Lake Eunice Township

Treasurer: Ann Hixson Supervisors: Ed Clem, Gerald Johnson

Chairman: Jason Rosing Wayne Jacobson, Al Bergquist

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The Lake Eunice Township board held its monthly meeting at the town hall on January 14th, 2025 at 7:00 pm.  Al Bergquist was not in attendance but did call in update the board about the compost. The minutes from December meetings were reviewed and approved by a motion by Wayne Jacobson and seconded by Ed Clem.  The treasurer report was reviewed. Jason Rosing asked the board to start thinking about upcoming budget numbers for 2025. Jason Rosing has some budget numbers to review. Ann Hixson did transfer $46,226.58 from the APRA Fund to the Conservation Fund and it was noticed on the reports. The treasurers report looked good and was accepted with Wayne Jacobson making a motion and Ed Clem seconding it.

Jennifer Goerging was present to obtain a liquor license for TJ’s. This liquor license was brought to vote with a unanimous approval. Paperwork completed by the clerk and filed with the office.

Al Bergquist called in to discuss the compost site that is on his private land. Al Bergquist is not going continue to allow the Lake Eunice Township compost site to be on his property. The board does support keeping some funds for compost to help with new signage, clean up etc.-that Al Bergquist needs. Heather Anderson will make changes to the website. The board did bring this issue to motion and it was passed to close the compost site.

Pelican River Watershed District has submitted a new plan for Lake Eunice to review and indicate any objections. This was reviewed by the board with no additions or comments.

The board reviewed a Cannabis Ordinance that was supplied by the Minnesota Association of Township (MAT). This ordinance would have Becker County regulate and issue the licenses needed for cannabis sales. This ordinance was brought to motion by Ed Clem and passed unanimously. Heather Anderson will file this and give a copy to Becker County.

The snow plow sustained damage while it was plowing last week. The wing hit something in the right of way. Jason Rosing reports it is probably going to be over $3000. This will be submitted to MAT for possible insurance coverage.

The board started tentatively budget conversations for 2025. Jason Rosing suggested increasing blading from $35,000 to $50,000. In addition, the board should consider increasing the Chloride/Dust Control from $35,000 to $38,000. Also, ditch mowing can also be increased from $5,000 to $6,000. The board discussed upcoming projects on roads, for example the hammerhead over on Pearl Lake Drive. The board discusses that there may be a need to look at increasing the levy at the annual meeting, which they have not done in over 7 years. The increasing cost of maintain roads, the addition of roads and increase in population has contributed to this consideration.

Lake Eunice Township received this email from a Lake Eunice resident, Cindy Sperl:

﻿The City of Audubon Council will be asked to approve the Rescue and Fire Contracts at tomorrow’s meeting for Lake Eunice Township.  After comparing the 2023 - 2025 contracts with all four contracts the City holds these are our questions and have concerns as we have all if them but are mainly concerned about our township believe they are 3-year contracts.

The Market Value of all taxable and nontaxable percentages stayed the same. We find that hard to believe

The population stayed the same. We find that hard to believe

The only changes specific to the allocation that changed was the number of fire calls.

I did not see anything on the COA agenda listing Lake Eunice nor did I see anything in the meeting minutes to be approved from City of Audubon last month RM noting the outgoing Fire Chiefs voice during that meeting regarding our taxpayer dollars.

After reviewing the 2023 audit Steve and I are satisfied with the insurance requirements as of that date based on the auditor’s review to that point but ask our township to continue monitoring this moving forward.

Please provide us with the annual budget for each year specified in our contracts for contract years 2023-2025 along with specific information to explain the items included in the budget figures.

We are opposed to the approval of these contracts until these questions are answered and addressed along with their current budget issues. Please include this email correspondence at the next meeting for the public and reflect in the meeting minutes as deemed by MN Statutes.

The board discussed the email and the concerns. Heather Anderson did call Mary Henderickson, Becker County Auditor about the concerns related to last meeting. Mary Henderickson wanted to know if Lake Eunice was getting the services that we are paying for, are they going on out calls etc? She advised there is an assumption when a township gives funds for a service, that services will be provided and it sounds like that is occurring. The board has not received any complaints of Audubon Fire not going out on calls. Mary Hendrickson did advise the City of Audubon must have their audit complete and it appears they have not resolved that yet. The board reviewed the current fire contract and questioned if Lake Eunice has seen the current contracts-those have not been sent yet. Jerry Johnson indicated he has concerns about the contract and is again wondering if we have to continue with City of Audubon. Jason Rosing affirmed that we must have a fire contract with someone. Jerry Johnson indicated he can follow up with some contacts he knows in other fire stations. In regards to the current email received by the Lake Eunice Resident, Heather Anderson will clarify what she is requesting and send her the requested information, if it is within our scope to supply her with that. If she is wanting any documents that are the property of the City of Audubon, she will need to contact them.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm by motion from Wayne Jacobson and seconded by Ed Clem.

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Heather Anderson, Township Clerk Date

15320 Blackhawk Road

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218-287-0562