

**Watab Town Board Special Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2013**

The Watab Town Board was invited to a joint meeting with the Rice City Council to discuss to next Fire Contract. The meeting was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rice City Hall. All board a council members were present: Chair Ed Kacures, Jr., Supervisors Lloyd Erdmann and Craig Gondeck, Clerk Pat Spence, Treasurer Eileen Saldana, Mayor Dale Rogholt, Council Members Chris Scheel, Dave Thene, Al Voigt, and Brian Skroch, and City Clerk Marie Weinand.

Mayor Rogholt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The proposed contract from Watab was submitted to Rice on October 3rd; however the Rice City Council did not see it until the day of this meeting.

Watab's proposal followed the suggestion of the Mayor to include a Cost of Living increase for our current lump sum amount of \$38,500. There was considerable discussion of various options including the suggestion of Al Voigt to eliminate medical calls. The town board responded that it would need to review this with Gold Cross Ambulance Service and the township residents in the northern twelve sections of the township who would be affected by a change in service. Other issues included the date that Net Tax Capacity information is available from the county, the urgency of getting a new contract since this one expires on December 31st, and the basis for the contract.

It became apparent that the majority of council members in Rice want a contract based on Net Tax Capacity and a per call additional charge. Watab's contract proposal was defeated by a vote of the City Council with Mayor Rogholt and Councilman Scheel in favor and Councilmen Voigt, Thene, and Skroch opposed.

The council announced that they would place the issue on their November 18th council agenda for further action and proposals. It was noted that the Rice City Council will need a unanimous decision when they vote on the fire contract, since a member of the department serves on the city council and has a conflict of interest. (Rice City Attorney opinion).

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pat Spence