

**ELLSBURG TOWNSHIP  
1767 MELRUDE ROAD P.O.BOX 308  
MELRUDE, MN. 55766**

Regular Board Meeting  
June 30, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Musburger at 3:00pm. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Board members present were: Vice Chairman Keith Fulcher; Supervisor Kevin Cavanaugh; Clerk Annette Millsop; Treasurer Shelly Stallcop; Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Debbie Leppala.

Guests: Dick and Pam Hanson.

Clerks Minutes: Motion was made by Keith Fulcher to accept the minutes; seconded by Kevin Cavanaugh; Motion carried. Special meeting minutes were read and new levy was set at: \$115,000.00 for 2010. Motion made by Kevin Cavanaugh to accept the minutes; seconded by Keith Fulcher; motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Shelly Stallcop said one of CD's is coming due on the 22nd and she will be going to the bank and cashing it in and finding a new one at somewhere with a higher interest rate. Shelly will check interest at other banks.

Beginning Balance:	\$55,858.99
Receipts:	\$248.35
Disbursements:	\$3,272.53
Total:	\$52,834.81

Jeff Musburger explained about bills being paid for the road and bridge, new stove, improvements for them and Jim Lippitt for repairs. Keith Fulcher made a motion to accept the report; Kevin seconded; motion carried.

Correspondence: New membership cards from MAT. Thank you for donation from Cotton School. Letter from State Aide for Block Grant. Hard Drive for black topping the area at West Bass Hall turned down. MAT news letter. Short course on July 31st at Black Bear. All board members will go and Clerk will fax it to them and pay next month. MATIT and the increase in our insurance. Debbie also explained the contractors have to have at least \$1,000,000.00 Liability Insurance the Rider should be for the \$1.5 Mil. In the township name. Jeff Musburger decided not to go to Washington DC.

OLD BUSINESS: Keith Fulcher said the Cackleberry Drive is a private road and he spoke to Andy Moberg and the property owners must all sign a petition for the name to be changed in order to get this done. Andy said the sign has been taken down. There needs to be a sign in place for the fire and emergency vehicles. Keith Fulcher will talk to the township lawyer. Keith Fulcher said he has done all he can by giving all the information to Andy Moberg. Kevin Cavanaugh said we need to talk to the lawyer and find out if we are responsible for the problem. Jeff Musburger said all the fire/rescue are informed about all these things. The road sign needs to be there and keep the confusion away from any problems.

Virginia Ambulance: Keith Fulcher said he went to the meeting about the lack of funds that Virginia Ambulance has for their services. They are coming up short \$500,000.00 They have an increase in calls and social security patients and the problem is they only get a percentage from Medicare/Medicade for ambulance runs around \$250.00 instead of \$600.00 for the calls. Options: 1) cost sharing fee for calls; 2) tax our area for services. We may use them once in three months but they are on duty 24/7. Keith Fulcher said why the St. Louis County can't provide for Regional ambulance service. Keith Nelson will attend the next meeting to discuss resolving this issue, Meadowlands is another concern. Questions about where they take you and will you get two bills if there is an interception. Keith said it is an issue that won't go away.

Grading township roads: Jeff Musburger said we decided to try somebody new because of the county

and the grading on our township roads. We ended up adding more gravel than we anticipated and when Bob Rodda graded the roads it rained and had to be rebuilt both Blackburn and Waterhen roads. We have a one year contract with Rodda Grading; we will go over the roads at the end of the year to see how it went. Both these roads are better and it was decided to do the Chloride this year. Many people said the roads were not done right before and now they have improved. Jeff Musburger said that having the same person doing the job should be better instead of several and it will improve things. Cemetery road is the next one to be done.

Stove: The pilot lights still have to be lit and someone will have to show them how to be lit. Debbie Leppala suggested we laminate the instructions on how to do this.

New Building: Keith Fulcher had a Questionnaire ready and read it for the board. Keith Fulcher said we had an annual meeting and the residents voted to use \$10-\$15,000.00 for a feasibility study and he feels that we should do this. He feels that yes we didn't have a lot of people there but the citizens voted on it and it passed and we should do this and it is circumventing what the citizens voted on. Discussion followed. He also said he felt that it was unnecessary to send out letters to all the tax holders from our township. Kevin Cavanaugh also said he disagreed with the letter. Kevin Cavanaugh said we have been voted in and the board has the right to make a decision. Jim Lippitt told Keith Fulcher if we don't do something soon then we should consider fixing the old building. There are people who would not like a new building even if we did apply for a grant because we would need to spend 5-20% if it wasn't covered 100%. Keith Fulcher also said MAT has a grant that would cover 100% for a new fire Hall but it could not have an office/post office/community room in it. Jeff Musburger said he has nothing against the fire department but we need to see how much money we will have because of the economy. Keith Fulcher made a motion to shelve the issue for awhile to see if we can get a grant for a new fire hall through MAT and seconded by Kevin Cavanaugh; the vote was 2 to one not to use the money at this time and shelve it now. The money needs to come from somewhere and we don't know how much money we will be getting.

Web Page: Keith Fulcher said that Karolyn Boucher has made a new web site with all the lakes from our township and she had to get permission from the DNR to use them. All the lakes will have a link to the DNR and get information on each one.

NEW BUSINESS: We have a new door and handles and locks. Concrete is a problem in front of the door and Keith Fulcher will talk to Jim Lippitt to see what can be done to fix the problem so the door will not break again.

Debbie Leppala asked if we are starting a cemetery fund. Jeff Musburger made a motion to put \$2,500.00 into a new Cemetery Fund; Keith Fulcher seconded it; motion carried. We discussed having Kevin Cavanaugh call Mr. Matuzak about how to take care of the lawn at the cemetery and what can be done. No water will be installed for the flowers. The grounds keeper removes the pots when the flowers die. We need to put a specific time they need to be removed if they are in the way. The basketball hoop will stay where it is for now.

Keith Fulcher will order an extra porta potty from Aardvark for the fund raiser on the 11th.

Jeff Musburger asked about signs for parking at West Bass Hall and other S sign on Blackburn Drive. Debbie Leppala said to talk to Kent Lunda at the county level to get them.

Keith Fulcher made a motion to adjourn; Kevin Cavanaugh seconded; at 4:50pm.