and Recreation and Building* – Dan Bergsten reported that they are waiting on Mark _____. There are games planned through August on the ball fields.
- *Roads and Culverts* – The culvert on Bayfield Road was installed and needs additional gravel. There is some clean up needed and wait until the road settles before adding additional gravel.
Ralph Rounsville and Dan Bergsten attended the ad hoc committee meeting at the school to discuss the use of Poplar roads for the school buses. They discussed allowing the district to use the roads for the first 2 months. There was discussion of posting signs and beacons on the signs on highway #2. Long range plan of the school district is to not use Highway #2. They want paved roads, but we will not be paving roads for the school district. They are still working on a solution.
Grube Trucking delivered pit run on Bayfield Road north of the village hall and on Bong Road.
The Middle River Road will need about 10 loads of gravel near John Lundeen's house. Dan Bergsten to work with Amnicon on this.
Dan Bergsten wants to buy tin for the field outhouse.

Randy Jones will not be at the Sewer meeting on October 5.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Brooke Grathwol land use permit
- Painting the village hall
- Flashing sign for school (ABRA)

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Randy Jones, second Ralph Rounsville to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM. Motion carried without negative vote.

Randy Jones, President

Donna Bergsten
Volunteer

Date