

March Minutes were approved and signed- April 13, 2016

MARCELL TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 1, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present-

Anthony Prato, Diane Coppens, Bruce Petersen, Bonnie Korte, Tracy Chase, Tim Hagen, Jeff Huju, and Dale Fuhrman.

Minutes-

Minutes from the February 2, 2016, board meeting were read. A motion was made by Bruce to accept the minutes as read. Anthony seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurers Report-

Because Dennis had not received the bank statement before the meeting, the unreconciled balance as of March 1st, 2016, was \$671,271.81.

Road Report-

There were three rounds of snowplowing for the month. Drift cleanup took place on several area roads. Jack the Horse Road received salt sand.

Park Report-

Jeff mentioned someone had backed onto one of the park benches. The person who did this will be responsible for the damage, per Jeff. The person called Jeff to let him know of the incident.

Old Business-

Gorden's Tax Service completed the township's audit. Other than a recommendation to remove the information on all the past loans from the business development fund except for those that are active, the audit review was found to have no issues. The township plans to continue with Gorden's Tax Service for future audits.

The Township Sign Program was reviewed. Karen Grandia, County Engineer, did not know whether Itasca County was chosen to participate in the program. She will contact us as soon as she hears.

The budget was reviewed. Anthony made the motion to keep the proposed 2017 budget the same as 2016 and to present it at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Bruce seconded the motion and the motion carried.

New Business-

The 2016 Annual Meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 8th, at 6:00 PM. The 2016 Equalization Meeting will take place on Thursday, April 28th, starting at 9:00 AM. Tracy will post the information in the Western Itasca Review, Deerpath Shopper, at local businesses, send

to Bob Lawler, and on the website www.edgeofthewilderness.org. A list will be created for hall maintenance to give to Jeff to work on. The Short Course workshops will be coming up at the end of March.

Committee Report-

Bruce spoke on behalf of the Fire meeting he attended. The Fire Hall has installed a new compression system. This system fills the tanks that the firemen put on their backs. They have received a Yamaha snowmobile side-by-side. Fire calls for 2015 were down compared with the previous year. There are 21 men and women who are members of the department. It appears there will be an increase in cost to the townships in the future.

Bruce also attended the Northern Itasca Joint Powers Board meeting. Funds are being sought to pay for the demolition of the former electric/phone company building. The complete cost from start to finish is @ \$600,000 for the Bigfork City Hall building. Ray Cole spoke on behalf of the Freedom Ranch. It will be a facility for men who have completed all treatment. The facility will be able to house a maximum of 12 men. The RiverWalk Project has gained the necessary funds to move forward. The Scenic State Park will have an archery program this summer and will also share a naturalist with the Discovery Center.

Diane attended several meetings. The Township Association meeting discussed the abandoning of a road. A township cannot abandon a road if it isn't recorded. Julie Miedtke, U of M Extension, spoke on behalf of the MN Forestry Association and their "Boots on the Ground" program.

The Highway 38 Leadership Meeting was held at the Visit Grand Rapids offices located in the Central School. The RiverWalk project was discussed at this meeting, too. It should be completed by fall of 2016. The Discovery Center has new winter hours. Joe McKinnon, MNDOT, discussed the Hwy 38 project.

Approved and paid bills: Claims- \$ 6,801.02 Payroll- \$ 1,819.97

A motion was made by Diane to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM. Anthony seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chairperson _____ Date _____

Clerk _____ Date _____