

**Watab Town Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 7, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Watab Town Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Watab Town Hall by Chair Ed Kacures Jr. All board members were present: Supervisor Ed Kacures Jr., Supervisor Craig Gondeck, Supervisor Lloyd Erdmann, Clerk Pat Spence, and Treasurer Eileen Saldana. Audience members present were: Jon Bogart, Douglas J. Boser, Paul Schwinghammer, Keith O'Brien, Roger Carstensen, Gary Buchmann, Allen Voigt, Delroy Rothstein, Allen Saldana, Jason Chapman, Scott Montag, Kevin Reiter, Brian Erdmann, Donna Rothstein, Sandra Saldana, Ernie Wollak, and Janice Buermann. Following the Pledge to the Flag, the agenda was approved as printed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck and seconded by Supervisor Kacures to approve the minutes of the June meeting with two corrections: add the word "seconded" to the motion regarding the financing of Fifth Avenue and add Supervisor Kacures' name to the second on the motion regarding reimbursement to Jim Brownson. Motion passed. The Treasurer's Report was approved on a motion by Supervisor Gondeck and second by Supervisor Erdmann. Motion passed.

Citizen's Issues:

1. Doug Boser, representing Barb Kirchner, asked questions regarding impact to her property with Fifth Avenue improvements.
2. Al Voigt, Rice, spoke regarding letter he had sent requesting a written explanation for the \$12.50 refund check which he returned to the township because he wanted further explanation on the check stub with the reason for the reimbursement. Supervisor Kacures made a motion to send another check with further explanation. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann and seconded by Supervisor Gondeck to pay the monthly bills as presented and to withdraw the necessary funds for claims #4135 through 4147 totaling \$34,346.83 and payroll totaling \$1,946.89. Motion passed.

Old Business:

1. Keith O'Brien, President of Rice Recreation gave a presentation on Watab's participation in the Rice program; of the 94 children registered, 52 are from Rice and 19 are from Watab. Last year we had about a dozen kids from Watab participating. He explained that Rice Ice costs the city money, but no fees are collected. The program costs are about \$5,000 for the summer and \$5,000 for the winter. Gym time is covered through fees. Rice Ice and Summer Ball are where the extra cost occurs. Supervisor Gondeck inquired about inventory control. Items were being lost from the Rice Lions Park building, so they are now secured at O'Brien's home. Some items are handed down through Paul Whippler. There is no longer a board as a cost saving measure. Keith recommended coming to one Watab meeting before the township budget is set and then one other time to follow up with a report. Supervisor Gondeck made a motion to give \$2,000 to Rice Recreation as authorized at the annual meeting; motion was seconded by Supervisor Erdmann; motion passed. The Clerk was asked to send the check, payable to Rice Recreation, to Rice City Hall. Motion passed.
2. The Clerk read a letter from Julie Peterschick of Tri-County Humane Society with reporting on Watab's animal control; a motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann and seconded by Supervisor Gondeck to send \$535 as authorized at the annual meeting. Motion passed.
3. The Clerk updated the board on the terms of the financing for Fifth Avenue: 18 years at 4.5% interest through Falcon National Bank. Their attorney will draw up the legal documents.
4. Jon Bogart discussed the Riverview Loop NW estimated costs @ \$42,740; he feels it's reasonable and could be done. Roseanna Beach Road repair is estimated at \$149,000. Supervisor Erdmann

made a motion to table this until later in the meeting to see what 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue will cost before making a decision on either of these projects.

