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 June 21st, 2022 at 7:00 pm.  The minutes from the May meetings were reviewed and approved by a motion by Ed Clem and seconded by Al Bergquist.  The treasurer report was reviewed. Ann Hixson reported that she was off by $20.47 after a deposit had been made from Bell Bank account. Ann will call Bell Bank and investigate this. The board made a motion to approve the treasurers report.

Gary Mielke was present to discuss the rip rap that needs to be completed near his property on Buckhorn Road. Rick Renner will be doing the work on that soon.

Gary Schander was present to discuss Buckhorn Road. He advised that the shoulders need to be packed down. He stated he drove up and down the road, on the shoulder with his truck. He also called John Okeson about this and told him the shoulders are not packed down. Mr. Schander wanted to know what material was used on the shoulder and how wide it should be as he does not feel it was wide enough. Brian Shepherd, Becker County Engineering was present during this conversation. Mr. Shepherd along with the township board, discouraged Mr. Schander from driving on the shoulder in that manner. In addition, Mr. Shepherd affirmed that they should was the width it was engineered to be.

Kevin Sather, a Lake Eunice resident on Blackhawk Road, was present to discuss his current water issues. Mr. Sather reported he has new neighbors that bought an empty lot next to him about a year ago. The new owners have cleared a considerable amount of brushing and trees. They also added a culvert in their driveway. These improvements have changed the pitch on which the water flows during a rainstorm. Mr. Sather advised that when it rains, the water will now flow towards his new home, which is slab on grade. Mr. Sather had pictures to show the board with the damage. Jason Rosing did ask if Mr. Sather has a culvert-he does not. Mr. Sather advised he is wondering about doing a culvert and putting under Blackhawk Road so the water can drain on the opposite side of the road, away from his home. The board did have discussion about that. Mr. Sather was told every property owner affected would have to be in agreement and there would need to be a petition for an improvement. He was also told this may be a private issue not a public issue when he inquired about Lake Eunice township paying for some of the costs. He was encouraged to reach out the Becker County Soil and Water. Mr. Sather came to the meeting tonight and wants it documented that he was in attendance.

Scott Anderson was present to discuss an issue on Dorff Beach Road. He stated that there is an issue with two small culverts. Since they have been put in, there is overflow about twice a year. The culverts will become plugged with debris and the water overflows on the road. Discussion with the board about the culverts and that the culvert may not be big enough, but it still meets the minimum standards for Lake Eunice township. More discussion next meeting will occur.

Jason Rosing updated the board about meetings he has had with Becker County about possible grants to assist with damage from the storms from this summer. Discussion about the issue on Dorff Road and can that be applied to that. Jason Rosing advised in order for there to be grant money available, there needs to be $125,000 in damage in all of Becker County. Jason Rosing will continue to have meetings and will update the board next month.

At the last months meeting, the board tabled certifying the assessment roll on Buckhorn Road. This was due to new information about the number of total parcels (22 parcels to 20 parcels) and the fact the special assessment per parcel may change. The board did reach out to Carl Malmstrom, township attorney about their options. In addition, Heather Anderson did confirm that the three parcels under Premiere Alliance had indeed been combined into one parcel. The owner of the parcels under Premiere Alliance was present tonight at the meeting-Gary Schander. Mr. Schander was able to present the documentation to the board that the parcels had been combined. Mr. Malmstrom advised the board would be within their rights to certify the first assessment roll completed on May 4th, 2022 by Apex Engineering which indicates 22 parcels. The board discussed their options. Mr. Malmstrom advised the first option would be to certify the assessment roll dated May 4th, 2022 by Apex Engineering. Or the board could have Apex Engineering complete another assessment roll to reflect 20 parcels. The board did discuss this at length. The difference in special assessment, per parcel would change from $4531.69 to $4,984.85.

The final cost for Buckhorn is $99,697.08.

The cost to essential redo the assessment roll is estimated at about $1300, that is with new Apex Engineering cost and posting and publishing. This would be a cost to the tax payers of Lake Eunice.

Many board members did express their displeasure with the owner of Premiere Alliance for combining the parcels at this stage in the special assessment process. In the end, Al Bergquist suggested that the home owner, who combined the parcels be responsible to pay for the additional cost to the tax payers. The board did agree to split the costs with the home owner. Heather Anderson will send him a breakdown of the cost when completed. In addition, the board advised they would not be in agreement with those lots ever being split again in the future. There was discussion about them being back lots and they don’t have the square footage to even do this.

The board voted to redo the special assessment and have Apex Engineering complete this as soon as they could. Because there are very specific timelines, the board did change the July meeting to July 19th, 2022 at 7:00 pm. The Buckhorn Special Meeting will be July 19th, 2022 at 7:30 pm. Heather Anderson will contact Apex Engineering and have them redo the special assessment roll to reflect 20 parcels. In addition, the board did pass the resolution to keep the interest rate the same, 4 percent. The board also approved the pay off time lines are ten years.

Road signs were discussed. Jason Rosing would like a list of road signs that need to be completed.

The board discussed Lake Maud Trail. Gene Anderson had attended prior meeting in hopes that the road would meet the standards for Lake Eunice to take over responsibility of this road. Gene Anderson could not be in attendance tonight but hoped the board could make a decision. Wayne Jacobson has toured the road. He advised it needs to be grated but it appears to be solid and meets the standards. The board will accept responsibility for this road. Heather Anderson will reach out to obtain the petition and it will be accepted on today’s date.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm with a motion by Al Bergquist and seconded by Jerry Johnson.

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Heather Anderson, Township Clerk Date 15320 Blackhawk Road Audubon, Minnesota 56511

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