5. The board questioned Jon Bogart regarding crack filling on Frost Road. The board requested the Jon review the crack filling on Saldana Road and Plaziak Road.
6. The Clerk opened the sealed bids for reconstruction of Fifth Avenue. Bids were received from R. L. Larson-\$557,027.60; Wruck Construction-\$555,444.75; Tri-City Paving--\$600,301.00; J. R. Ferche-\$725,546.10; Knife River--\$481,128.30; Rice Contracting--\$583,810.97; and Burski Excavating--\$536,355.90. All included bid bonds; the Clerk transferred the bids to Jon Bogart, Engineer for his review. This cost does not include the extra wear course that will need to be applied next year or a 10% contingency. That extra wear course should be bid in January. We would need to put out ads requesting bids for Rose Anna Beach project but quotes for Riverview Loop. Supervisor Erdmann suggested getting costs on both these projects, since the cost came in lower than expected for Fifth Avenue. He made a motion that we accept the low bid of \$481,128.30 from Knife River if the paperwork is in order and there are no errors; seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and motion passed. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion to take bids on Rose Anna Beach Road project according to specifications provided by the engineer and quotes for Riverview Loop; motion was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck, and motion passed. All easement documents have been distributed; signed copies will come in within the next week. There was very little resistance to the temporary easements. Wetland delineation is completed.
7. Supervisor Erdmann reported on the replacement of two culverts. The culvert on West Lake Road had one apron missing and one badly damaged, so it needed to be replaced. Jasmine Loop culvert was also replaced, because it was badly damaged. Asphalt needs to be completed on West Lake Road; he will take care of it.
8. Sign replacement report was given by Supervisor Gondeck. Signs have been ordered and one-half of them have been installed. The signs will be completed in July.
9. Consideration of amendment to Ordinance on Road Right of Way for Town Roads: Supervisor Gondeck made a motion to set the public hearing for the amendments to Ordinance 4 for 7pm at the August monthly meeting; motion was seconded by Supervisor Erdmann and passed.
10. Iron filter installation: Supervisor Kacures will plan to do this.
11. Supervisor Gondeck said that he removed the rust on the town hall building for slightly over \$100. Supervisor Erdmann repaired the sprinkler heads that were plugged with rust.
12. Town hall lawn care: estimate of \$250 to do fertilizing and weed killer from a contractor; Supervisor Gondeck did it for \$63.41. He encouraged supervisors to try to do these projects to save the township money.

#### New Business:

1. Clerk Spence read the letter from MAT regarding changes in coverage for Errors and Omissions and liability insurance to coincide with legislation recently passed by the legislature.
2. Letter from MnDOT and BNSF regarding Frost Road. There was an advance warning sign obstructed by foliage on the south approach to the railroad crossing. Bob Behrendt and Supervisor Kacures removed the branches. Supervisor Erdmann will trim the birch tree that needs it.
3. Put on agenda for August to have trees trimmed along town roads where needed and get quotes.
4. Correspondence: Supervisor Kacures reviewed a couple of upcoming events.
5. Allen Saldana offered to move the piles of mulch along the path by the stormwater pond with his bobcat.
6. Supervisor Gondeck went to the Economic Development Board meeting—held at the airport. They are putting together a CD presentation about Benton County Development opportunities.

7. Weed Tour Report: Supervisor Gondeck went on the tour and reported that the Ron Janson said our roadsides are the best they've been. Many residents mow the ditches. Supervisor Gondeck will treat poison ivy along the roads.
8. Supervisor Kacures said that the Rice Fire Board meets in September. Supervisor Gondeck said that we should appear before the Rice City Council as a board and discuss the billing. The board decided to wait and see what we are billed. The Clerk was asked to send a letter to the Rice City Clerk asking for a bill. Board will decide about going to the meeting after we see what we are billed.
9. Doug Boser proposed having a fall get-together like a bonfire at the town hall, maybe a Sunday afternoon in late September—potluck. Doug will work with Pat Spence, Craig Gondeck and others on it.
10. A resident from Oak Court talked about garbage trucks going by driving too fast, wrecking the town roads, when they slam on the brakes. Supervisor Gondeck will mention it to a deputy. Supervisor Erdmann suggested talking to neighbors about choosing one hauler to reduce wear and tear on the road.
11. Supervisor Gondeck covered citizen complaints. 6 people signed up this month for adopt-a-highway. He suggested selling ads to cover the cost of the newsletter. STS crew cut trees on West Lake Road and Jasmine Loop; they'll trim brush on other roads as well. He also gave a report on building permits for June. He attended the Kings Inn auction, and it did not sell.
12. Supervisor Kacures said that a complaint was forwarded from Jeff Koerner regarding his neighbor's property: Kevin Reiter. The county is investigating and will come back with their findings. He also attended the Commissioner's meeting in Rice.
13. MAT Summer Short Course is July 13 at the Holiday Inn in St. Cloud.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck and seconded by Supervisor Erdmann to adjourn the meeting; motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Spence, Clerk